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MINISTERIO DE ECONOMÍA Y COMPETITIVIDAD INFORMACIÓN COMERCIAL ESPAÑOLA Secretaría de Estado de Comercio

EU-NORTH AFRICA (EURO-MEDITERRANEAN) RELATIONS

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The impact of non-tariff measures on agri-food exports among countries of North Africa, the Middle East and the European Union

Abstract: Trade liberalisation agreements have helped countries of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) to become reliable partners of the European Union. These agreements strengthen the democratic and economic reforms of these countries and additionally protect current and future investments and intellectual property. However, our opinion is that non-tariff measures have a negative impact on trade, in particular on agri-food trade, added to the adoption of the liberalisation process. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to estimate the impact of technical barriers, institutional quality and agri-food trade infrastructures between certain MENA countries (including Turkey) and the 28 countries of the European Union using the gravitational model. Results suggest that institutional quality positively impacts trade, however, MENA countries are ever more dependent on imports.

Key words: MENA countries, non-tariff measures, trade liberalisation, gravitational model.

JEL classification: F13, O19.

ASIÁN CHAVES, Rosario; ZURBANO IRIZAR, Mikel and NAVARRO ESPIGARES, José Luis

Healthcare services as an inclusive factor in the Mediterranean area

Abstract: The purpose of this article is to analyse the development of healthcare services in Mediterranean countries, assessing their contribution to the integration and cohesion of the region. There is a brief overview of economic literature on health and economic development and the support of healthcare targets in the context of the Union for the Mediterranean is explored. The differences between both groups of countries, EU28 and MENA, in relation to their social, economic and healthcare profiles are offered. Finally, guidance on economic and healthcare policies linked to the development of healthcare systems in the region is provided.

Key words: healthcare services, health, development, integration, social cohesion, MDGs, EU28, MENA.

JEL classification: I15, I18.

DELGADO RODRÍGUEZ, M^a Jesús

Opportunities for integration of transport networks in the Euro-Mediterranean area

Abstract: Recent years have witnessed the strengthening of cooperation on transport infrastructure projects, which are vital to attain the necessary structure required in the region to promote economic recovery and social change. Among the projects underway, a highlight is the development of the Trans-Mediterranean Transport Network (TMT-N) and the progress in logistics platform networks. This article analyses the lines of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in transport, allowing the assessment of the current situation of infrastructures in this region and their impact on transport services and logistics.

Key words: transport infrastructures, multimodal transport, trans-national transport networks, logistics platforms.

JEL classification: N73, O21, R42.

DÍAZ MIER, Miguel Ángel and CAVIEDES CONDE, Ángela Andrea

Recent trends in exchanges between the European Union and Euro-Mediterranean area countries

Abstract: This article comprises a description of the main aspects relating to exchanges of goods and commercial services between the European Union and the countries of the Euro-Mediterranean area over the past ten years. This has been achieved by using statistical tools provided by a series of international institutions allowing comparisons to be drawn, based on data collection procedure similarities. The exchange of services is a key factor in the construction of a Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area, despite its current small size.

Key words: balance of payments, trade exchanges, commercial service exchanges, statistics alignment.

JEL classification: F10, F13, F15.

DOMÍNGUEZ MARTÍNEZ, José M. and LÓPEZ DEL PASO, Rafael

Financial services and economic development: empirical analysis of the case of the European Union and MENA countries

Abstract: This article conducts an empirical analysis of the relationship between the level of economic development and the relative importance of financial services in the scope of the European Union and the MENA region. The first section deals with the main theory contributions and the available empirical evidence; the second section describes the situation of financial services on the basis of basic indicators for the 2001-2012 period; the third section conducts cluster, causality and panel data analyses for the 1983-2012 period. A conclusions section rounds up the article.

Key words: financial services, economic development, EU, MENA.

JEL classification: E44, E51, G15, O16, O47.

FERNÁNDEZ FERNÁNDEZ, M^a Teresa; EDFOUF, Mohsine and BLANCO JIMÉNEZ, Francisco José

Services promoting foreign direct investment in partner Mediterranean countries

Abstract: The purpose of the article is to analyse the role of services and certain supplier structures of services as agents promoting foreign direct investment, and specifically Spanish investment, in partner Mediterranean countries. These services and structures involve innovation of investments as they multiply investment and their application in the Euro-Mediterranean free trade area is new. The article provides the further added value of a questionnaire of investment-promoting Spanish service companies in Morocco, and the above is used to detect patterns of promotion of Spanish direct foreign investment in this country.

Key words: direct foreign investment, promotion of investment, multinationals, business incubation, services, Mediterranean partner countries.

JEL classification: F15, F21, F23, L14, L26, L53.

**FERNÁNDEZ FERNÁNDEZ, María Teresa; SUCH DEVESA, María Jesús
and DE LA TORRE CAMPO, Maite**

Tourism and Euro-Mediterranean integration

Abstract: This article analyses the tourism sector as an active integrator of the Euro-Mediterranean free trade area, as tourism is an activity bringing together economic, political and social issues. The article starts with an analysis of competitiveness of tourism in Mediterranean partner countries and continues with an analysis of strategic tourism plans in such countries considering structural and contextual differences such as the Arab Spring. Finally, there is a discussion on certain tourism policy measures that could further bolster Euro-Mediterranean integration through tourism.

Key words: tourism, Mediterranean, economic integration, tourism policy.

JEL classification: F15, L83, L88.

GENARO MOYA, M^a Dolores and GONZÁLEZ MORENO, Miguel

**The employment challenge in the Euro-Mediterranean area. The driving role of
the services sector**

Abstract: Creating employment has become one of the most pressing needs of the Euro-Mediterranean area and a priority target for the design of common strategies to implement in the mid-term to attain an area with enhanced cohesion, more balanced levels of development and higher rates of equality in the distribution of wealth. A reduction of unemployment would undoubtedly support stability in the area and contribute to curbing current migration flows, both legal and illegal, towards European countries.

Key words: active employment policies, innovation, unemployment, Euro-Mediterranean.

JEL classification: F0, J0, J2.

GONZÁLEZ SANTAMARÍA, Ana Isabel; BLANCO JIMÉNEZ, Francisco José
and FERNÁNDEZ FERNÁNDEZ, María Teresa

**The Foreign Service as an integration factor of the free trade area in the
Mediterranean**

Abstract: The main purpose of this research is to ascertain whether economic diplomacy tools of the European Union are effective in achieving greater economic integration of the countries of the Southern Mediterranean, and drawing comparisons with the actions implemented by the United States in the Euro-Mediterranean region, and also analysing the impact of the so-called Arab Spring on the economic diplomacy tools of both powers, while providing recommendations on the tools to be employed over forthcoming years.

Key words: economic diplomacy, economic intelligence, free trade, integration, European Union, Mediterranean, United States.

JEL classification: F02, F13, F15.

NEMIRI-YAÏCI, Farida and BENAHMED, Kafia

Growth and insurance: theory disputes and realities in Maghreb countries

Abstract: In recent decades, the insurance sector has become a strategic service of the new economy. With its multiple functions, such as wealth transfer, mobilisation of savings, and the assignment of resources and information, insurance contributes to the reduction of uncertainty and the security of persons and their activities. Insurance makes up a significant part of the economy. In addition to the guarantees provided, the insurance business is one of the key sectors of economic growth. On this basis, the purpose of this article is to assess the link between the insurance business and economic growth with a comparative analysis of Maghreb countries (Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria).

Key words: insurance business, insurance premiums, economic growth.

JEL classification: G22.

STEINBERG WECHSLER, Federico and MARTÍNEZ ROMERA, José Pablo

The polarisation of monetary optimality in the Eurozone (1998-2008)

Abstract: This article analyses the progress of the founding countries of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) from 1998 to 2008 insofar as optimality for currency sharing with Germany is concerned. Using a cluster analysis, we have observed that although in 1998 the future countries of the EMU exhibited differing degrees of adjustment to the euro, a decade later there was a fracture between the centre and the periphery. While the majority converged with Germany allowing the approach to an Optimum Currency Area; Greece, Portugal, Spain and Ireland traced an opposite course, and this partly explains their financial issues in the wake of the global crisis.

Key words: Optimum Currency Area, European Monetary Union, euro crisis, cluster analysis.

JEL classification: F15, F33, F55.

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TOTAL	85,36 €	120,12 €	138,30 €

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TOTAL	16,83 €	25,02 €	28,05 €

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