

## ***Interactive comment on “Extreme temperature days and potential impacts in Southern Europe” by A. Cardil et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #1**

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The article presents a thorough and comprehensive analysis of, essentially, heat wave statistics in Southern Europe since 1978. The raw statistics are analyzed using methods that seem reasonable though not especially innovative. "High-temperature days" are certainly one indication of climate change that has readily identifiable impact on people, for reasons clearly discussed by the authors.

At the same time, there isn't too much about the impact of heat waves on people that people don't already understand pretty well; moreover, this one aspect of climate change is a relatively small element of the general phenomenon. In short, I don't think this paper can reasonably be judged a major contribution on these counts.

I think the real significance of the paper comes from the conclusions it draws from

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the statistical analysis and, in particular, the disproportionate impact on Greece and the Spanish Mediterranean coast that it finds. If continuation of that disproportionate impact can reasonably be projected, then the paper provides potentially important guidance for European Union policy makers.

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