

# IN-PERSON EVENT

# THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE GULF: INTERDEPENDENCE AND MARITIME SECURITY

ROME, 30 APRIL 2024 10:00-12:00

9:30 Welcome coffee & registration

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI - IAI

VIA DEI MONTECATINI, 17

Working language: English (no translation will be provided)

The Mediterranean Sea and the Gulf are interconnected in terms of trade, energy and underwater internet cables. Italy is fully aware of such interdependence, and conceives the "enlarged Mediterranean" as a regional security complex including continental Europe, North Africa, Sahel, Horn of Africa and the Middle East up to the Black Sea. The EU has stepped up its commitment on the freedom of navigation principle through the defensive maritime security operation Aspides.

In this context, this IAI in-person event aims to stimulate a strategic dialogue with a view to shared understanding and pragmatic cooperation.

# **PROGRAMME**

# **WELCOME ADDRESSES**

# MARIA LUISA FANTAPPIÈ

Head of the Mediterranean, Middle East and Africa Programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali-IAI

# **ALESSANDRO MARRONE**

Head of Defence Programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali-IAI

#### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

#### MARTIN BRIENS

Ambassador of France in Italy

# **EXPERT PANEL**

# **BADER AL SAIF**

Founding President, Al-Saif Consulting and Assistant Professor, Kuwait University

#### **MOHAMMED BAHAROON**

Director General, Dubai Public Policy Research Centre

# **STEFANO COSTANTINO**

Rear Admiral, Force Commander, EUNAVFOR ASPIDES Operations, Italian Navy

# **CESARE D'AMICO**

Vice-President, Confitarma

# MARIA LUISA FANTAPPIÈ

Head of the Mediterranean, Middle East and Africa Programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali-IAI

#### **CHAIR**

# **ALESSANDRO MARRONE**

Head of Defence Programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali-IAI

#### **Q&A SESSION**