

Academic Conference

Contemporary Role of Germany and the EU in the Middle East

Thursday, 11 May 2017

The EU - in its early version as a common market - came about as an attempt to bring a halt to hostilities among European countries, especially France and Germany. How relevant is this experience for the current Middle East situation today, and what role could the EU and Germany as its member state play in facilitating similar developments? It is true that the driving force behind European integration from its very beginning was a clear desire of the then European leaders to overcome old differences and assure a peaceful development of Europe for future generations of the European continent. This idea of peace is still very much relevant today. It represents a condition sine qua non for the development and a successful future of all the peoples of the Middle Eastern region. A comprehensive and peaceful solution to the Israeli-Arab conflict in general and Israeli-Palestinian conflict in particular, is a strategic priority for the European Foreign Policy in general and the German Foreign Policy in specific.

Program Draft:

10:00-10:15

Welcome

Prof. Eli Salzberger, Director, HCGES
NN, German Embassy to Israel (tbc)

10:15-11:15

Keynote speech:

Prof. Artur Nowak-Far, former Polish Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs

11:15-11:30

Coffee Break

11:30-13:00

Round Table: The Current Role of Germany and Europe in the Middle East

Moderation: **Prof. Fania Oz-Salzberger**, HCGES
Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the EU to Israel
Prof. Beverly Crawford, University of Berkeley
Dr. Roby Nathanson, Israeli European Policy Network
Arik Segal, Conntix
Marc Frings, Direktor KAS Ramallah
Manuel Gomez-Acebo, Spanish Ambassador to Israel (tbc)
Avirama Golan, HAARETZ (tbc)



13:00-14:00

Presentation: Research Projects funded by the EU

Moderation: **Dr. Ayelet Banai**, HCGES

Prof. Ilan Shimshoni, Information Systems, University of Haifa

Prof. Guy Bar-Oz, Archaeology, University of Haifa

Dr. Orr Dunkelmann, Department of Computer Science, University of Haifa

14:00

Lunch Buffet