



Uniwersytet
Kardynała Stefana Wyszyńskiego
w Warszawie

**THE WARSAW
MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE**



WARSAW GLOBAL SEMINAR SERIES

CONFERENCE TITLE:

”WHITHER THE MIDDLE EAST – THE BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE”

July 16, 2015

”The event is organized by the Institute of European Democrats and under patronage of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University”

VENUE:

Dewajtis Str. (Campus)

Cardinal Wyszyński University, Warsaw, Poland - Room No.: 243

ORGANIZER:**1. The Institute of European Democrats (IED), Brussels, Belgium**

Brussels, Belgium

CO-ORGANIZERS:**2. Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University, Warsaw, Poland**

Warsaw, Poland

3. Warsaw Middle East Institute, Lazarski University**4. Science Center of Institute of Political Studies at Polish Academy of Sciences & Lazarski University,**

Warsaw, Poland

ABOUT CONFERENCE:

In the face of global changes and new trends the approach towards the Middle East is in a bad need of re-conceptualization. Given the pivot shifting to the Far East as well as emerging new local powers and groupings of states (such as BRICs or MINTs) the West must work out its coordinated strategy which appear efficient, embracing but also will take into account some justifiable grievances of the international actors feeding on popular discontent. Though new globalism is shared by everybody the abiding sense of unfairness in division of global assets and profits persists. In *Politics* Aristotle pondered the distributive justice concerned primarily with the distribution of the political authority (politike arche) and, secondarily, with the distribution of wealth. 2300 years later the conundrum of “justice as fairness” is surprisingly still actual and still to be addressed in the process of creating a better world to live for everybody.

The world has clearly divided into the “west” and the “rest”, or - in other words – into the relatively well-to do swath of western countries (sharing the same values and comprising now also the east European states) and the “rest” consisting of relatively stable governments (BRICs, MINTs) and the countries on the slide to anarchy (MENA states). The usual simplifying template applied by scientists renders this growing chasm by referring to terms: core and periphery.

In the complex situation of today the old-school recipes are lacking in nuance. In 1947 Kennan wrote "The main element of any United States policy toward the Soviet Union, must be that of a long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies." To that end, he called for countering "Soviet pressure against the free institutions of the Western world" through the "adroit and vigilant application of counter-force at a series of constantly shifting geographical and political points, corresponding to the shifts and maneuvers of Soviet policy."

After 70 years from Kennan’s instructions the world evolved completely though the politics of the West still betray many of the features of old thinking which relied on exerting pressure at thorny points of the world without addressing the problems in a systemic way at the grassroots. What is needed now is resolving the issues on the ground with local stakeholders by fairer distribution of assets and wealth and by building a fairer economic foundations of new global order based on “participatory engagement.” The current challenges like immigration, terrorism, organized crime and climate change feed not so much on what their patrons have to offer but on the conceptual vacuum from the global community.

As these global problems urgently need to be deconstructed intellectually and practically targeted the United States and the European Union has attained the historical point of having to reach out to the world with constructive solutions in place of provisional, half-way verbalizations.

Since Krauthamer’s “unipolar moment” has gone, it is time to act...

15 JULY, 2015

ARRIVAL AT POLONIA PALACE HOTEL

Aleje Jerozolimskie 45, 00-692 Warszawa, ph.: +48 22 318 28 00

16 JULY, 2015

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

10:00 – 10:15

OPENING REMARKS – Rector of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University

10:15 – 11:15

PANEL I:

ADDRESSING CHALLENGES IN THE MENA REGION: ISIS, SYRIAN CRISIS, KURDISH ISSUE

Knowing all diagnosis on the ferment in the MENA region the panel will attempt to address most thorny issues which require prompt solutions before getting out of control and spreading the contagion into neighboring areas of the world

PANELISTS: ZIYAD RAOOF, WITOLD REPETOWICZ, MIRIAM SHADED

COFFEE BREAK 11:15 – 11:30

11:30 – 12:30

PANEL II:

ROOTS OF CRISIS IN THE MENA REGION: POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Starting from Mohamed Bouazizi, a Tunisian street vendor who set himself on fire igniting Tunisian revolution, and finishing on glancing into the roots of the jihadi appeal for young people around the world the panel will focus on the grassroot reasons behind the disintegration of the Middle East and the growing popularity of radical movements

PANELISTS: SAMUEL WODI JIMBA, JOSE FELIX MERLADET, KRZYSZTOF PLOMINSKI, ARTUR W. WROBLEWSKI

COFFEE BREAK

12:30 – 13:30

PANEL III:

MIDDLE EAST IN FLUX: EU STRATEGY VERSUS US APPROACH TOWARDS THE MENA REGION

EU is often reproached for inaction and paralysis in taking decision on the Middle east region. Deprived of any tangible military capabilities EU can only preach and call for peace doing nothing on the ground. United States is taking a different approach getting involved in criseses without however long-term planning and contingency/exit scenarios. On the other hand, the regional organizations like the Arab League is dysfunctional and fragmented. The panel is to review the past and present approaches towards MENA region and suggest more compatible formats for constructive involvements of EU and USA in the enflamed area.

PANELISTS: REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAELI EMBASSY, REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN EMBASSY, JANUSZ ONYSZKIEWICZ, FRANCOIS LAFOND, LUCA BADER, ANDRZEJ POTOCKI, PAWEL OLSZEWSKI

18:30

DINNER – SABAT COFFEE GARDEN, FOKSAL STR.

PANELISTS BIO

LUCA BADER - CEO and Director of the Institute of European Democrats (IED), one of the Political Foundations at the European level formally recognised by the European Parliament in Brussels. In the past ten years, Luca has served as responsible for Europe and North America at the Democratic Party (PD) in Italy and as advisor of the Committees of Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Italian Parliament. Also, he has advised several Italian ministries and private companies on EU and international affairs and has regularly written on Italian and EU affairs for several Italian publications. He holds a MA in International relations at the London School of Economics and a BA in Political Science at the University of London. Luca has done research at the School of International and Public Affairs at the Columbia University in New York and at the Institute of International Affairs in Rome, where, as Senior Research Fellow, he researched, organised conferences and wrote on European Integration, Transatlantic Relations and International Economy. He has worked for the National Democratic Institute of Washington D.C., advising the program on building Institutions and Political Parties. In 2005, he was selected by the US Department of State for the "International Leaders Programme". From 2004 to 2006 he worked as advisor at the European Parliament in Brussels.

SAMUEL WODI JIMBA – AMBASSADOR OF NIGERIA IN POLAND

ROBERT ROSTEK – Polish Arabist and diplomat, previously *chargé d'affaires* head of the Polish Embassy in Doha. He graduated from the oriental philology at the Jagiellonian University, he also studied in Libya and Syria. Since 1996, in the diplomatic service. He was, among others, assistant to Marek Belka during his work in the interim administration coalition in Iraq (2003-2004). Presently, works at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Warsaw.

FRANCOIS LAFOND - is currently Executive Director of *EuropaNova* from October 2013. Previously, he was the executive director, member of the managing board of the French Aspen Institute (2012-13) and, director of the Paris office director of The German Marshall Fund of the United States (2008-2011). Before, François Lafond was a special adviser of the Italian Minister for Regional Affairs and Local Autonomies (2007-8), responsible for international relations of the think tank Glocus in Roma. He was also special adviser of the Italian undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs (2006-7), deputy director of Policy Network in London (2003-6), researcher and then deputy secretary general of the think tank Notre Europe in Paris (1999-2003), chaired by Jacques Delors, and research associate at the European University Institute's Robert Schuman Centre in Florence (1995-9). He has masters in political science, public law and European studies and is a former trainee from the European Commission in Brussels.

François is also an associate professor at Sciences Po, campus Euro-American in Reims, has taught at the Centre for European Studies of Sciences-Po Paris (2001-9), Syracuse University in Florence and Free University of Enna/Koré in Sicily (2007). He is currently member of the scientific committee of the Institute of European Democrats, (Brussels), International consultant for Navigator

Ltd (Athens) and a regular collaborator of French and Italian media (France 24, Challenges, Rai3 Mondo). He has been honoured in September 2014 "*Ufficiale dell'ordine della Stella d'Italia*".

ZIYAD RAOOF – representative of Kurdistan regional government in Poland; presentation title "**Kurdowie i Kurdystan- klucz do nowego ładu politycznego na Bliskim Wschodzie**" ; *Kurds and Kurdistan- the key to the new political order in the Middle East*

MIRIAM SHADED – PREZES FUNDACJI ESTERA (FUNDACJA NIESIE POMOC CHRZEŚCIJANOM W SYRII) has extensive experience in Development and creation of investment. Introduced several advanced projects in technical, information technology and organizational field equipped with a range of modern tools of marketing and sales support. In fulfilling these undertakings, Miriam Shaded dealt with the analysis of the investment, taking into account the development of business marketing strategy, financial targets and the concept of product and service. She was also responsible for obtaining sources of financing, recruitment of employees and contractors and supervision of their work, implementation of budgets and monitoring results. Dynamic career began in the Company OLPP, where in a few years introduced a number of procedural improvements and was promoted several times. Then she co-ABEONET SA, the first company in Poland, dealing with issues of ORM. Miriam Shaded held discussions and negotiations with representatives of investment funds, investors and decision-makers companies

JOSE FELIX MERLADET – Guest Professor of the Master Programme Eurocultures (Erasmus students) in the Humanities Faculty of the University of Deusto in Bilbao, Guest Professor on Development in the Department of Economics of the University of Navarra, Vice Secretary general of the EDP.

Has been Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Commission in Maputo, Mozambique and Chargé d'affaires, diplomat in charge of relations with civil society and cooperation programs (2002-2003); Head of Development Cooperation Section. First Counsellor, Delegation of the European Commission in India. New Delhi. Diplomat following *inter alia* the Social Sector, ECHO and Emergency Relief/Rehabilitation/Disaster Preparedness, Food Security and the Civil Society/NGO Projects in general. Also several bilateral programmes with the Government of India (1997-2002); Desk Officer ASEAN. Responsible for relations with the Association of South-East Asia Nations (Brussels, 1993-96); Delegation to Uruguay, Paraguay and MERCOSUR. Diplomat with the rank of First Secretary (Montevideo, 1989-93); Administrator following relations with the UN and related Agencies (Brussels, 1986-89).

ANDRZEJ POTOCKI – former Polish MP, Member of Parliament I, II and III of tenure, Vice-President of the European Democratic Party. In 1989 he graduated from the Faculty of Christian Philosophy at the Catholic University of Lublin. He took a job as a lecturer at the Faculty of Organisation Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice. Political activity began in the "Solidarity", in 1980, he was also a member of the Polish Confederation of Independent. He was among the founders of the Civic Democratic Action Movement. Then he sat in the governing National Democratic Union party after the merger of the Liberal-Democratic Congress - the Freedom Union. He also served as spokesman of the party. In the period 1991-2001 three terms on behalf of UD and UW held a parliamentary seat. In the Sejm he was, among others, Commission Vice-President Administration and Home Affairs and member of the Foreign Affairs Committee. In 2001, unsuccessfully ran for re-election - UW did not exceed the election threshold. In 2002-2003 he worked with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, was also a member of the OSCE mission in the Balkans. In 2004 he was elected to the post of Secretary General of the Freedom Union, in 2005, he joined the Democratic Party - demokraci.pl. A year later, he retired from the business in PD, did not support the decision to enter the coalition Left and Democrats. He was a member of the Liberal Forum program. In 2009, he joined the Democratic Party, was a member of the main board of the party (and 20 April 2013 as Vice-President). In the elections in 2010, he ran for councilor Małopolska of the Community list of Małopolska Marek Nawara [1]. December 6, 2012 has been Vice-President of the European Democratic Party, is a member of the SD [2]. In the European elections in 2014 once again unsuccessfully sought the mandate, this time MEP from the list of coalition Europa Plus, obtaining 1,409 votes in the Silesian province. He is a founding member of the Society of Europe, a member of Amnesty International and a member of the program board of the Green Institute [4] and the Polish Society of Sinologicznego. Edits 90minut.pl service since its inception. In 2012 he became

president of the National Association of Historians and Statisticians Football Association. In 2000-2001 he was the president of GKS Piast Gliwice.

WITOLD REPETOWICZ – lawyer, graduate of Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland, published extensively on the Middle East and Central Asia, worked for the Polish Radio as free lancer reporter, lectured on law at Universite Panafricaine de la Paix, Uvir, Democratic republic of Congo; embedded currently with the Iraqi forces in Anbar Province in Iraq.

PAWEL OLSZEWSKI – political scientist, Polish Academy of Sciences, deputy dean at Lazarski University

ARTUR W. WROBLEWSKI – Warsaw Middle East Institute

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