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# Building resilience and taking an integrated approach in the EU's surrounding regions in the East and South

## What EU Foreign Policy Do We Want?

Differentiated Cooperation in Action Part #2: Foreign Policy

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# Resilience

- „**Resilience** is the ability of an individual, a household, a community, a country or a region to withstand, to adapt, and to quickly recover from stresses and shocks.” (THE EU APPROACH TO RESILIENCE: LEARNING FROM FOOD SECURITY CRISES, 2012)
- A multifaceted strategy
- Strengthening resilience needs a long-term approach – both on the EU’s side and on the „recipient” side
  - Adaptability – „a more responsive union”
  - Capacity
  - Risk management
  - Opportunity management

# Resilience - 2

- „an **integrated approach** to conflicts and crises, which means addressing all dimensions and stages of a conflict, from early action and prevention, wherever possible to staying on the ground long enough for peace to take root.”

# A Strategic Approach to Resilience in the EU's external action

- JOINT COMMUNICATION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL (7.6.2017)
- „challenge ... how to sustain progress in the transformational agenda the EU has set itself, against a backdrop of a more connected, contested and complex global environment”
- „strengthening state and societal resilience”
- „strategic and political approach”
  - „increase the impact of EU external action and sustain progress towards EU development”
  - „from crisis containment to a more structural, long-term, non-linear approach to vulnerabilities, with an emphasis on anticipation, prevention and preparedness”
  - „coherent mobilisation of political dialogue, the diplomatic resources of the Union and its Member States, EU assistance and sectoral policy dialogue and bilateral initiatives”
  - THE EU APPROACH TO RESILIENCE: LEARNING FROM FOOD SECURITY CRISES (2012)
    - „Resilience strategies should contribute to different policies, in particular Food Security , Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction. In this context, the EU has consistently supported prevention and preparedness for crises in the most vulnerable countries and identified the need to integrate DRR and Adaptation to Climate Change, notably into both development cooperation and the humanitarian response.”
    - Investing in resilience is cost-effective
    - use the lessons from these experiences to improve the effectiveness of the EU's support to reducing vulnerability in developing countries

# Resilience

- is the capacity of individuals, peoples, organisations and states to endure and evolve in response to shocks, be they exogenous, internal, environmental, economic or social. It is about harnessing the region's carrying capacity, and shifting the way policy-makers think about crises, stresses and shocks. **Resilience is the toolbox** that WANA needs to confront socio-economic stagnation, violent extremism, climate change and ecological decline.
- **authoritarian resilience** refers to the attributes, relational qualities, and institutional arrangements that have long given regimes in the Middle East, conceptualized as ***institutionalized systems of rule***, the capacity to adapt governance strategies to changing domestic and international conditions. If questions of persistence draw our attention to explanations of *outcomes*, questions of resilience shift our focus to explanations of *processes* and in particular to the dynamic and **complex interconnections between processes of authoritarian renewal, on one hand, and social adaptations to these processes**, on the other. Questions of resilience thus require that we broaden our analytic focus beyond regime-level analysis—which remains relevant—to encompass the microlevel **adaptations among social actors to new patterns of authoritarian governance**.
- Resilience starts from the belief that humans and nature are strongly coupled. Resilience is therefore an attempt to **create a new understanding** of how humans and nature interact, adapt and impact each other amid change. (sustainable development and sociology)

# The EU-Med cooperation institutionalization

- The Mediterranean is the region where the EU is still a global actor
- EMP – „a zone of peace and stability”
  - BUT „the normative power of Europe”
- ENP – spread it to the neighbourhood
  - „co-ownership”
- UfM – projects
  - „co-ownership 2.0”
- The Global Strategy – an extended set of regions – ambition to promote contacts among them, too – South-to-South [back to square one – EMP]
  - Resilience
  - Integrated approach

# But what resilience?

- resilience in 2011 meant the resilience of the monarchies
- Now – meaning resistance to change and develop further ...
- BUT - the social construct in the South - TRIBAL > ISLAM > EMPIRE > NATION-STATE – all authority-based! – the „adaptive capability” is huge
- Background: AUTHORITARIANISM and PATRIMONIAL SOCIETY
- Isn't our biggest problem is the resilience of these societies?
- Restructuring the phrase – on 3 levels:
  - State
  - Society
  - Community

# Levels of resilience building?

- State level
  - failed/failing/fragile states – BUT states have shown resilience
    - only organized force: the army
  - Secularization (secular states)
  - Daish challenged the state-based system – the end of Sykes-Picot? – BUT loyalty and identity have evolved to the TERRITORIAL state
- Society – many of the societies' needs are satisfied by the Islamists – although the failure of the MB in governance/government – YET a factor!
- Community – local governance of their own (example: Syria-Omar Sayfo)
- SO if we want to engage, we have 2 actors: the army and the Islamists – European ideals?

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