

Rome Declaration

About Research Networks in the Mediterranean Region:

Gathered in the City of Rome on 13 September 2006 and as a result of the EUMEDCONNECT initiative of the European Commission, we the undersigned members of research networks in the Mediterranean region, recognise:

1. The importance for the academic and research community in the Mediterranean region to count on a regional infrastructure for data communication to improve cooperation in the area of academic research and investigation and education within the region and globally.
2. The importance for the academic and research community in the Mediterranean region to count on a regional consortium to support the development and implementation of a regional infrastructure for data communication based on advanced networks.

Based on the above, we declare:

1. The necessity for the existence of national research and education networks.
2. The desire to further develop and consolidate the Mediterranean EUMEDCONNECT network.
3. To cooperate in the development and consolidation of national research and education networks in those countries in the Mediterranean region, where they do not yet exist or where they have recently been founded.
4. To create a Mediterranean coordination space for the integration and regional coordination of the national research and education networks.
5. That due to the possibility of a continuation of co-financing from the European Commission it is necessary to coordinate efforts and to establish a Mediterranean regional coordination group. For this purpose [Name, Country] and [Name, Country] have been appointed by those who have signed this Declaration.
6. That before the next meeting of the EUMEDCONNECT project those who have signed this Declaration agree to have at least one meeting in order to establish the organisational criteria of a regional consortium of Mediterranean research and education networks. The first meeting will be held in [Location] on [Date].

Signed by: