



LUISS



NATO AT 70

ARAB GEOPOLITICS AFTER THE CALIPHATE

HOW TO EXIT THE FRAGMENTATION TRAP

*Conference organised by
the NATO Defense College Foundation
in co-operation with the NATO Political Affairs and Security Policy Division
and the NATO Defense College*

ROME, 9th of October 2019

High-Level Conference

Venue: Luiss - Aula Magna Mario Arcelli, Viale Pola, 12, Rome

Draft Agenda

WEDNESDAY 9TH, OCTOBER 2019

13,30 - 14,00 Arrival of participants - Registration

14,00 *Welcome remarks*

- **Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo**, President, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome *
- **David Pincet**, Head, Academic Operations Division, NATO Defense College, Rome

Opening remarks

Mahmoud Gebril, Former Prime Minister, Tripoli *

SESSION 1 REBUILDING THE ARAB REGION

The ongoing turmoil has deeply shaped regional and global geopolitics, leaving a slew of internecine wars, inter-sectarian tensions and harsh inter-state rivalries. The ensuing fragmentation has favoured corruption, organised crime, illegal trafficking and terrorism. How can external actors and the international community (including the UN, NATO and the EU) provide useful platforms allowing the region to escape long-term fragmentation? How can the overarching interests of global and regional actors be channelled into the reconstruction effort?

Chair: **Maysoun Azzam**, News Presenter, Al Arabiya Channel, Dubai *

- ❑ **Nicola de Santis**, Head, Engagements Section, Public Diplomacy Division, NATO Headquarters, Brussels *
- ❑ **Mohanad Hage Ali**, Director of Communications and Fellow, Carnegie Middle East Center, Beirut *
- ❑ **Ahmad Masa'deh**, former Secretary General, the Union for the Mediterranean, Amman *
- ❑ **Ian Lesser**, Vice President, Executive Director, Transatlantic Center, The German Marshall Fund of the United States, Brussels *

Q&A

15,45 - 16,15 Coffee/Tea break

16,15 - 17,30

SESSION 2 SUSTAINABLE ECONOMICS AND GAME CHANGERS. THE ROLE OF ENERGY

Local producers and consumers are engaged into a race against time towards diversified economies, sustainable energy mixes and sensible water management. Together with the reconstruction, these needs can be the foundation to underpin a regional confidence dynamic. Energy from rivalry leverage to lynchpin of stability.

Chair: **Karim El Aynaoui**, Managing Director, Policy Center for the New South, Rabat *

- ❑ **Jamal Mohamed Al-Fakhro**, Managing Partner, KPMG, Manama *
- ❑ **Abdulaziz Sager**, Chairman and Founder, Gulf Research Center, Jeddah *
- ❑ **Adnan Z. Amin**, Director General International Renewable Energy Agency, Abu Dhabi

Q&A

17,30 – 18,45

SESSION 3
MAGHREB AND SAHEL: SHAPING THE STRATEGIC DEPTH

Today Maghreb has acquired a new strategic security depth in the Sahara sand sea across the Sahel region. It is an essential contributor to international security. The region lies between the Mediterranean, opened to commerce, energy and financial flows, and the desert which is increasingly insecure due to organised crime, smuggling, terrorism and illegal migrations.

Chair: **Hafida Benchehida**, Former Senator of the Algerian Parliament *

- ❑ **Mahmoud Karem**, Professor, British University and former Ambassador to NATO and the EU and Commissioner Human Rights Council, Cairo *
- ❑ **Youssef Cherif**, Deputy Director, Columbia Global Centers, Tunis *
- ❑ **Giovanni Romani**, Head, Political Affairs and Security Policy Division, NATO HQ, Brussels *

Q&A

18,45-19,00

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Ahmad Aboul Gheit, Secretary-General of the Arab League, Cairo *

END OF THE WORKING DAY

Special Thanks to Philip Morris International

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