



Close doors Roundtable

Cyprus and the geopolitical development of the Eastern Mediterranean

Ahera Room - Hilton Cyprus Hotel

Nicosia, Cyprus

4th December 2015 (15.00 – 17.00)

At the request of the European Council, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Mrs. Federica Mogherini, is preparing a new document on a "EU global strategy on Foreign and Security policy" to be presented by June 2016. The last document considered as a strategic roadmap for the European Union was released in December 2003, under the responsibility of Javier Solana, "A Secure Europe in a better world", starting in such way:

"Europe has never been so prosperous, so secure nor so free. The violence of the first half of the 20th century has given way to a period of peace and stability unprecedented in European history. (...) Successive enlargements are making a reality of the vision of a united and peaceful continent".

Today, the European Union is facing existential crisis in a continuous way -from the economic crisis to the unprecedented migration flux, also the terrorist threats to the borders fibrillations- putting at risk the cohesion of the institutional framework and its capacity to deliver concrete, efficient and democratic results.

The role of the European Union as a global actor will depend also on the capacity of the 28 member states to continue their daily work to define and to agree together what should be their common values to promote and, their multiple interests to defend in a world more challenging. The European External Action Service (EEAS) defines such policies and consequently the face the European Union wants to offer to our International partners. The new strategic document in preparation should summarize all these elements, with some short-term objectives and drawing a long-term prospective of the Union.

In order to focus our discussions, some questions:

1. What should be the priorities of this new "EU Global strategy"?
2. Could we define three clear objectives to be reached by the EU in the next five years?
3. What about the Enlargement process? Do we have to put limits? If yes, which ones?
4. The EU neighborhood policy has been perceived differently and sometimes in a very controversial way. What should be the main changes?
5. What about the Eastern Mediterranean elements to be integrated in this new strategic software?