



MECAM

Fellows Introduction Week 2026

Long-Term Fellows – Cohort 2026–2029

Short-Term Fellows – Cohort 2026–2027

TUNIS 7th, 8th, 9th, 16th Sept + 6th Oct

SFAX 27th, 28th Oct





TUNIS

Time	Activity	Location
Day 1: 07.09.26		
09:00	Welcome, Opening Remarks and MECAM Project Presentation Emna Beltaief & Julius Dihstelhoff MECAM Directors Moderation: Raoul Cyril Humpert MECAM Academic Coordinator Guests (tbc) Jamel Belhadj Director, Higher Institute of Digital Engineering of Tunis (H.I.D.E.) Malek Khochlef Director General of International Cooperation, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research Mara Bläsing Cultural Attaché, German Embassy Robin Frisch Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung junior projects Director Director, Goethe-Institut Tunis	MECAM The conference room HIDE, 27, rue Florian, Borj Zouara. Tunis
09:30	Fellows' Introduction Round / Capacity Building Moderation: Raoul Cyril Humpert (5 minutes per person)	
10:30	Coffee Break	
10:45	MECAM Centre and Campus Tour Mohamed Alyani Office Manager	

	(15 minutes)	
11:00	Welcome to the New Fellow Cohort and Presentation of the Fellowship Programme Raoul Cyril Humpert (15 minutes)	
11:15	Welcome to the New Fellow Cohort: MECAM Through the Fellows' Lens and MECAM's Working Formats Faten Bouchrara MECAM Fellows Coordinator (30 minutes)	
12:00	Transfer by Minibus MECAM – Beit El Bennani Documentation and Archive on Tunisian Heritage	
12:30	Lunch Break Couscous at Beit El Bennani Discovering a unique private cultural space and personal collection of books, photographs and archival materials, while engaging with Tunisia's cultural and intellectual heritage. (90 minutes)	Beit El Bennani 11. Bd Bab Menara. Tunis
14:00	Visit to the Institut des Belles Lettres Arabes (IBLA) Discovering IBLA's specialised library and research resources on Tunisia and the Maghreb, with a focus on literature, history, culture and society. Guided tour By Père Marc Léonard, Library Director Historical overview of the site By Mabrouk Jebahi, Modern History Specialist and Research Adviser at the National Archives of Tunisia (60 minutes)	IBLA 12 bis. Rue Jemâa El-Haoua. Tunis
15:00	Guided Tour of the Medina of Tunis By Raoul Cyril Humpert Informal Coffee Gathering at a Café (self-pay) (90 minutes)	La Médina de Tunis

Day 2: 08.09.26

08:45	Meeting at The University of Tunis	
09:00	Welcome and Exchange at the University of Tunis Moderation: Emna Beltaïef Reception by the President of the University of Tunis Slim Driss Discovering the University of Tunis and its academic environment and receiving the Fellows' affiliation letters. (90 minutes)	Université de Tunis 92. Bd du 9 avril 1938. Tunis
10:45	Guided Tour of the National Library of Tunisia (BNT) Exploring Tunisia's rich documentary heritage and discovering its research resources and collections. By Rafika Hayani, Cultural Adviser and Head of User Services, Collections Directorate (60 minutes)	BNT 1008. Bd du 9 avril 1938. Tunis
11:45	Transfer by Minibus to BNT – Beit al-Hikma	
12:30	Lunch Break	
13:00	Visit to Beit al-Hikma Fostering intellectual exchange and exploring potential synergies between MECAM and the prestigious Beit al-Hikma institution. Guided tour Raja Yassine Bahri, President of Beit al-Hikma Presentation of the MECAM Fellowship Programme Emna Beltaïef (60 minutes)	Beit al-Hikma 25. Av de la République. Site archéologique de Carthage
14:00	Transfer by Minibus Beit al-Hikma – Bao Books	
14:30	Visit to Bao Books Discovering Bao Books' new concept as a hybrid space:	Bao Books

	part bookshop, part design studio and part creative laboratory. By Moez Akkari Founder (30 minutes)	32. Rue Houcine Bouzaïene. Le Kram
15:00	Return to Tunis	
Day 3: 09.09.26		
09:00	Coordination Office Marburg Presentation of the Coordination Office in Marburg, the fellowship selection process and research visits to Germany. Benjamin Heidrich Project Coordinator, Germany (15 minutes)	MECAM The conference room
09:15	Forum Transregionale Studien Team Introduction to the Trafo Hub and Trafo Blog. Rashof salih (30 minutes)	
9h45	Coffee break	
10:00	Executive Council and International Advisory Board Session Meeting and Exchange with Members of MECAM's Executive Council and International Advisory Board Moderation: Raoul Cyril Humpert (30 minutes)	
10:30	Sharing Experiences Fellows' Personal Experiences and Learning from the MECAM Fellowship	



	Cyrine Kortas Long-Term Fellow, 2023–2026 (30 minutes)	
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Day 4: 16.09.26		
09:00	Guided Tour of the National Archives of Tunisia (ANT) Discovering Tunisia's archival heritage and exploring primary sources and archival materials relevant to historical and contemporary research. (TBC) (60 minutes)	ANT 1002. Bd du 9 avril 1938. Tunis
10:30	German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) Presentation of GIGA André Bank Presentation of MECAM's Publication Formats Maria Josua Presentation of MECAM's Rencontre Ibn Khaldun Clara Suess (75 minutes) (Lien)	MECAM The conference room
11:45	Reimbursement Procedures Overview of reimbursement rules, procedures and required documentation. Pia Wagner Administrative management (45 minutes)	



Day 5: 6.10.26

10:00 12:00	Meeting with the New Long-Term Cohort Introducing the specific features of the Long-Term Fellowship Programme, including its objectives, expectations and key components. This session is exclusively dedicated to the new Long-Term Fellows Julius Dihstelhoff Raoul Cyril Humpert Faten Bouchrara Moderation: Faten Bouchrara (60 minutes)	MECAM The conference room
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SFAX

Day 6: 27.10.26

15:00	Welcome and Exchange at the University of Sfax An institutional visit introducing the Fellows to the University of Sfax and its academic environment, with an opportunity to learn more about the university's structures, programmes and research activities. (60 minutes)	Université de Sfax Route de l'Aéroport Km 0.5 BP 1169 Sfax
16:15	Academic Exchange and Research Dialogue Brief Presentations of the Fellows' Ongoing Research Projects Najiba Chkir Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Humanities of Sfax Mohamed Kharrat Vice Dean and Director of Studies	Faculty of Letters and Humanities of Sfax (FLSHS) Route de l'aéroport – Km 4.5 – Sfax

	Mohamed Jerbi Professor of History and MECAM Principal Investigator Mohamed Ben Hammouda Professor of History and MECAM Principal Investigator Faiez Gargouri Member of the MECAM Executive Council (120 minutes)	
19:30	Convivial Dinner in the Medina of Sfax An informal and convivial dinner in the Medina of Sfax. An opportunity to socialise, exchange experiences and enjoy a relaxed evening together. (self-pay)	
Day 7: 28.10.26		
09:00 13:00	Participation in the Opening Ceremony of the Annual Conference "Future Jobs and Skills: Challenges and Strategies" Annual Conference of the Arab Scientific Association of Research Centres for Human Resources Development in the Arab World. An opportunity for the Fellows to attend the opening session of the conference, engage with researchers and participants, and connect with the wider academic community in Tunisia and the Arab world. Coordination: Faten Bouchrara & Mohamed Kharrat	Sfax
13:00	Return to Tunis	

Note: Travel and accommodation covered