

CALL FOR CHAPTERS

Plural Mediterranean: Perspectives from the South and East

Interconnected Transitions, Societies and Futures of the Mediterranean

Edited by Salvatore Capasso, Giovanni Canitano, Ouafae Nahli

Call for Chapters

Scholars, experts, and researchers are invited to submit proposals for the volume *Plural Mediterranean: Perspectives from the South and East. Interconnected Transitions, Societies and Futures of the Mediterranean*, to be published by Il Mulino (print edition, e-book, and open access).

This edition aims to overturn traditional analytical perspectives by placing at the centre the visions, experiences, and transformation trajectories of countries on the southern and eastern shores of the Mediterranean, with particular attention to scientific production in the Arabic language.

The objective is to give voice to a plurality of narratives and interpretations emerging from contexts often underrepresented in the international academic debate, thereby contributing to a more balanced and polycentric understanding of Mediterranean dynamics.

Context

The contemporary Mediterranean is undergoing profound economic, social, and environmental transformations. However, these changes are often interpreted through analytical categories and priorities largely defined by the northern shore.

This volume instead seeks to:

- valorise epistemological and methodological perspectives rooted in local contexts;
- highlight strategies of adaptation, resilience, and innovation developed in Arab and Middle Eastern countries;
- analyse key transitions (demographic, digital, ecological) from the standpoint of the priorities, needs, and visions of societies in the South and East.

The Mediterranean is thus interpreted not only as a space of interconnection, but as a mosaic of plural experiences, where development trajectories are neither uniform nor linear, but differentiated and often divergent.

Objectives of the Volume

The volume aims to:

- promote a critical re-reading of Mediterranean transformations from the perspective of southern and eastern countries;
- highlight alternative forms of development, governance, and social innovation;
- contribute to the construction of an inclusive and multi-level Mediterranean agenda capable of integrating diverse visions of the future;
- foster dialogue among scientific communities, institutions, and civil society across different regional contexts.

Main Themes

1. Narratives and Perspectives from the South and East

- Alternative theoretical and methodological approaches in Mediterranean social sciences
- Scientific production in Arabic and knowledge circulation dynamics
- Decentring Eurocentric analytical categories

2. Lived Transitions: Society, Economy, and Territories

- Demographic transformations and youth dynamics
- Labour markets, informality, and emerging economic forms
- Urbanisation, territories, and inequalities

3. Environment, Resources, and Adaptation

- Climate change, water scarcity, and food security
- Local strategies of resilience and adaptation
- Interrelations between environment, mobility, and conflict

4. Innovation, Technology, and Society

- Digitalisation and inclusion in southern and eastern contexts
- Appropriate technologies and social innovation

- The role of digital platforms and local networks

5. Governance, Cooperation, and Mediterranean Relations

- Local and regional governance models
- South–South cooperation and emerging geographies of collaboration
- The role of regional and international institutions

6. Plural Mediterranean Futures

- Alternative development scenarios
- Youth, culture, and social transformation
- Visions of the future from the Arab and Middle Eastern world

Submission Guidelines

Contributions are accepted in Arabic (with an optional English abstract) or in English, with openness to bilingual submissions.

Abstract

- Maximum length: 500 words
- Structure: objectives – methodology – expected results – originality – implications

Author Profile

- Maximum length: 100 words

Full Chapter

- Maximum length: 7,000 words
- Structure: Introduction – Methodology – Analysis – Conclusions

All contributions will undergo a double-blind peer review process.

Acceptance of the abstract does not guarantee publication of the final chapter.

Deadlines

- 30 May 2026 – Abstract submission
- 10 June 2026 – Notification of acceptance
- 30 July 2026 – Full chapter submission
- 30 August 2026 – Peer review outcome

- 30 September 2026 – Final version
- December 2026 – Volume publication

Selection Criteria

Preference will be given to contributions that:

- emphasise local and regional perspectives from the southern and eastern shores;
- offer innovative and interdisciplinary approaches;
- contribute to rebalancing the Mediterranean debate;
- provide empirical analysis and policy implications;
- promote collaboration among institutions and researchers from the South and East.

Expected Outputs

In addition to the scientific volume, the project foresees:

- publication of policy briefs;
- organisation of workshops and roundtables across the Mediterranean;
- dissemination events involving institutional and academic stakeholders.

Scientific and Editorial Coordination

Scientific Directors

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Publisher: Il Mulino – *Mediterranean Economies* series (alternatively CNR Edizioni)

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