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EUROPEAN GLOBAL STRATEGY SEMINAR

EU external Action: Priorities and Policies

21-22 January 2013

IAI Library — Via Angelo Brunetti, 9 — Rome

In the framework of the process led by four think tanks - IAI, PISM, RIE and UI - aimed at providing contributions to a European Global Strategy (EGS),¹ the main goal of the seminar is to propose and discuss priorities and policies for current and future EU external action, with regard to issues and regions that are crucially related to European interests. This kind of rethinking requires a pro-active approach, taking the current political, economic and security environment into account, but also looking at the medium term (the next 5-10 years) in order to put forward a meaningful agenda.

One of the main topics in this regard deals with the EU neighbourhood. The EU neighbourhood is considered both a politico-strategic concept, as the presence of European interests in certain regions links them functionally to the EU, and a geographic one, as certain areas' proximity to the EU results in a significant and direct impact on European societies.

The specific instruments needed to pursue an EGS are part of the broader reflection on EU action on the global stage, and will be taken into consideration in relation to the priorities and policies discussed. It is also important to note that EU external action cannot be effective unless the credibility and attractiveness of the European economic, social and political model is restored and fostered.

¹ Further information on EGS project can be found at the website http://www.europeanglobalstrategy.eu/



Agenda

Monday, 21 January 2013

15.00/15.10 Welcome remarks

Stefano Silvestri, President, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

15.10/15.30 KEY NOTE SPEECH - STRATEGIC FORESIGHT IN THE EU

Antonio Missiroli, Director, European Union Institute for Security Studies, Paris

15.30/17.00 Session One - Economic Priorities for a European Strategy

The EU's economy is largely based on imports of raw materials and energy supplies from non-EU countries as well as exports of goods and services to non-EU markets. As globalization is likely to continue, economic competition among countries and world regions will further increase in coming years, and growth is likely to be unequally distributed worldwide. Key partners of the EU, especially in the energy sector, are located in its neighbourhood.

As a result, the EU has a structural interest in ensuring:

- > an international system which guarantees a certain degree of sustainable free trade and open markets;
- > secure, open and reliable lines of communication, maritime routes and infrastructures needed for international supply.

What are the challenges to these interests? How can these interests be achieved and secured by the EU?

Chair: Marcin Zaborowski, Director, Polish Institute of International Affairs, Warsaw

Paper-Giver: Davide Tentori, Visiting Researcher, Chatham House, London

Discussant: Fabrizio Onida, Full Professor of International Economics, Bocconi University, Milan

17.00/17.15 Coffee-break

17.15/18.45 Session Two - External-internal Security Issues

The EU's internal and external security are increasingly interconnected. By pursuing security in its neighbourhood, with regard for example to terrorism, organized crime, illegal trafficking of drugs, arms and human beings, the EU is enhancing the security of its citizens and society, The EU is experiencing greater intra-European cooperation on internal security which should be coupled with more cooperation on related external action. This action should be focused on the neighbourhood, which has stronger linkages with EU internal security than other regions of the world.

As a result, the EU has a structural interest in ensuring:

- cooperation on the part of neighbouring states, institutions and international organizations in addressing challenges to EU internal security:
- stability and development in neighbouring countries, by addressing those challenges that have a direct impact on European security.

What are the priority issues to cooperate on? Who are the main interlocutors for this cooperation? What are the best ways/frameworks for cooperation? What role can EU capacity building play in partner countries?

Chair: Anna Jardfelt, Director, Swedish Institute of International Affairs, Stockholm

Paper-Giver: Isabelle Ioannides, Advisor, European Dialogue, Bureau of European Policy Advisors, European Commission, Brussels

Discussant: Ferruccio Pastore, Director, International and European Forum on Migration Research, Turin



TUESDAY, 22 JANUARY 2013

9.30/11.00 Session Three - Toward a Smart Policy for the Neighbourhood

Societies in the EU neighbourhood are changing and will continue to do so in the next years. Social changes are fuelling political changes through revolutions, coups d'état and democratic processes. These domestic changes in turn affect policies adopted by governments in the region, including foreign, security, defence, migration and energy policy. But they also affect the security of the neighbourhood and overall relations with the EU. In this context, EU intervention in crisis management is increasingly being framed in a regional perspective because of the interconnections between countries and areas.

As a result, the EU has a structural interest in:

- > ensuring that changes in the neighbourhood do not lead to a situation that is hostile to EU interests:
- promoting respect of human rights and the rule of law in neighbourhood countries, as well as an evolution towards democratic institutions.

How should the EU deal with changes in the neighbourhood in order to pursue these interests? What role should the EU play with regard to human rights, the rule of law, corruption? What role should the EU play concerning development and inequality? What role should the EU play regarding crisis management operations and/or regional conflicts? Could "anchor countries" be identified in a certain region as the main interlocutors for cooperation with the EU on key issues? What could be the incentives for countries in the neighbourhood to cooperate with the EU in addressing challenges to European security?

Chair: Stefano Silvestri, President, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

Paper-Giver: Jean François Daguzan, Deputy Director, Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, Paris

Discussant: Silvia Colombo, Researcher, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

11.00/11.20 Coffee-break

11.20/13.00 Session Four - Membership, Partnership and Global Governance

The interests and challenges in the EU neighbourhood are numerous, diverse and interconnected, therefore an overall view and a prioritization is needed. Moreover, the neighbourhood is linked to other dynamics and actors outside the area, thus the EU approach will have to be framed in a global perspective and linked to EU relations with partners worldwide, such as the US. Finally, the global governance system requires adjustments to cope with the new multipolar reality brought about by the rise of new regional and global powers. The EU should be pro-active in proposing changes in line with its interests.

As a result, the EU has a structural interest in:

- promoting a European rethink on the future of membership, neighbourhood and partnership;
- defining its role as a regional/global player more effectively and the implications for its relations with key regional and international partners;
- ensuring a functioning global governance system through frameworks such as the UN, 68 and 620.
 What prioritization should there be with regard to the neighbourhood? What regional and global partnerships should the EU seek on which issues? What changes in the global governance system should the EU propose?

Chair: Charles Powell, Director, Real Instituto Elcano, Madrid

Paper-Giver: Ronja Kempin, Head of Research Division, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Berlin

Discussant: Michele Comelli, Senior Researcher, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

13.00 End of Seminar