

MEM Summer Summit Forum 2023

Saturday 26 August, 09.00

Aula Magna, West Campus, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

09.00	Welcome and opening address Lorenzo Cantoni, Pro-rector for Education and Students' experience, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland Morena Ferrari Gamba, President of the City Council of Lugano, Switzerland Marina Carobbio Guscetti, Member of the Cantonal Council, Director of the Department of Education, Culture and Sport, Republic and Canton Ticino, Switzerland (video address) HE Ignazio Cassis, Federal Councillor, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland (video address)
09.30	Keynote speeches HE Mohamed Mehdi Bensaid, Minister of Youth, Culture and Communication, Kingdom of Morocco HE Wafa Bani Mustafa, Minister of Social Development, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (video address) Alexandra Xanthaki, UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Switzerland HE Jacques Ducrest, Ambassador, Head of International Relations Division, State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation, Switzerland
10.00	Panel 1 – Current geopolitical configurations in the Middle East Mediterranean region In collaboration with the Graduate Institute of international and development studies Mohamed Mahmoud Mohamedou, Deputy Director and Professor of International History and Politics, Graduate Institute of international and development studies, Switzerland Karim Emile Bitar, Professor of International Relations and Director of the Institute of Political Science at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut, Lebanon Cinzia Bianco, Research Fellow on the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf, European Council on Foreign Relations, Italy Matteo Legrenzi, Professor of International Relations, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy Young change-maker Moderator: Mohamed Mahmoud Mohamedou, Deputy Director and Professor of International History and Politics, Graduate Institute of international and development studies, Switzerland
11.00	Coffee break
11.30	Panel 2 – The role of culture: between dialogue and diplomacy In collaboration with the Oasis International Foundation Maurizio Bona, Former Advisor to the Director General of CERN and Professor at University of Pavia, Italy Renee Hattar, Director of the Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies, Jordan Selim Koru, Analyst at the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey, Turkey Young change-maker Moderator: Diana Segantini, Advisor for Arts, culture, heritage and media, Switzerland
12.30	Standing lunch and networking
13.45	Panel 3 – Climate change: challenges and opportunities Mohammed Mahmoud, Senior Fellow and Director of the Climate and Water Program, Middle East Institute, United States Adnan Tabatabai, CEO, CARPO - Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient, Germany Shivan Fazil, Research fellow at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Iraq Young change-maker Moderator: Alessandro Bertellotti, Radiotelevisione svizzera, Switzerland
14.45	Panel 4 – Future scenarios for the MEM region, by the Young change-makers of the MEM Summer Summit 2023
15.15	Closing remarks
15.30	Ice-cream and networking
