



WHERE ARE WE? WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
Transatlantic Perspectives on the Broader Middle East and North Africa

International Conference organized by the Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

**with the support of
the NATO Division of Public Diplomacy and
the German Marshall Fund of the United States**

Rome, 8-9 October 2004

HOTEL DONNA LAURA PALACE
Lungotevere delle Armi, 21

FINAL AGENDA

FIRST DAY: Friday, 8 October 2004

- 1:15 pm Buffet lunch at the venue of the meeting
- 2:15 pm **Introductory remarks**
- 2:30-4:00 pm **Session 1: Promoting political reform: lessons learned and new approaches**
- Speaker: *Tamara Cofman Wittes*, Saban Center for Middle East Policy, Brookings Institution, Washington D.C.
- Respondents: *Richard Youngs*, Fundacion para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Dialogo Exterior, Madrid; Lecturer, University of Warwick, UK - *Saad Eddin Ibrahim*, Ibn Khaldun Center for Development, Cairo
- 4:00-4:30 pm *Coffee Break*
- 4:30-6:00 pm **Session 2: The Future of Iraq. The impact on the nation and the region of unifying and divisive Iraqi trends**
- Speaker: *Peter Sluglett*, Department of History, University of Utah, Salt Lake City
- Respondents: *Yasar Qatarneh*, Center for Strategic Studies, University of Jordan - *Toby Dodge*, Department of Politics, University of London
- 8:00 pm *Dinner speech: Amb. Alessandro Minuto Rizzo, Deputy Secretary General of NATO.*

SECOND DAY: Saturday, 9 October 2004

- 9:00-10:30 am ***Session 3: The mutual futures of Israel and Palestine. What transatlantic agenda to revive and help the process?***
- Speaker: *Yezid Sayigh*, International Institute for Strategic Studies; Centre of International Studies, Cambridge University
Respondents: *Margret Johannsen*, Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy, University of Hamburg - *Mark Heller*, Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, Tel Aviv University
- 10:30-11:00 am *Coffee Break*
- 11:00-12:30 am ***Session 4: Defense cooperation and democratization. NATO role towards the Broader Middle East and the Mediterranean***
- Speakers: *Fred Tanner*, Head of Academic Affairs, Geneva Center for Policy Studies - *Nicola de Santis*, Information Officer for Mediterranean Dialogue and Partner Countries, NATO, Brussels
Respondent: *Stephen Larrabee*, Rand, Washington D.C
- 12:30-1:30 am ***Round table: Consolidating transatlantic convergence on the Broader Middle East and North Africa***
- Assia Bensalah Alaoui*, Centre for Strategic Studies, Faculty of Juridical, Economics and Social Sciences, Rabat - *Fidel Sendagorta*, Policy Planning Unit, Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Madrid - *Riccardo Sessa*, Mediterranean and Middle East Unit, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome - *Nadim Shehadi*, Center for Lebanese Studies, Oxford - *Stefano Silvestri*, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome
- 1:30 pm *Buffet Lunch*