

**BUILDING ALTERNATIVES:
VYTVÁŘÍME ALTERNATIVY:**
2ND CONGRESS OF THE  **EuropeanLEFT**
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ADOPTED MOTION

MOTION ON THE BARCELONA PROCESS

The failure of the Barcelona Process is clearly visible.

This failure is largely due to the nature of the North-South relationship; neither good intentions nor good speeches can mend it.

In the 1995 Barcelona Declaration the Mediterranean is seen as a strategic axis of the European construction and an area where multicultural history and aspirations can provide the place for experimenting, so as to mark the European alternative to the Western model of colonisation.

The EU proposals concerning the Barcelona process are based on the following two main principles: the liberal globalisation and the US hegemony.

The Barcelona consensus complies to the following hierarchy and logic: the USA and their strategic, geo-political and economic interests come first, then Europe with a group of weaker countries. There is no consistent project, and sometime the interests of the countries involved, as in such fields as agriculture and tourism collide.

But the project has failed and the EU has always unilaterally supported the partnership with the ENP.

At the ENP the Mediterranean is mentioned neither in good intentions nor in good speeches.

The Mediterranean dissolves in a messy group of European and Western countries around a "centre" around which one should implement policies of stabilisation and political control of the neighbouring countries.

This unilateral turn of the EU radically changes a fundamental orientation which has shaped strategies for decades on the basis of the following cornerstones: internal social cohesion ("European social model") and economic cooperation with surrounding areas ("Wider Europe").

The EU economic interests and security have taken the place of the previous regional and multilateral approach in geo-economic and geo-political relations, where unilateral and individual interventions are now preferred. Moreover the economic globalisation is worsening the situation with its devastating effects.

This is the outcome of this change of attitude.

The EU has changed its nature: the European social model dissolves into globalisation and competitiveness.

MOTION

The EuroMed partnership agreements should be based on the principle of mutually beneficial economic relations and fair trade as regards the agricultural issues the cooperation should promote the principle of food sovereignty and protect the rights of small and medium size peasants in Mediterranean countries. Lastly, it must promote sustainable development, the protection of biodiversity and the environments in the Mediterranean.

The Party of the European Left has the duty and the task to break with this attitude and come back to a political vision where Europe is one of the three cornerstones of a new construction involving Europe, the Mediterranean countries and Asia (China, India and south-eastern Asia). In this new construction Europe should reshape its economy in terms of continental co-operation loosening its dependence from the North-American approach. Europe can look back at its own culture and forget the North-American one only through a Mediterranean approach, which is alternative to the ENP one.

In this sense we need to look back to the idea of an alliance among the movements, organisations, cultural institutions, “the other economy” area, progressive and democratic political forces, to build the Mediterranean area as a unitary system. We wish the construction of the Mediterranean Alternative, because *“by deeply reading the Mediterranean we can discover, that not only does it address a small portion of the globe, but also all the problems the world has to cope with if it wants to avoid the single God of competition”*.