

Réseau des Universités  
des Capitales de l'Europe



Network of Universities  
from the Capitals of Europe



SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Brussels, 14 February 2012

Dear Rector,  
Dear President,

On behalf of UNICA Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe and Sapienza University of Rome, we are pleased to invite you to the **UNICA-MED Meeting: Academic Partnership for a Sustainable Tomorrow, Rome, 19 March 2012.**

The recent events in the Mediterranean region have brought the attention of the academic world to the future of this area. While facing new challenges, Mediterranean higher education institutions will equally play a **crucial role** in fostering academic values, participation, and the democratic processes in the region. A **close and constructive dialogue** between Mediterranean Universities is needed and can be guaranteed through the creation of a **platform** that fosters academic exchange at all institutional levels. Aware of that, UNICA, on the initiative of Sapienza University of Rome, promotes the **Mediterranean University Plan of Action (MEPU)**. The project aims to support the development of knowledge-based societies in the Mediterranean area by building capacity in teaching and research and strengthening the academic partnerships in the region. To achieve this objective, a possibility of establishing a **Network of Universities of the Mediterranean Region**, providing a forum for reflections on the demands of strategic change in university research, education and administration, will be discussed.

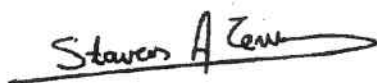
**UNICA-MED Meeting: Academic Partnership for a Sustainable Tomorrow** will seek to bring together the **leaders of UNICA member universities** from Ankara, Athens, Lisbon, Ljubljana, Madrid, Nicosia, Paris, Rome, Tirana, and Zagreb and to **establish a roadmap** indicating the basic principles, main objectives, tasks, implementation schedule, and responsibilities necessary for setting up a Mediterranean University Plan of Action. A second meeting will also involve other UNICA member Universities and Rectors of Universities from the capital cities in the east and south shore of the Mediterranean Sea will take place in Cyprus, during the second semester 2012.

We are confident that with the participation of the Rectors of UNICA member universities, the **UNICA-MED Meeting: Academic Partnership for a Sustainable Tomorrow** will allow us to take a major step forward in establishing the Mediterranean University Plan of Action. We would highly appreciate your participation in the meeting as well as in the development of the initiative.

Please note that the hotel accommodation will be provided by the host university. For more information, do not hesitate to contact UNICA Secretariat: [office@unica-network.eu](mailto:office@unica-network.eu).

We thank you in advance for considering our invitation and we look forward to meeting you in Rome.

With best regards,



Stavros A. Zenios  
UNICA President



Luigi Frati  
Rector, Sapienza University of Rome