

# France's Mediterranean Policy

lecture (1.5 h) and seminar (1.5 h)

Joanna Sondel-Cedarmas

Jagiellonian University

(Poland)



## Brief description of the module, including methodological objectives

This module is part of the class entitled: Mediterranean Basin Countries: Society, Politics and Economy which offers a panoramic perspective on the political, social and economic history of selected countries of the Mediterranean region with a special emphasis given to the policies, influence and role of the EU in this region. The instruction consists of a lecture and seminar. As part of the lecture, participants will be provided with analytical skills indispensable to explore the political system and societal matrix of contemporary France, with particular emphasis given on the postcolonial heritage. The lecture consists of a historical part, during which the key developments in the contemporary history of France are discussed. In doing so, the French constitutional history with special reference to transition from the Fourth Republic to the Fifth Republic, the role of Charles De Gaulle in the creation of the Fifth Republic, the most important political institutions of the 5th French Republic as well as specific features of French colonialism, the process of African decolonization, the Algerian War (1954-1962), and the establishment of the French Community in 1958 are discussed in depth.

The second part of the lecture covers the main political institutions of the contemporary political system in France (i.e. presidential powers, parliamentary structure, main political parties and their stands on France's Mediterranean policy). The seminar part focuses on French policy in the Mediterranean basin and its features. Based on the references provided, class participants are required to deliver an oral presentation on key issues related to France's Mediterranean policy, with a particular emphasis on such issues as 1) the Barcelona Process, 2) the Union for the Mediterranean, 3) France's key objectives in the Mediterranean, 4) Common security and defense policy. The second part of the seminar is devoted to the analysis of open access sources on French Mediterranean policy including: ORBIS (Open Repository Base of International Studies), the European Parliament and the European Commission publications, etc.

## **Instruction and teaching methods**

The lecture will be delivered in the form of key note instruction with a multimedia presentation, enriched with some practical methods, i.e. discussing documentaries about the war in Algeria, the establishment of the Fifth Republic, as well as examining parts of the Constitution of the Fifth Republic relevant for the analysis of presidential powers, the parliament and its constitutional position, the French overseas departments, etc.). In this part, the project and discussion methods such as case study methods and simulation methods will be used.

## **Examination form**

Written test exam

## Recommended for lecturers

- ➔ Bernstein, Serge, and Peter Morris, *The Republic of de Gaulle 1958-1969* (Cambridge University Press: 2006).
- ➔ Choi, Sung-eun, *Decolonization and the French of Algeria: Bringing the Settler Colony Back Home* (Palgrave: 2016).
- ➔ Dupuy, Emmanuel, 'Emmanuel Macron: A Mediterranean Leader? French Policy towards the Mediterranean', <https://www.iemed.org/publication/emmanuel-macron-a-mediterranean-leader-french-policy-towards-the-mediterranean/>

## Primary sources

- ➔ Constitution of France (CONSTITUTION OF OCTOBER 4, 1958)
- ➔ Euro- Mediterranean Conference, Barcelona Declaration - Barcelona, 27/28 November 1995
- ➔ Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, Joint Declaration - Paris, 13 July 2008

- ➔ UfM Ministerial Conference, Final Declaration - Marseille, 3/4 November 2008
- ➔ UfM Roadmap: An action-driven organisation with a common ambition -Barcelona, 23 January 2017

## Useful links

- ➔ [https://www.conseil-constitutionnel.fr/sites/default/files/as/root/bank\\_mm/anglais/constiution\\_anglais\\_oct2009.pdf](https://www.conseil-constitutionnel.fr/sites/default/files/as/root/bank_mm/anglais/constiution_anglais_oct2009.pdf)
- ➔ <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=85&eventsId=1382&furtherEvents=yes>
- ➔ <https://espas.secure.europarl.europa.eu/orbis/document/defence-and-national-security-strategic-review-2017>