



Thinking Strategically about the EU's External Action

Working Group IV

How to make out of its neighbourhood an opportunity for the EU itself?

October 11, 2012 – Rome, IAI Library, Via Angelo Brunetti, 9

EU's neighbourhood policy will be the litmus test of the effectiveness of EU's foreign and security policy. With the Arab revolutions and simultaneously the US handover of European regional security issues, the stabilisation and the development of the EU neighbourhood (South and East) is a top priority of the Common Foreign Policy agenda. Can an innovative neighbourhood policy based on giving access to some EU internal policies (access to the common market, partial visa liberalisation...) have a positive impact on the EU itself and help tackling development and security issues? How to develop an efficient conditionality? Can Europeans develop an innovative management of European security with other main regional actors as Russia or Turkey?

Comments from Mr. Emanuele Giaufret, Assistant to the Managing director of the Middle East and North Africa of the European External Action Service, will introduce the discussion in each session.

2.30 - 2.45 pm	Introduction to the seminar	Gianni Bonvicini (IAI) Elvire Fabry (Notre Europe)
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2.45 - 3.30 pm **First Session**
 Chair Christophe Hillion (SIEPS)
The European Neighbourhood Policy in the new politico-strategic and economic context. A general overview of the present EU policy in its vicinity and its main potentials/limits.
 Speakers Michele Comelli (IAI)

3.30 – 4.30 pm **Second Session**
 Chair Gianni Bonvicini (IAI)
Conflicting European interests in the Neighbourhood and the difficult use of EU conditionality, particularly in a situation of growing political dynamics in some areas: the Mediterranean.
 Speakers Timo Behr (Notre Europe/FIIA) and Haizam Amirah-Fernandez (Elcano)

4.30 pm – 4.45 pm coffee break

4.45pm – 6.15 pm **Third Session**
 Chair Michele Comelli (IAI)
The EU's action in its neighbourhood and the growing activism of new and old regional actors, namely Turkey and Russia. The need for an innovative and enlarged management of European Security with third partners in the Neighbourhood.
 Speakers Adam Balcer (DemosEuropa) and Olga Shumylo-Tapiola (Carnegie Europe)

6.15 pm – 6.30 pm *Wrap-up and discussion of follow-up*