

NEW-MED CONFERENCE



ENERGY TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES: MEDITERRANEAN PERSPECTIVES

13 APRIL 2018 | 09:30–16:30

UNITED NATIONS BUFFER ZONE
HOME FOR COOPERATION
28 MARCOU DRACOU STREET, NICOSIA - CYPRUS

This conference is organized by IAI-PRIO-GMF in the context of the New-Med initiative. The latter is a public-private partnership effort to promote Track II dialogue on a number of security and co-operation issues in the Mediterranean, including policy areas addressed by the OSCE in the context of its Mediterranean Partnership. The conference comes on the heels of OSCE Mediterranean Contact Group meetings on “Energy security in times of economic and political uncertainty - looking green at the future of the Mediterranean” (Vienna, 12 June 2017) and “Energy Security / Critical Energy Infrastructure Security”, (Vienna, 19 March 2018), in line with the priorities of Italy and Slovakia respectively as the Chairs of 2017 and 2018 Mediterranean Contact Groups.

in cooperation with



AGENDA

9:00 *Registration of Participants*

9:30 **Introductory Remarks**

HARRY TZIMITRAS Director, PRIO Cyprus Centre, Nicosia

LORENZO KAMEL Senior Fellow, IAI & Senior Lecturer, University of Bologna

LUISA BALBI Programme Officer, Office of the Secretary General, External Co-Operation, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Vienna

MARTA DIONISIO Policy Planning Unit, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Rome

NICOLÒ RUSSO PEREZ Head of International Affairs Programme, Compagnia di San Paolo of Turin

10:00 **Session I – Conceptualizing Energy Trends: The Historical Dimension**

1908 marked one of the major turning points in the contemporary history of both the Middle East and Europe. It was the year of the discovery of oil reserves by the Anglo-Persian Oil Company (APOC) in Masjed Soleyman (Iran): the first big petroleum finding in the region that set off a wave of exploration, extraction and exploitation destined to change the world's history. Since then, and particularly following the 1973 oil crisis, energy issues have had a far-reaching political, cultural, and social impact in the Eastern Mediterranean and neighbouring areas. Session I will shed light on this impact, providing a historical perspective on energy issues and a deeper understanding of the ongoing geopolitical dynamics.

Chair: **ETTORE GRECO** Executive Vice-President, IAI, Rome

Panelists: **KIREN CHAUDHRY** Associate Professor of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley

GIULIANO GARAVINI Senior Research Fellow in the Humanities, New York University Abu Dhabi

ROBIN MILLS Chief Executive Officer, Qamar Energy, Dubai

PAUL RIVLIN Senior Research Fellow, Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies, Tel Aviv University

11:30 Coffee Break

11:45 **Session II – The Current Energy Landscape: A Pragmatic Appraisal**

For nearly a decade natural resources discoveries in the region have sparked a lively debate regarding their potential to aggravate existing conflicts or facilitate cooperation and peace. Indeed, oil and gas findings and potential reserves have led to some realignments between the states of the region, but also had huge economic implications. Session II will attempt to critically evaluate energy prospects in the region, and their potential contribution to European energy security. In parallel, an effort will be made to realistically assess the peace potential of hydrocarbons in view of the rising regional challenges. The session will also reflect on the role of the OSCE as a platform for growing pragmatic efforts to promote energy security dialogue, to ensure its continuity and facilitate the sharing of best practices between participating States and OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.

Chair: **CHARLES ELLINAS** Chief Executive Officer, EC Cyprus Natural Hydrocarbons Company Ltd (eCNHC), Nicosia

Panelists: **ELLEN SCHOLL** Deputy Director, Global Energy Center, Atlantic Council, Washington
TAREQ BACONI Policy Fellow, Middle East and North Africa, UK Programme, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR), London
NICOLÒ SARTORI Head of Programme-Energy, Climate & Resources, IAI, Rome
DANIEL KROOS Senior Programme Officer for Energy Security, Office of the Coordinator of Economic and Environmental Affairs, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Vienna

13:15 Lunch

14:30 **Session III – Future Energy Scenarios: What's next for the Mediterranean?**

In the past decade, the global energy system has undergone rapid and unexpected changes. The US shale gas production has increased by more than a factor of ten, with US gas imports reaching their lowest level since the early 80s. Renewable - in particular solar - energy costs have come down considerably, and after the Fukushima nuclear disaster, many developed nations have chosen to exit (renounce) their nuclear energy programs. In the next decade energy developments might be equally unpredictable, affecting the Eastern Mediterranean region in different ways. Session III will discuss the emerging energy trends and their influence on environmental and energy co-operation essential for good neighbourly relations in Mediterranean region and beyond.

Chair: **LEONIDAS PANTELIDES** Former Director of Middle East and North Africa Division, Cyprus Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cyprus to the USA, Nicosia

Panelists: **JANE BURSTON** Director of Energy & Environment, National Physics Laboratory & Future of Energy Council, World Economic Forum, UK
MEHMET ÖĞÜTÇÜ Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Global Resources Partnership, UK
VALERIA TERMINI Vice-President, Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG); Professor of Economics, Roma Tre University, Rome
BASSAM FATTOUH Director, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, UK

16:00 **Concluding Remarks**

BEATA SLOMINSKA Energy Diplomacy Officer, Division of Economic and Global Issues, European Union External Action (EEAS), Nicosia
KATARINA ZAKOVA Deputy Head of Mission, Permanent Mission of the Slovak Republic to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Vienna

16:30 **End of the Conference**