

The EU and the Middle East Peace Process Task Force on

BETWEEN PESSIMISM AND OPTIMISM: EU POLICY OPTIONS ACROSS SCENARIOS

Date: Friday, 2 July 2010

Venue: EUISS, 43 Avenue du Président Wilson - 75016 Paris – ROOM B
Friday 2 July

8.45 *Arrival, Registration and Welcoming Coffee*

9.00-9.15 ***Welcome & Introductory Remarks***

- Álvaro de Vasconcelos, EU Institute for Security Studies, Paris

9.15-10.45 **Session I : Local Scenarios and EU Strategy**

Key questions: Where do local decision-makers and their constituencies stand today and what does that mean for peace prospects? What short-, medium-, and long-term scenarios might we draw up at the local level? What are the implications for European strategy and tactics?

Chair:

- Esra Bulut, EU Institute for Security Studies, Paris

Speakers:

- Yossi Alpher, Bitterlemons, Tel Aviv
- Mahdi Abdul-Hadi, PASSIA, Jerusalem

10.45-11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00-12.30 **Session II : Regional Scenarios and EU Strategy**

Key questions: What medium- and long-term scenarios might we draw up regarding Israel's relations with its neighbours and the Gulf States, including Iran? How do developments in Lebanon and Syria affect prospects? What are intra-Arab political and policy scenarios? What are the prospects for war? How likely and/or tenable is a grand bargain approach to regional peace? What are the implications for EU tactics and strategy?

Chair:

- Rouzbeh Parsi, EU Institute for Security Studies, Paris

Speakers

- Michael Bauer, Center for Applied Policy Research (CAP), Munich
- Peter Harling, International Crisis Group, Damascus
- Christian Hanelt, Bertelsman Stiftung, Berlin

12.30-14.00

Lunch at Restaurant Jamin

14.00-15.30

Session III: Talking and Working towards a Deal: Where does the EU fit in?

Key questions: What scenarios point towards bilateral deals and/or a grand bargain? Where does the EU fit into possible deal-making and deal-implementation between the parties? What “deposits” might the EU bring to the table and when? How do the US, parties and regional actors perceive the EU’s role? How does the Gaza Strip fit into various deal-oriented scenarios?

Chair

- Marcin Zaborowski, EU Institute for Security Studies, Paris

Speakers:

- Michael Dumper, Exeter University, Exeter
- Nathan Brown, George Washington University, Washington DC

15.30-16.00

Coffee break

16.00-17.30

Session IV: EU Contingency Planning

Key questions: What are the scenarios and prospects in the absence of, or significant delay in, moves towards a bilateral deal and/or grand bargain? What are the implications for EU policy? What kind of contingency planning exists and is needed on questions of sovereignty, security, refugees, and aid/assistance?

Chair:

- Álvaro de Vasconcelos, EU Institute for Security Paris, Paris

Speakers

- Anne Le More, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, Jerusalem
- John Nasir, World Bank, Jerusalem
- Muriel Asseburg, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

17.30

End of meeting