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**Working with Mediterranean Youth
to Control and Build our Common
Destiny**

Report to the French President and Prime Minister

By letter dated 20 September 2012, the framework for which was specified by letter and decree by the Prime Minister on 1 January 2013, the President of France asked the rapporteur to submit proposals encompassed under the scope of 'Mediterranean Projects'.

Working with Mediterranean Youth
to Control and Build our
Common Destiny

We no longer wish to die to live
on the other shore.

TOMORROW, THE MEDITERRANEAN

Amidst the Reign of Terror and a regime that used massacre to deny the Revolution and Human Rights, France nevertheless continued to bear the message of 1789. From 1789 onwards, nothing would ever be the same again. It would take France more than a century to become a republic, but France will forever be the France of 1789. And, indeed, the fight is not over. Even today we must defend the Republic and pursue the process of the democratic, social and cultural liberation of our people.

The same was true on 18 June 1940 when, at the very time that France had suffered defeat at the hands of Germany and was subjected to the Nazi regime, General de Gaulle broadcast his message of victory on France's behalf. Four years later, the Republic saved by the Resistance was once again thriving as a free nation under the National Council of the Resistance's programme.

The Mediterranean has long since been experiencing the same as France did. Today, at the very heart of the massacre, the Syrian people strive for survival and victory. Despite the thousands of deaths in Syria and the suffering of so many of southern populations, the Mediterranean is bursting with life, with millions of young people on both shores.

It is when circumstances are difficult, infinitely painful and seemingly desperate, that politics truly step up to the mark. This is true not only of Syria but of the entire Mediterranean as summer 2013 draws to a close. Hope is never ridiculous. And it has never been ridiculed at any time in History because, whether it takes four years or a century, it always comes through in the end.

Ever since the Syrian revolution began, France has not been content merely to express her 'concern'. She has taken the firmest of stances to effectively support those battling against a hateful regime. The decision to intervene in Mali was a historic one for the Maghreb, Libya and Mauritania, due to its diplomatic rigour and the success of the armed forces. As for the Arab world, the French President's speeches in Algiers, Rabat and Tunis expressed what the Algerians were expecting in respect of the past war and Muslims in general about the compatibility of Islam and democracy.

Another Mediterranean is possible: six months ago, hundreds of young people from countries all across the Mediterranean came together at the 'Villa Méditerranée' in Marseille, a site which France, through the hand of one of its municipalities, chose to dedicate especially to them. They met and talked with over 200 representatives from the Mediterranean municipalities and 42 presidents of Arab and European parliaments.

The President of the European Parliament and the Euro-Mediterranean Parliament, Martin Schulz, the President of the Anna Lindh Foundation, André Azoulay, and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Municipality had decided to open the elected politicians' debates to civil society and young people. Those who took part remember the sessions as 'revolutionary' because, in an atmosphere of mutual respect, the young people had the opportunity to speak their minds on the same stage as elected assemblies. The meeting went unnoticed because there was no Head of State in attendance; civil society and ordinary members of parliament are not front-page news. But that time is now over.

Indeed, Marseille Provence 2013, an event ignored by the media and by governments, and which may never again be repeated, will also be a part of the future. It is also the magic of Marseille and its image in the Mediterranean and Africa. To play her role tomorrow, France is fortunate enough to have Marseille. She must be capable of strengthening Marseille if she herself is to become stronger.

This report is political in nature. It is neither technical nor diplomatic. It proposes neither international constructions nor spectacular encounters that attract

the attention of the media who then shoot it down as useless.

This report has been written to enable civil society and the vast numbers of young people from across the Mediterranean to take up their responsibilities, as they did at Villa Méditerranée in April 2013. The French President and government should help them do so.

From this day on, amid the war and despair in the Eastern Mediterranean, our people feel a sense of solidarity and responsibility for the Mediterranean of tomorrow, the Mediterranean of 2030 or 2050.

Politics are not two-tiered, with Heads of States and ministers on the 'upper tier' and elected local office-holders and associations on a 'lower tier'. Indeed, it is to the latter, with all their nobility and strength, that this report suggests the government should appeal.

There is no such thing as a Mediterranean policy that could be simultaneously agreed upon by every Mediterranean nation. The UPM (Union for the Mediterranean) has proven this without needing to. Any action concerning all or part of an international relationship, all or part of a segment of society, will enable people to be brought closer to each other, even if their Governments are unable to see eye to eye. It is through these 'lower-tier' actions, carried out by the people, that the Mediterranean of tomorrow will gradually grow and flourish.

In this respect, the western Mediterranean has a unique responsibility today to design the project that will one day draw in the other half of the sea we share.

To this end, the French President has relaunched the '**5+5** *process*'. Of course, the Malta conference will only produce the expected results in conjunction with the Euro-Maghreb system supported by Brussels. But the first step towards fulfilling the Mediterranean cause consists of people-to-people dialogue and cooperation.

In this spirit of *participative diplomacy*, MPs and elected local officials should, in agreement with and supported by their governments, assist civil society, and young people first and foremost, to come together to reflect, discuss and set in motion a veritable 'web' of cooperation and joint development.

The humanitarian, cultural and sporting associations for young people, women, workers, entrepreneurs, intellectuals, technicians and researchers, doctors and lawyers, students and teachers, parliamentary and local government employees, veterans' associations and, of course, in the first place, those which already have an organised structure: the fire brigade to fight wildfire in Mediterranean forests, sailors, those who protect the environment, rivers and sea, and the hundreds of

thousands of willing men and women who have already shown that they are ready to take action and restore dignity and hope to our peoples.

Simply by resorting to the social networks, and with no need to travel, the young people of Algeria, France, Morocco and Tunisia, who speak a common language, and particularly, young people with Maghreb origins living in France, can jointly devise, design and manage all kinds of exchanges and actions that have now become possible thanks to the web.

As is the case with crowdfunding, crowdsourcing can provide a means for civil society, and especially young people, to become impressively dynamic. The Municipality of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur will be launching such an operation from the Villa Méditerranée in Marseille as soon as possible.

Before putting forward some very specific proposals for cooperation among the general public, it seems necessary to recap on certain recent matters that have today been pushed out of the public eye by the shock of the war in Syria.

The '*Mediterranean question*', even more violent today, had already become more complex. The question asked of France was simple: 'What are France's proposals in respect of the Arab movement and the Mediterranean?' It was France's response to this simple question that was complicated, not the East. The inter-ministerial delegation to the Mediterranean headed by Serge Telle, suggests varied and outstanding courses of action but the instruments are complex and too numerous. This dispersion adversely affects the clarity and effectiveness of France's actions, obscuring them in the eyes of other nations.

And, indeed, it is no longer a matter of the Mediterranean basin alone. It is a vast territory stretching to the north, east and south of the Mediterranean.

Fear, social division, terrorism, uprisings, civil war and, finally, war, disfigure and cause long-lasting harm to this part of the civilised world. Due to the geographical area it encompasses and its demographic, economic, social and cultural dimensions, the impact of this crisis is worldwide in scale. The issues are no longer

restricted only to the people of the Mediterranean, extending instead to encompass vast territories and a large number of nations often far-removed from the Mediterranean.

And France stands at the centre of the Euro-Mediterranean connection. Her language and culture embody an ethic, of resistance and liberation, and a critical spirit that form the foundation of the Republic. With her political, cultural, economic and military means, France is duty bound, both to herself and to other nations, to play the role expected of her in warding off the spectre of violence. With the '*Mediterranean projects*' programme, France has precisely, for an initial and limited period of time, the capability to foster a '*project for the Mediterranean*' which will trace the outline of a common destiny'.

In the first instance, it is a question of France's own future. France stands jointly with her neighbours in terms of both geography and a shared philosophy of life. If she is to maintain her position in Europe and the world, France must re-establish the strength and extent of her influence. The prestige of her republican ideals remains universal. France will always be a major world power, morally and politically. In order to do so, she must stand firm on the historic universal values she expressed during the Enlightenment, in defence of Human Rights, during the French Revolution and through the programme of the National Council of the Resistance. Today, France must contribute to the search for *a new model of society, one which is not only Mediterranean but also Latin*. She must remain capable of continued existence in the face of growing worldwide competition. She must keep her place among the Nations that, tomorrow, will be at the forefront of the economic race. But at the same time, she must achieve this goal without relinquishing any part of her cultural and moral identity. She must not lose her soul in the deluge of globalisation.

At the present time, this republican France is attracting considerable attention, not only throughout the Mediterranean but also in Latin American and Latin Africa. Once again, these principles are clearly identifiable with France on a worldwide scale. They should help us to propose new solutions, solutions that particularly address the 'Mediterranean issue'.

The 'Mediterranean issue' calls upon Europe, all of Europe, to assume responsibility not only 'for' the Mediterranean but 'with' the peoples of the Mediterranean, the entire Mediterranean, including those parts that extend eastwards to the Gulf and southwards to the Sahel.

When 'neighbourhood policy', is spoken of in Brussels, we do not mean that we are the Maghreb or Eastern Mediterranean's 'neighbours'. Rather, we share a 'common home'. When half a family lives in Algiers and the other half lives in Marseille, the issue is not that of 'family reunification'. It is far more a problem of

'family grouping' on either side of the sea. We are therefore duty-bound to work together to ward off the spectre of mutual rejection, xenophobia, racism and fundamentalism.

From northern Europe to the southern Sahara and the confines of Iran, a geographical area simultaneously torn by massacres, crises and conflicts and yet increasingly interdependent, can be seen to be taking shape.

In the north, Europe, in the grip of moral and economic crisis, is tempted by a withdrawal into itself and by division. The common policy exists. It is significant in quality and dimension but it remains difficult to decipher and is barely audible. The UPM has been obliged to turn the only page in its great and fine ambition. It bore a single photo: that, fortunately yellowed with age, of a family comprising Ben Ali, Mubarak and Assad. The sole remnants of this fine idea, no sooner accomplished than ruined, are a few diplomatic encounters unbeknown to the people and a secretariat in Barcelona.

Today, in the wake of the UPM, governments have spent two years demonstrating their inability to stop the massacre of the Syrian people. Were Hitler to return, he would come to the conclusion that the United Nations Organisation is duty-bound to respect the most criminal dictatorships. He could therefore kill all or part of his people as long as he did not use gas to do so. Israel would be delighted, as would all those who piously gathered before the monuments to the dead this summer, saying 'never again'.

Peace in Syria and the Mediterranean will not be achieved by means of 'summits' or solemn declarations of 'concern' by the European Union. Today, the results of international action in Iraq and Afghanistan are clear for all to see. And, again, a sustainable peace in the Mediterranean ten, twenty or more years from now will not be achieved by the 'upper tier' but by the 'lower' one; not by major conferences even if they are useful and of interest to the media, but by civil society. It is joint economic, social and cultural development that nurtures democratic freedom and peace.

The Mediterranean is not a threat. Today, it seems crushed by its history and by fatality. Instead, it constitutes an opportunity for Europe, the East and Africa in tomorrow's world because, since antiquity, its peoples have never relinquished their identifying will and the love of freedom that will be sorely needed if we are to stand firm against the destruction of cultures by financial globalisation.

In this very long-term vision, one must therefore take into account from the very outset, people's right to their cultural identity and to self-determination. The

European Union must not ignore these rights at a time when it, alone, has the financial means necessary to embark upon a large-scale Mediterranean policy. It is, in any case, bound to do so. Europe cannot move forward by turning her back on the Mediterranean. Dubbed 'Club Méditerranée', Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal and France are no longer in a position, at this time, to play the role that they alone can play in the very future of Europe as a whole. We, the people of the Midi, are the sole lifeline between Europe and the Mediterranean. To cut it would be to deal Europe a death blow.

To the east, Turkey has been kept at Europe's doorstep for years, a nation that for centuries was one of the most influential powers in all of civilised Europe. She has now regained her status as a leading economic and political power. This is why her people today feel a certain sense of humiliation. Consequently, her appointed leaders' response is political Islam and considerable interest for the area formerly occupied by the Ottoman Empire. However, in Istanbul, other signs have been forthcoming. In Syria, we have seen how the particularly barbarous massacre of an entire people and the destruction of the cities upon which the world's civilisation was founded, such as Damascus and Aleppo, are taking their toll. The effects of the Syrian war are adversely affecting Lebanon, so dear and so necessary to France, and Jordan. Israel is living in an atmosphere of terror. Meanwhile, in an increasingly colonised Palestine, demands are being made for discussions on independence. Egypt is being torn apart in turn, after so much hope. The situation in Iraq is dramatic. Iran continues to pursue her highly disturbing policy, taking the time afforded by a very skilful opening. The United States will be expecting one of their allies to do the job without authorisation from the United Nations.

As for the Gulf States, their presence in the Mashriq and Maghreb, as well as in Europe and, first and foremost, in France, means they are Mediterraneans by choice. Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the Emirates are stakeholders in our own development. They know how to accommodate their interest in civil society and their role in the evolution of the Mediterranean world without denying their particular interpretation of Islam.

Lastly, *to the south* of our southerly neighbours, the Sahel has 'toppled' into the Mediterranean area.

France's intervention in Mali was essential for both the Mediterranean and Africa. Europe, with no armed forces and no defence policy, relies there, as elsewhere, on the United States, a nation which has other concerns and other perspectives. Europe was incapable of expressing her affinity with France and wishing her good luck in Mali.

The French soldiers demonstrated that France undeniably remains a military power. Our compatriots rediscovered soldiers bearing the national colours on their arms. Our young soldiers illustrated human values and outstanding military training. In them, the French took consolation at a time in their history when everything encourages them to doubt the durability of their national identity and pride. Our soldiers were welcomed by the Malian population, not as 'observers' or occupying forces, but as 'liberators'.

Nevertheless, violence or the threat of violence persists throughout the Sahel. The Tuareg continue to demand recognition of their identity. These populations were joined initially by groups of jihadis with a certain tactical sense, ready to engage in all kinds of terrorism, including in Europe, and hostage-taking, even of children. They were joined by traffickers of weapons and drugs, becoming part of networks which in some cases moved to southern Libya and have now redeployed throughout the Sahel.

These armed groups constitute a threat to Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya; in other words, precisely the five members of the Arab Maghreb Union. They are also members of the 5 + 5 process, relaunched in Malta in 2012 by the French President. But this space has now expanded to become *five + five + five* along with Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad. The Maghreb is no longer merely France's partner in the north. It is also France's partner in the south. Henceforth, in light of the ongoing violence throughout the Sahel, there is a constant challenge of insecurity stretching from northern Europe to the very heart of Africa. Terrorism may strike at any time and in any place throughout this vast area.

The Maghreb, therefore, now lies at the centre of a Euro-Maghreb-Saharan system. In this geographical area, which is in itself part of the ongoing process of globalisation, France, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, jointly bear a huge responsibility for the peace and well-being of our peoples whose fates have become one in the face of this threat.

This privileged and necessary cooperation must be developed within the France/Maghreb community, which itself must be strengthened, to enable us to retain control over our future, including within Europe, alongside Germany.

If the terms of the 'Mediterranean issue' seem appropriate to the situation, this may be because the 'issue of the East', which appeared to have turned the corner with the passage of time, has now become the centre of a new and equally violent episode.

In the 19th century, the '*issue of the East*' concerned the Balkans and the eastern Mediterranean. Moving forward to the 20th century, the Balkans were the stage for the horrific wars that devastated the peoples of what was formerly

Yugoslavia.

In the East, it was also in the areas delimited by the Sykes-Picot agreements that the Syrian war was waged and where, to the present day, the people of Palestine are denied their right to live in their own country.

And it is also in the Caucasus, where the peoples opposing Russia and Turkey were ravaged, that a new front of violence and threats can be found today.

Under such circumstances, it is hardly surprising in the 21st century, to find the same two powers – Russia and Turkey – highly active in the region. As it happens, Europe has no clearly defined policy in respect of either Russia or Turkey. She therefore bears her share of the responsibility in the response of these two great peoples: nationalism. The consequences are visible, particularly among the young people and civil society at the very heart of these powers, in Moscow and in Istanbul.

Our fellow citizens have clearly forgotten the history of the 'issue of the East'. The images broadcast on television and the Internet of killings, battles and attacks are brutal and incomprehensible to them. They are therefore dangerous. Indeed, this situation is highly damaging in France: the caricaturing of Islam, the exasperation of a need for a national identity and, for some, a loss of faith in the Republic.

Every day, many of our fellow citizens view image after image, each more scandalous and violent than the last, with no knowledge of the deeply-rooted causes of the insecurity that they fear. An insecurity that is stoked precisely for the purpose of terrifying them. One day, they may ask: *'You knew what was going on. What did you do?'*

France has given her response to that question in Mali and in Syria. And she was also capable of proposing a new policy in the Mediterranean; as the French President put it, 'projects belonging to a simultaneously ambitious and pragmatic approach.'

These 'projects' may evidently be major undertakings of mutual interest and the implementation of work that is beneficial to both sides of the Mediterranean.

There is no shortage of these. A joint Mediterranean agreement, to which all our countries lining its shores would be party, and which would address the problems of water or fishing, or the response of solar or wind power to the energy challenge, is just one of many factors in all our minds.

But what our peoples expect today, first and foremost, is the respect owed them by their political and economic leaders in respect of their economic and social circumstances.

What our governments must do is simply develop new tools rather than new institutions that are disappointing to the point of despair. It is they, in daily life and

proximity, that will respond to the rise and new demands of civil society and young people; young people who wish not only to be heard but also to participate in the responsibilities of the community. It is *a new approach to devising policy* itself that is in question here.

The young people, of course, are the top priority.

For them, a new, 'soft' approach is needed, one which they themselves have helped devise. They need a 'liberation' process that is respectful of their right to self-determination and their freedom to choose their identity.

At this historic moment in time, France holds a number of trump cards. We must use them to devise *a new 'model of society' and a new way of 'doing politics'*, in conjunction with the peoples of the south. We must take into account the disciplines imposed upon us by globalisation and information and communication technology. The new model must be capable of allowing the Euro-Mediterranean peoples to be strong enough to maintain their political and moral position around the table with tomorrow's world leaders.

If the young people are the priority, the priority for young people of the Mediterranean is to reduce the disparity in development that exists between the two shores and which is among the worst in the world. Obviously, this ambitious policy cannot be envisaged by France on her own. It is therefore clear that she must strengthen her role as an interface in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, and work in close collaboration with the southern countries, if she is to be able to construct and put forward a French strategy worthy of the occasion.

The *'Young people's Mediterranean'* is the finest of slogans. It may bring hope to those who have often lost it and, first and foremost, to the Mediterranean youth. *Arab Spring, European Spring, Mediterranean Spring*, each of our countries must be able, with considerable humanity, firstly to jointly devise and build a major common policy, and then to work in conjunction to manage it.

A means of liaison between this policy and the existing instruments, i.e. the 5 + 5 and European Union-Maghreb dialogue, must be found in order to coordinate all of the European and national policies on shared goals. Without creating new institutions, new tools and new partnership methods that rapidly prove their effectiveness must be built jointly.

A deliberate effort has therefore been made in this report to select a number of proposals that could have an immediate political and popular echo among our nations' youth. The only actions that will be addressed here, therefore, are those connected to the most pressing problems: vocational training, research and innovation, micro-enterprises, the social and solidarity-based economy, the

Mediterranean youth forum, youth mobility, inter-territorial cooperation, the role of the metropolis of Marseille and its port, and coordination with the European authority.

PROPOSAL 1:
THE CREATION OF A FRANCE-MAGHREB
SPACE FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Vocational training is the first response to the vital need for jobs and therefore employability of young people from both sides of the Mediterranean. The training of apprentices, secondary school pupils taking vocational courses and all young people seeking deferred initial training or a 'second chance', is the very first of the needs expressed by every figure from politics, economics and community groups who was questioned within the scope of this report. There is a very strong bond of cooperation between the Maghreb countries and France in respect of university education. Several thousand Moroccan, Tunisian and Algerian students are studying in France. France awards three thousand grants annually to students from the Maghreb. Vocational training, however, has been practically non-existent in these exchanges. Cooperation in this field is limited. It mostly consists of development aid (funding for training centres, essentially in Morocco and Tunisia, by means of loans from the French Development Agency (AFD), or is connected to private initiatives, particularly in liaison with industrial investments, as is the case in Tangiers.

The Maghreb countries' needs in this respect are very considerable: training of artisans, middle management, technicians, data processors, healthcare personnel and social workers, tourism personnel and supervision of the social and solidarity-based economy. Together, we can respond to these young people's needs for

qualification, in line with development perspectives. Cooperating in terms of vocational training also means ensuring the necessary follow-through of investment projects and reinforcing the economic, commercial and human bonds between the Maghreb countries and France.

We need to move on from a philosophy of development aid through funding for projects to one of partnerships, in similar fashion to the system of university cooperation. It is a question of fostering and forging bonds between educational establishments and communities on both sides of the Mediterranean. We must promote the mobility of both instructors and students, build training networks and develop instructor training. We must take advantage of the rich variety of skills, experiences and expertise being transferred, as well as the means of the networks and French vocational training establishments. And MOOCs should not now be restricted to universities.

Under French law, the municipalities play an essential role in respect of vocational training, particularly for young people, and in the qualification of nurses, support for the economic fabric of SMEs and the development of the social and solidarity-based economy. If governments provide the desirable guidelines and clarity by means of a strong gesture on the part of the 5 + 5 towards the qualification and employment of young people, both the municipalities and the economic players involved in training will be able to take up the challenge with the necessary proximity, as part of their efforts beyond the confines of the municipalities' physical boundaries.

The creation of a France-Maghreb space for vocational training will constitute a first step in developing and federating resources and players around a strategy of ongoing education geared towards young people, and also of forward planning in terms of skills, qualification and workforce that may be shared by both banks.

While this is not the place to describe what should be negotiated and developed between the various countries, a statute in the form of a community-orientated cooperative could be considered. According to the statutes of this type of structure, joint members could include municipalities from the various countries, economic players of structural importance on a Mediterranean scale and networks of those involved in vocational training.

It would be advisable to define both missions and goals jointly:

- Develop instructor training in line with the needs of the training apparatus and the problems encountered by young people, particularly in respect of access to basic knowledge at a first level of qualification.
- Encourage vocational training establishments on both sides of the

Mediterranean to work together (joint training courses, mutually validated diplomas, open distance-learning, programme design, etc.), and include such cooperation as part of a global approach to the development of skills and qualifications, anticipating and integrating the processes of economic change.

- Facilitate south-north and north-south procedures and formalities for periods of study and traineeships.
- Involve companies and economic and social players in this initiative in order to develop a policy of combined means and action to help young people become qualified.

A French initiative could be set up rapidly, taking advantage of the European resources that already exist in this field (e.g. the European Training Foundation, the EU agency that supports and promotes the development of vocational training systems). To date, these resources have been little used. France has a key role to play in terms of improving the European offering within the Euro-Mediterranean space with regard to training, recognition of qualifications, entrepreneurship, mobility and approaches geared towards democracy and citizenship.

We must refrain from always talking about south-north mobility and its familiar risks. The interest in north-south mobility must also be taken into account. Many young French apprentices or students taking vocational secondary school courses may have an interest in traineeships in the south. The artisans of the Maghreb have tremendous knowledge to pass on to them. The mobility of European youth southwards would have a considerable symbolic bearing on bringing our people together in an atmosphere of mutual respect. Notably, the young people who travel outside their homeland will discover the added richness of their two cultures, that of the Maghreb and that of France, and their two languages. On this last point, France must make a very clear effort to promote the teaching of Arabic in public establishments which, by definition, are non-denominational.

Furthermore, in this field as in others, information and communication technologies provide the opportunity, through online training and MOOCs, to rethink access to training (paying particular attention to health and the potential offered by eHealth) and to design brand new kinds of partnerships between establishments throughout the Mediterranean. However, face-to-face interaction between students and their instructors remains essential. It is a condition of educational innovation and human cohesion.

Thereafter, the outlook points to the creation of a Euro-Maghreb space for

education and training, the first stage in a space for a Euro-Mediterranean people and community.

If at the outset, a joint France-Maghreb institution may seem difficult to achieve, the answer to one stage could be to resort to three specific tools adapted to the different circumstances in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

PROPOSAL 2:
**BETTER LIAISON BETWEEN TRAINING, RESEARCH
AND INNOVATION**

Liaison between training, research and innovation is a prime tool for joint development, partnerships and cooperation taking into account the needs and priorities of the south. Furthermore, and insofar as public policies are concerned, research and scientific exchanges constitute an aid to decision-making.

Various meetings involving rectors and university directors from the Maghreb countries and French-speaking European Union conferences have already make it possible to create a dynamic geared towards a Euro-Maghreb higher education and research space. From 2014 to 2020, the Maghreb countries will be taking part in the development of the European Union and Mediterranean partner countries' shared research and innovation programme. This dialogue will notably address shared scientific policies and research initiatives. We must take up the challenges facing us all in respect of water, food safety, health, the environment and energy. France must be the driving force behind a new dynamic in this approach and look into joint programmes with the Maghreb countries.

For example, she could extend the experiment of the mixed international laboratories instigated by the French Institute for Research and Development (IRD), which are veritable incubators for projects. They could be financed by the future 'neighbourhood' apparatus or by the forthcoming EU research and innovation programme, 'Horizon 2020'.

And the importance of liaison with the world of business must also be highlighted. *Public-private partnerships are essential.* Partnerships between universities and companies must be developed and bonds with the local economic and social fabric must be strengthened. In this respect, the French Minister for National Education suggests that 'centres for excellence in technical training' could expand abroad to the southern shores of the Mediterranean. The benefits of exporting this type of relationship between schools and businesses will foster the internationalisation of French companies and the valorisation of France's technical teaching methods. This effort should be conducted in partnership with the regional councils.

The emergence and structuring of network of collaborative working spaces (whereby developers, entrepreneurs, artists, users, researchers and student combine their means and their skills), must be supported.

PROPOSAL 3:

TRAINING YOUNG MICRO-ENTREPRENEURS

The rise of a new generation of entrepreneurs is a key issue for the economic and social future of the Mediterranean countries, and the Maghreb countries in particular. These young entrepreneurs need a favourable environment if they are to successfully create and develop their businesses.

A great many young people on both sides of the Mediterranean have the knowledge, talent and will to create their own businesses. To do so, they need not only proper training but also a legal framework and technical and financial support (through the provision of venture capital funds) as they take their first steps as budding entrepreneurs. From a perspective of co-localisation, it would be very useful if these young people could be supported by young French businesspeople, including those from the 'diaspora'. Some of them hope to develop activities in their homeland, often in a spirit of social commitment and solidarity. We must foster the creation of a network of young companies linking both sides of the Mediterranean. No great means are needed to do so but such a step could work as a strong incentive.

France should suggest that European programmes such as 'Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs' and the European micro-financing instrument be extended to encompass the Maghreb countries.

The European INVEST in MED programme is also a good example of an EU apparatus that France should help strengthen, expand and sustain. This programme has made it possible to set up a network of Euro-Mediterranean organisations devoted to promoting investments, facilitating trade, strengthening collaboration between SMEs and sharing best practices.

PROPOSAL 4:
CREATE A SPACE FOR A JOINT FRANCE-
MAGHREB SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY-
BASED ECONOMY

It is particularly with regard to the social and solidarity-based economy that there is a need to facilitate the creation of businesses, with the ensuing opportunities, proximity to the ideals and commitments of many young people, and the capacity for social change and innovation.

The social and solidarity-based economy constitutes a reference framework for reforging the social bond in respect of the economy, enhancing territories' potential, resources and assets and anchoring development in them, and mobilising skills in a business dynamic. There is an ongoing effort to do business in a different fashion, protecting and valorising the environment, and to find ways of creating sustainable wealth through support from local solidarity, projects and networks.

The creation of a space for a 'joint France-Maghreb solidarity-based economy' will bolster the emergence and the dynamism of civil society. Such a space cannot be decreed from 'on high'. It could only be shaped very gradually by the accumulation of initiatives, the constitution of a critical mass of players, the implementation of measures to generate business and accelerate growth, the valorisation of successful undertakings and the analysis of failed ones. This approach is part of the 'cluster' model, which brings the players together in a network. It develops their common projects. It monitors the companies' growth. It builds a shared strategy that targets the local and regional environment. It works on

combinations of knowledge and know-how.

In recent years, France's tools for monitoring economic development have undergone profound alterations with the double aim of boosting the economic performance of businesses and cooperation and solidarity: the competitiveness clusters (for example, the regional development and solidarity clusters, known as PRIDES, in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur), the business incubators, financial engineering tools and social entrepreneurship. Regional competences are important for the monitoring of 'growth and innovation ecosystems'. Regional councils can be brought in to foster 'solidarity-based economy mentoring' in a reference to industrial mentoring approaches. The concept of mentoring clearly expresses a position of balance in the south-north relationship and the idea of moving forward and innovating together, supported by each other's experience.

If France truly wishes to encourage the construction of a France-Maghreb solidarity-based economy cluster, she must guard against three risks: insufficient allocation of means, fragmented initiatives, and a few large economic operators muscling in and taking over the trade. The core of this 'cluster' is already in its early stages, with the structuring of a 'Med Cluster' that brings together the players involved in the solidarity-based economy mentoring scheme: the MedESS gathering of the social and solidarity-based economy in the Mediterranean, instigated last May by the Macif insurance company and the Crédit Coopératif bank; CoopMed's initiative to help provide funding for SMEs and social enterprises from the Maghreb; and the cooperation between the municipality of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Tunisia and Morocco. As far as CoopMed is concerned, the idea of bringing together the four Deposits and Consignment Funds from Italy, Tunisia, Morocco and France with the EIB and the French Development Agency, may constitute a founding gesture.

In parallel, the idea of crowdfunding for micro-projects is becoming more popular among the players in this field. This is a system that allows private savings to be channelled into projects by bringing together project sponsors and private individuals (who may be from the diaspora) interested in making a financial contribution using the support tools available on the highly popular social networks on both sides of the Mediterranean.

PROPOSAL 5:

A FORUM FOR MEDITERRANEAN YOUTH

The creativity, dynamism and civic ambition of our young people are most clearly expressed in the social networks. Mediterranean citizens, and young people in particular, can be seen to take a very keen interest in digital content and services. These networks, which create new ways for people to connect, cross and shift traditional boundaries. Their use is not merely a question of accessing and controlling interactive digital networks. Young people want to be more closely involved with the processes of developing and assessing public policies.

Support for the implementation of mechanisms that allow young people to participate in the life of society must be encouraged, at local, regional and national level, by means of youth councils, youth parliaments, local councils, secondary school councils, etc. Thus, the Mediterranean youth must be able, in the same way as focus groups do, to propose strategic recommendations to the European and Mediterranean institutions in respect of the policies and financial instruments aimed at young people.

The idea of creating a permanent forum for the Mediterranean youth seems to be particularly attractive. It must draw on the various initiatives in civil society which are already taking steps in that direction, in particular those of the Anna

Lindh Foundation. In this respect, France must advocate the transposition in the Maghreb countries of the provisions of the European Commission's 'Youth Democracy' programmes, aimed at fostering better understanding of how the democratic institutions operate, and at promoting the mechanisms encouraging all young people to become involved in the decision-making processes.

This forum must be open to all on a permanent basis and be managed by a coordinating unit. There will be liaison between the forum's work and the Mediterranean agenda in order to prepare summits and encounters, such as the 5 + 5 topics. It must be monitored by the Euro-Mediterranean political bodies and institutions. In order for it to be in synch with social practices and current forms of engagement, and in a spirit of participative democracy, the forum must become a fundamental part of an extensive network of young people, associations and local councils, thanks to digital tools.

The Mediterranean youth forum must embrace this digital dimension and the associated network practices not only in its operating methods (participative online tools, video-conferences) but also in respect of the topics targeted by its work. In addition to generic topics such as education, culture, sport, environmental and energy-related issues, unemployment and the fight against discrimination, more specific topics such as personal data protection, the use of drones by the armed forces and the police and open access to public data will also benefit from the young people's input.

PROPOSAL 6:
**CREATION OF A EURO-MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUE
PLATFORM FOR YOUTH MOBILITY**

Mobility processes are both educational and unifying. They contribute to the formation of a Mediterranean citizenship while fostering respect for difference.

The new 'Erasmus for All' programme launched as part of the forthcoming European 2014-2020 European budget, creates a new-style 'Erasmus open to the rest of the world'. However, if the European Commission has, in its proposals, come out in favour of strengthening the means devoted to cooperation with neighbouring countries (both to the east and across the Mediterranean), it does not uphold the suggestion put forward by a number of MPs that the new programme should be organised under a regional framework.

We therefore need to launch a platform that will provide a space for dialogue in order to monitor and support the implementation of the 'Erasmus for All' programme in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The most relevant space is that of the 5 + 5 system. This platform should bring together the ministers for higher education, national operators for the Erasmus Programme Commission and other regional and national operators. A name that is more acceptable to the southern countries must be found for this Mediterranean Erasmus programme. Clarifying this policy in the eyes of the general public would have historic repercussions among the Maghreb youth, currently confronted with the fortress that Europe represents for many of them and the racism that is on the rise there.

With the same goal in mind, the European Commission is preparing mobility partnerships with Morocco and Tunisia. The aim is to facilitate the procedures for granting visas to certain categories of people, in particular students, researchers and businesspeople. These partnerships also aim to support development initiatives sponsored by Moroccans and Tunisians in the European Union. Bolstered by the Moroccan, Tunisian and Algeria diaspora living inside her borders, France could, in such a context, propose concrete initiatives to foster and strengthen cooperation with Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria on every aspect related to youth migration and mobility.

France must increase the number of grants awarded to young people from the Mediterranean. The ability to attract this youth, as the United States, Canada and other European nations do so successfully, is vital for our country. It is an investment in our very future. And we must establish a system whereby young graduates from the Maghreb, particularly in emerging sectors, encounter conditions for obtaining visas that are not only fairer and more open to the future but also less discouraging and humiliating. Such a step would foster interpenetration of our markets between France and the Maghreb.

Still within the community framework, France's support for the implementation of a veritable 'Euro-Mediterranean volunteer' service, expanding on the European voluntary services, would give young people the opportunity to make a commitment while benefiting from a support structure.

The creation of a dialogue platform for mobility and the support of innovative initiatives should make it possible to ensure the mobility of all young people, students, apprentices and trainees who wish enlist in a Euro-Mediterranean apparatus.

PROPOSAL 7:
BETTER MOBILISATION OF DECENTRALISED
COOPERATION

Liaison between government action and the decentralised means of the regional and local authorities should lie at the heart of the 'Mediterranean projects' programme and service to young people. A large part of French municipal councils' budgets and policies are geared towards youth, and youth mobility in particular. Such exchanges between young people are embraced by the majority of cooperation agreements connecting them to local authorities in the Mediterranean. But the role played by local and regional authorities in cross-Mediterranean cooperation also needs to be updated.

From north to south, questions are being asked about government reform, deconcentration and decentralisation, and about the role of local authorities and players in the process of development, regional balance and national solidarity. France is seeking to develop her capacity to break free from the bonds of her culture of centralisation. Other Mediterranean nations have also suffered from the high concentration of power. The impetus provided by the French President under the bill on decentralisation together with the attention paid by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to external action by municipal and local councils, are creating new conditions for the renewal of decentralised cooperation.

Ever since the Arab movement was triggered, local and regional authorities have demonstrated their capacity to act through concrete action at the request of their partners. Less affected by diplomatic constraints, the municipalities have shown their role and legitimacy in a context that is nevertheless progressive and difficult. In both the north and south, governments have realised how useful the regional tier is, both for the establishment of a grassroots democracy and for better handling of local issues.

Decentralised cooperation has a real, albeit modest, contribution to make to the ambition of a 'Mediterranean projects' programme. French local authorities play a leading role in the implementation at grassroots level of major policies on training, insertion, employment, territorial planning and equity, proximity services, economic development and citizens' participation in public life. These issues lie at the heart of the concerns of the Mediterranean youth. Enriched by a wide diversity of circumstances, the municipalities are all the more capable of innovation and experimentation for having been assigned new competences in the field of international economics and in the range of policies geared towards international support for young people. In order to raise awareness among their young people, each region needs to have a plan for regular trips and twinnings between schools at all levels in France and the Maghreb. Singing, music, painting, sculpture, hip-hop and hands-on theatre should lie at the heart of such twinnings, as happened during the 'Secondary School Students and Apprentices Spring' in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region.

However, decentralised cooperation is handicapped in a number of ways. It is fragmented. Joint funding at national level is limited in both quantity and attractiveness. It is scarcely operational in the Mediterranean. It lacks measures for monitoring and assessment. It suffers from an imbalance in the quality of the projects and often fragile partnerships with local authorities in the south, whose levels of autonomy are disparate and whose means for action are limited. It must overcome criticism and embrace a new dynamic of construction that is more in synch with its new responsibilities. Greater professionalism in linking this system with European and international funding is needed. In order to live up to these major issues, decentralised cooperation needs tighter relationships with the leading national operators and, in the first instance, with the French Development Agency as well as UbiFrance, the French Institute, Campus France, France Expertise

International and France Volontaires, among others.

In light of the increasing scarcity of means for intervention, France must review her priorities and concentrate her means in places where our know-how can be of greatest use. Government and local initiatives must be valorised as part of a common strategic framework for French external action in the Mediterranean by means of veritable joint political and administrative undertakings in the service of the Mediterranean youth.

PROPOSAL 8:
MARSEILLE, THE METROPOLIS FOR FRANCE'S
MEDITERRANEAN POLICY

The combined commitment of the government, local authorities and leading public operators will find strength in the emergence and consolidation of a 'projection hub' for France's policy in the Mediterranean. This requirement responds to the need to bring domestic and national institutions together in Marseille and to boost the means of its university, France's largest. Marseille and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur must allow France to play her role by being awarded the status of Mediterranean metropolises and regional capitals. The extent of the influence given to Marseille and its region will provide a much clearer statement of the government's desire to consolidate France's position in the service of a true Euro-Maghreb dynamic. For France, the urgency for action lies in the fact that there is currently fierce competition in the Maghreb countries in the context of globalisation, which is reshuffling the ranking of the major Mediterranean metropolises.

The city and municipality of Marseille were appointed by the French President and Prime Minister, right here in Marseille, to play this role for France. The metropolis's sociological composition, the origins of its population, the wealth of its diasporas and Marseille's very positive image in the eyes of the people of the

south, often superior to that which they have of France, afford it the status of Mediterranean capital. But it must be provided with the essential infrastructure.

The construction of the metropolis needs to be more than just the veneer of a new institution. For Marseille to be accepted and embraced by all, it must be given the equipment needed for the whole of France to maintain its position in Europe and the world. The future metropolis's role at national level has not been sufficiently emphasised. It must lie at the heart of France's new Mediterranean policy: the construction of a powerful economic hub, a major port served by a hinterland that is today extremely weak, clusters liaising with the R&D capacities of France's first university and major laboratories and regional research institutes associated in particular within the scope of the MISTRAL programme.

France must bring together the numerous but scattered players capable of constituting a veritable Euro-Mediterranean hub around the 'City of international cooperation and development' project championed by the IRD. They are already in place, many in number but lacking in organisation. By setting up the headquarters of the IRD, and French Development Agency and UbiFrance training services in Marseille, supporting the implementation and upkeep of the Centre for International Mobility (CMI), supporting the creation of the 'French branch of sustainable Mediterranean cities and territories' of the Office of Cooperation for Mediterranean and Middle East (OCEMO), and supporting the promotion of the network of local authorities in the Mediterranean (Mediterranean UCLG, the Inter-Mediterranean Commission of the CPMR), the government has already demonstrated its belief in the benefits that the metropolis of Marseille could bring for France. Furthermore, Marseille is the headquarters of the sole managing authority for the MED Cooperation Programme, since the municipality of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur was assigned this responsibility in Lisbon on 14 March 2013 by the 13 nations in southern Europe and the European Commission in recognition of the work accomplished by the French municipality. And Marseille is also home to a branch of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

Coordination with local authorities of means already in place needs to be improved. The French Development Agency's Mediterranean department, which currently constitutes the strongest operating project, needs to be relocated. This platform must allow France's know-how and engineering skills to develop in the Mediterranean while relying on the talents and specific sensitivity of the region and coastal area as a whole. A branch of the Inter-ministerial Delegation for the

Mediterranean must be set up in Marseille. It can be housed at the Villa Méditerranée.

Marseille has recently seen the addition of various facilities geared towards the Mediterranean, such as the MUCEM (Museum for Europe and the Mediterranean) and the Villa Méditerranée. These two sites are perfectly positioned to ensure Marseille occupies its rightful place in the major Mediterranean debates. In a few months' time, the Municipality of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur will be offering the first common manual of Mediterranean at the Villa Méditerranée. It represents a sign of confidence in our youth and in the future. Indeed, the work is not so much about history as about the foundations for the Mediterranean of 2050.

The Villa Méditerranée will play a more prominent role in recognising its nobility to popular culture. The most recognised examples are rap and the political messages it bears, and hip-hop, for which Marseille is the world capital.

PROPOSAL 9:
INTER-MINISTERIAL COORDINATION
AND EUROPEAN DIMENSION

Even the simplest proposals cannot be prepared or put into practice without considerable inter-ministerial coordination and unique decision-making power to avoid further disappointment. This will constitute a sign by France to her European and Mediterranean partners of real political will. The French players as a whole (ministers, AFD, IRD, regional and local authorities, consular and professional networks, universities and civil societies) must henceforth bring their numerous actions together and be capable of putting their strength and energy at the service of a common project spearheaded by a single and uncontested political authority in direct contact with the French President.

France must mobilise her know-how in joint political construction. She has chosen, for several years now, to entrust most of her public development aid and capacity for operational action to external agencies or organisations. She has gone too far. She has lost the necessary contact between the political and operational spheres. We must be able to provide a simple answer to the upheavals and hopes of the Mediterranean peoples and to the simple question asked at the start of this report: 'What is France doing?' In addition to means, it is French expertise that needs to be mobilised and organised to inject new strength into a political project; a project that must help put democratic, sustainable and credible responses into practice. Such an

ambition requires a far-reaching revision of the organisation of our means and competences.

France must also better integrate the main economic forces in her strategy, many of them already firmly established in the Maghreb countries. Public-private partnerships should have a role to play in achieving this ambition. They may constitute an important part of the projects' credibility including in the eyes of small and medium-sized enterprises and industries. Support from public policies should stimulate innovative initiatives which are numerous in this field. The concentration of government means on appeals for innovative projects intended for the private sector must be encouraged. Particular attention must be directed towards the digital economy, taking into account its high growth potential and its knock-on effect on the traditional sectors as a whole.

French know-how is an organised combination of means, monitored and relayed in embassies through permanent dialogue with partner nations. If France can better organise her strengths, she can nurture the ambition of jointly building conditions for better governance of her capacities on several levels to reinforce them. While she will not have exclusivity, she will be able to play her role as interface between Europe and the Maghreb countries to the full. In this respect, she will also be able to connect the necessary partnerships with the most active European countries.

The Mediterranean is not the European Union's priority. But Europe continues to promote and fund a large number of policies and schemes in the region. To reinforce the effectiveness of the European Commission's policy, France has a legitimacy and experience in respect of the Maghreb countries that no-one in Brussels would call into question. She must therefore fulfil her responsibilities.

Acquiring such credibility is a huge project for France and for Europe. It is what Germany achieved with the countries of Eastern Europe in the run-up to their membership of the European Union. At the time, Germany achieved this feat without offence to the then 15-nation Europe. She was capable of taking advantage of a historical and cultural proximity to which no other European country could lay claim with the same legitimacy.

Conclusion

The term 'proposals' arose as being more suited than that of 'projects' to the work of a 'parliamentary commissioner'.

There are a great many projects for the Mediterranean in all sorts of fields. Some are already old news, others were short-lived. *Culture*, of course, leads the pack. Born of culture, the Mediterranean possesses, thanks to its influence, the strength of its common message. When one measures the thirst for culture, the open-mindedness and the creative imagination of the Mediterranean youth, the Mediterranean has a truly powerful influence at its disposal with which to play its role in tomorrow's world.

If this report were to have been written about our young people, *sport* would have been given pride of place. There is no real Mediterranean sporting community. Sport is connected to culture. It affords an educational opportunity encompassing morality, aesthetics and fraternity. One must therefore urgently reflect upon the role it should play in order to bring our peoples closer together.

On a par with culture, the Mediterranean is also *economy*. The work undertaken Jean-Louis Guigou and the IPEMED Mediterranean think tank, is another field where the 'Mediterranean projects' desired by the French President are

taking shape.

But the issue at stake is firstly to employ a single method when referring to our youth: the joint preparation and the joint management of the Mediterranean projects. The existing instruments must therefore be strengthened. The secretariat of the UPM in Barcelona must take a better stance in the decision-making processes of the European Commission and the bilateral decisions of the Euro-Mediterranean nations. If the will is there it can expand its role of making proposals, providing expert knowledge and labelling.

France must play a far more significant role in the European Union than she does today. While respecting her partners, she must provide the impetus for the Mediterranean to occupy its rightful place in the Commission's policies. France is legitimately entitled to do so. She has the expertise. Her geo-strategical, historical and cultural position is contested by no-one. From this perspective, France's efforts in Brussels on behalf of the Mediterranean are just as important as those addressing only the France-Mediterranean relationship.

Special mention must be made of Libya. We must all take every possible care to ensure that Libya does not one day turn her back on the Maghreb and Europe.

The human reality shared by France and the Maghreb in general provides France with a unique source of moral and political wealth. On this point, *the role of the diaspora and every young French person with roots in the Maghreb*, particularly in Marseille, must be better known, recognised and supported. And, for France, it is also a question of our domestic policy the solution for which is largely to be found in our relationship with Algeria. If the France-Maghreb community should one day combine all its economic, cultural and human strengths, the resulting demographic and economic power would be more than capable of influencing the future of the Euro-Mediterranean space and the world.

And yet, this will to work in a perspective of regional integration in no way excludes the strengthening of our bilateral relationships with *each of the three nations from the central Maghreb: Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia*.

A France devoid of arrogance, far-removed from her reputation of 'teaching lessons', could today reinstate the popular and human basis of the 5 + 5 system with the Maghreb, simultaneously a laboratory and vibrant hub of a group dynamic with the eastern end of the Mediterranean.

The role of the municipal councils and local authorities, if strengthened by a

mechanism, a coherence that is lacking and financial means, would be of great value. Thanks to their proximity to the people, municipal councils are uniquely qualified to provide support and clarity to the spontaneous movement of civil society and youth. What is being proposed is that the people themselves, and the young people first and foremost, should seek one another out.

Alongside the municipal councils and the role of the Euro-Mediterranean parliament, France must strive to safeguard and strengthen the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM). This Assembly concerns only the people living on the Mediterranean's shores. It arose out of the CSCM and the Inter-Parliamentary Union. It is needed more than ever, because the people of the Mediterranean can use it as a 'forum' where they can hold a dialogue in an atmosphere of mutual respect for the Arab parliaments since the number of Arab and European parliaments represented are equally balanced. The dialogue in the Mediterranean has particular characteristics. This Assembly respects them and enhances their value in the eyes of the European Union. The Parliament's first session in 2014 will be hosted by the Villa Méditerranée.

Lastly, with the social networks and mobility, young people and civil society must be welcomed and assisted by governments and municipal councils in their desire to be respected, understood and 'given responsibilities' in the new political society. They have already demonstrated – last April at the Villa Méditerranée – their capacity to regenerate political life and their strength in the fight for freedom.

That Mediterranean is only real response to the ever-increasing appeal of policies based on racism, xenophobia and fundamentalism.

For France, the 'Mediterranean projects' programme must, first and foremost, be a *project by France for France*. Indeed, the French President emphasised this when he spoke in Marseille on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the MUSEM. And the Prime Minister and all the other ministers took upon themselves a duty of national solidarity and a vision for France's future based on Marseille and the region of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur.

France must be strong, first and foremost, where she is expected to be. At the moment, there is a kind of thirst for France in the Mediterranean, Latin Africa and Latin America.

Today, freedom is under threat, not from crude 20th century forms of totalitarianism but from the sophisticated, secret systems being used by governments and major financial companies to monitor people's private lives. The latter have

manipulative capacities that bring subtle yet appealing propaganda into play against people. Government-developed drones are becoming increasingly sophisticated and miniaturised. Tomorrow, they will be playing a vital role not only in war but also in government-sponsored assassinations or acts of suppression against social movements considered politically incorrect by deviant regimes. This is visible today: some of the most 'acclaimed' democracies are undermined by their concern for information, direct influence on people and the physical elimination of those their 'services' condemn.

In such a world, the cause of freedom is far from guaranteed. A '*common destiny*' controlled by the people of the Mediterranean could form a part of the defensive mechanism to protect their freedom. France's own freedom depends on it for the future.

The Mediterranean that lives in the hearts of our young people is even more beautiful than the real-life Mediterranean.

List of Figures Consulted as part of the Mediterranean Mission

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Mr Mohamed BENAMOUR, President of KTI (tourism group) and member of the economic think tank Conseil de Développement et de la Solidarité

Mr Mohamed BERRADA, former minister and ambassador, President of a humanitarian foundation in Casablanca.

Mr Mustapha BOUSMINA, Chancellor of the Hassan II Academy of Science and Technology,

Mr Saïd CHBAATOU, President of the Association of Moroccan Municipalities in charge of the University of Fez project

Mr Taoufik CHERRADI, Vice-President of the 'Vocational Training' Commission (CGEM)

Mr Youssef CHRAIBI, President of 'Outsourcia'

Mr Mohamed FIKRAT, CEO of SOCUMAR (sugar industry), President of the Commission 'Investment, Competitiveness and Industrial Emergence' (CGEM – Moroccan employers' association)

Mr Abdelilah HIFDI, President of the Moroccan National Road Transport Federation

Mr Jean-André LASSERRE, Director of Institutional Relations and Studies at the French Transport Association (AFT)

Ms Leila MIYARA, President of the Moroccan Association of Women Entrepreneurs

Mr Noureddine MOUADDIB, President of the International University of Rabat

Mr Jacques PROST, Managing Director of Renault-Maroc

Ms Jamila SETTAR, Dean of the Aïn Sebaâ Faculty of Legal, Economic and Social Sciences

Mr Joël SIBRAC, French Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Morocco

Mr Yahia ZNIBER, Managing Director the OCP Foundation

Mr Younes ZRIKEM, Commission for Operations and Bilateral Relations (CGEM)

Algeria

Mr Abdelatif BABA AHMED, Minister for National Education

Mr Amara BENYOUNES, Minister for Town and Country Planning and the Environment

Mr Mohamed MEBARKI, Minister for Vocational Training and Teaching

Mr Mohamed Seghir BABES, President of the National Economic and Social Council (CNES) Mr Cherif RAHMANI, Minister for Industry, SMEs and the Promotion of Investment

Mr Mahrez AIT BELKACEM, Association CARE

Ms Amel BELAID, CARE

Mr Azzedine BELKACEM, Head of the Economic Studies Division at the CNES

Mr Mohamed BENGUERNA, Head of Research at the Centre for Research in Applied Economics for Development (CREAD)

Mr Lilian CADET, Director of the Algerian Business School (ESAA)

Ms Nadira CHENTOUF, Head of the Office of the President of the National Economic and Social Council (CNES)

Mr Thierry DEZENCLOS, Director of Operations at the Société des Eaux et de l'Assainissement (water and sewage) in Algiers

Mr Laurent DUPUCH, BNP Bank in Algiers

Mr Antonio GAMITO, Portuguese Ambassador in Algiers

Ms Michele GIACOMELLI, Italian Ambassador in Algiers

Mr HADJ-NACER, former Governor of the Bank of Algeria

Mr Réda HAMIANI, President of the Entrepreneurs' Forum

Mr Guillaume JOSSELIN Renault Algiers

Mr Samir KAROUM, Alstom Algiers

Mr Hassen KHELIFATI, Association NABNI

Mr Nadir LAGGOUNE, NABNI

Mr Mabrouk LAIB, NABNI

Mr Fernando LANZAS, Spanish Ambassador in Algiers

Mr Mohamed Saïb MUSETTE, Head of Research at CREAD

Mr Karim TAMIR, CARE