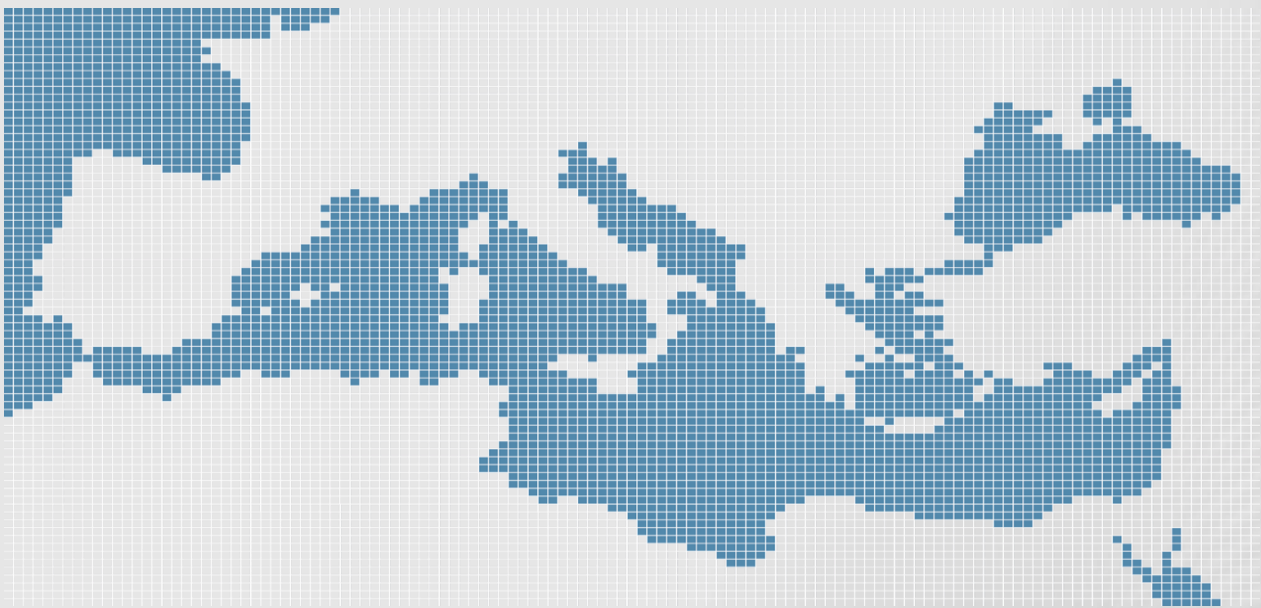




HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL DEFENCE POLICY  
AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## High Level International Conference



*Sustainable Development and Regional Integration  
in the Mediterranean  
within the Current Context of Security Challenges and Threats*

21 - 24 February 2023

**Hellenic Air Force Academy**  
Auditorium "Lieutenant (P) Nikolaos Sialmas"



High Level International Conference  
***Sustainable Development and Regional Integration  
in the Mediterranean***  
***within the Current Context of Security Challenges and Threats***

**PROGRAMME**

**TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2023**

08.00 – 09.30 **Registration - Reception of Participants - Coffee**

09.30 – 11.00 **Welcome Addresses**

**Mr Nikolaos Chardalias**

Deputy Minister of National Defence of the Hellenic Republic

**Mr Ioannis Plakiotakis**

Minister of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy of the Hellenic Republic

**Mr Charalambos Petrides**

Minister of Defence of the Republic of Cyprus

**Mr Antonios Oikonomou**

Secretary General of National Defence of the Hellenic Republic

**Vice Admiral Fragkiskos Leloudas**

Deputy Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff

**Dr Konstantinos Balomenos**

Director General

General Directorate of National Defence Policy and International Relations, Hellenic Ministry of National Defence

11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee Break**

11.30 – 11.50

### **Keynote Speaker**

**Ms Angela Gerekou**

President of Greek National Tourism Organization

### **Session 1**

11.50 – 13.30

#### **The Mediterranean through the centuries**

This session will focus on the history and the intercultural relations in the Mediterranean region through the centuries. It will also examine the Mediterranean Sea as a bridge of peace, friendship and solidarity. Additionally, it will evaluate the impact of conflicts and wars in the Mediterranean region.

**Moderator: Ms Evangelia Palla, Historian at Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation**

**Mr Patrick Maisonnave**

Ambassador of French Republic to the Hellenic Republic

**Mr Leonidas Rokanas**

Ambassador, Director General of European Union Affairs of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Ms Carmen Buttigieg**

Director for Defence Matters Directorate of the Republic of Malta

**Dr Evanthis Hatzivassiliou**

Secretary – General of the Hellenic Parliament Foundation

Professor, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Athens

### **Q & A**

13.30 – 14.30

### **Lunch Break**

## Session 2

14.30 – 16.30

### **Challenges, threats and opportunities in the Mediterranean region**

This session will focus on the geopolitical trends after the outbreak of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. It will also examine the political dynamics framework, the barriers in the regional Mediterranean integration (climate change, illegal integration etc.) and the Green – Blue Economy.

**Moderator: Dr Elias Tempelis, Hellenic Naval Academy**

#### **Mr Omar Amer Youssef**

Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Hellenic Republic

#### **Mr Mathew James Lodge**

Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Hellenic Republic

#### **Dr Ernst Reichel**

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Hellenic Republic

### **Q & A**

16.30 – 17.00

### **Review - End of the first day**

## WEDNESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2023

08.30 – 09.00 **Registration - Reception of Participants - Coffee**

09.00 – 10.00 **Keynote Speaker**

**Mr Eleftherios Oikonomou**

Deputy Minister of Citizen Protection of the Hellenic Republic

### Session 3

10.00 – 12.00

**Ongoing conflicts and disputes**

This session will focus on the ongoing conflicts and disputes in the Mediterranean region, such as the ones between Greece and Turkey, those in Libya, Syria and the Middle East.

**Moderator: Lieutenant General (ret.) Stavros Koutris**

**Mr Noam Katz**

Ambassador of the State of Israel to the Hellenic Republic

**Mr Aleksandar Sunko**

Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to the Hellenic Republic

**Rear Admiral (UH) Gianfranco Annunziata**

ITA Defence Policy Director

Ministry of Defence of Italy

**Dr Athanasios Platias**

Professor at the University of Piraeus

**Dr Chahine Ghais**

Dean of the College of Security and Global Studies, American University in the Emirates

**Q & A**

12.00 – 12.30

**Coffee Break**

## Session 4

12.30 – 14.30

### **Security trends in the Mediterranean region**

This session will focus on the security trends in the Mediterranean region, such as Maritime Security, Border Security, Energy Security, Terrorism, Organized Crime, Drug Trafficking and Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction.

**Moderator: Mr Dimitrios Apokis, Journalist**

#### **Admiral (ret.) Evangelos Apostolakis**

Former Minister of National Defence of the Hellenic Republic,  
Honorary Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff

#### **Ms Elisabeth Cardoso**

Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to the Hellenic Republic

#### **Mr Mohammed Sbihi**

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Hellenic Republic

#### **Rear Admiral Juan Bautista Pérez Puig**

Deputy Director General of Defence Policy  
Ministry of Defence of Spain

#### **Vice Admiral (ret.) Alexandros Diakopoulos**

Director General of Development and Humanitarian Aid of the  
Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### **Q & A**

14.30– 15.30

### **Lunch Break**

## Session 5

15.30- 17.30

### **Hybrid threats in the Mediterranean region**

This session will focus on the domains of hybrid warfare (Physical – Virtual – Cognitive) in the Mediterranean region and the instrumentalization/weaponization of illegal migration

**Moderator: Lieutenant General (ret.) Ioannis Baltzois, President of the Hellenic Institute for Strategic Studies**

#### **Ms Sofia Voultepsi**

Deputy Minister of Migration and Asylum of the Hellenic Republic

#### **Dr Konstantinos Balomenos**

Director General

General Directorate of National Defence Policy and International Relations, Hellenic Ministry of National Defence

#### **Dr José Pedro Texeira Fernandes**

Portuguese Institute of National Defence

#### **Mr Georgios Giannopoulos**

Head of Unit E.2: Technologies for Space, Security & Connectivity

Deputy Director of Directorate E: Space, Security & Migration

Joint Research Centre, European Commission

#### **Dr Fotios Moustakis**

Associate Professor of Strategic Studies

School of Society and Culture, University of Plymouth

### **Q & A**

17.30 – 18.00

### **Review - End of the second day**

## THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2023

08.30 – 09.00 **Registration - Reception of Participants - Coffee**

09.00 – 10.00 **Keynote Speaker**

**Mr George James Tsunis**

Ambassador of the United States of America to the Hellenic Republic

### Session 6

10.00 – 12.00 **The role of international organizations in the Mediterranean region**

This session will focus on the role of international organisations in the Mediterranean region, in particular the UN, EU (Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe and its partnership with the Mediterranean countries) and the Council of Europe and NATO (NATO and its Mediterranean Dialogue)

**Moderator: Dr Georgios Kaffes, Hellenic Army Academy**

**Mr Angus Lapsley**

NATO Assistant Secretary General for Defence Policy and Planning

**Dr Alison Weston**

Deputy to the Director for Security and Defence Policy and Head of Division for Partnerships and Task Force NATO in the European External Action Service

**Mr Mahieddine Djeflal**

Ambassador of People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the Hellenic Republic

**Ms Anna-Karine Asselin**

Ambassador of Canada to the Hellenic Republic

**Dr Ioannis Chrysoulakis**

Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for Greeks Abroad and Public Diplomacy

**Mr Nuno Lemos Pires**

National Defence Policy Director  
Ministry of Defence of Portugal

### Q & A

12.00 – 12.30 **Coffee Break**

12.30 – 14.30

## Session 7

### Cooperation and defence in the Mediterranean region

This session will focus on the cooperation (bilateral, multilateral and EU – NATO) and on the defence industry (Joint Procurement, etc.) in the Mediterranean region

**Moderator: Mr Dimitrios Thomas, Journalist**

**Mr Sergii Shutenko**

Ambassador of Ukraine to the Hellenic Republic

**Mr Andreas Eliades**

Diplomatic Advisor to the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Cyprus

**Mr Cyrille Bret**

Director Naval Group Greece

**Mr Anastasios Rozolis**

CEO at AKMON SA and Chairman of the BoD of the Hellenic Manufacturers of Defence and Security Material Association – SEKPY

**Mr Nikolaos Kostopoulos**

Chief Executive Officer of National Defence Systems

### Q & A

14.30– 15.30

### Lunch Break

15.30– 17.30

## Session 8

### Crisis Management Mechanism in the Mediterranean region

This session will focus on the Crisis Management Mechanisms in the Mediterranean region (UN Crisis Management Mechanism and Peacemaking/Peacekeeping operations – EU Crisis Management Mechanism/Migration Policy – NATO Crisis Management Mechanism). It will also examine the ongoing Peace Operations in the Mediterranean

**Moderator: Lieutenant General (ret.) Ippokratis Daskalakis**

**Colonel Mr Orlin Nikolov**

Director of NATO Crisis Manage and Disaster Response Centre of Excellence

**Dr Maria Vlachadi**

Lecturer at the Political Science Department of the University of Crete

**General Arie Mizrachi**

Chairman Armaz - Bagira Group

**Mr Osterrieder Holger**

Head of European Security and Defence College

### Q & A

17.30 – 18.00

### Review - End of the third day

## FRIDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2023

08.30 – 09.00 **Registration - Reception of Participants - Coffee**

### Session 9

09.00 – 11.00

#### **Resilience – Resistance**

This session will focus on the resilience – resistance in the Mediterranean region. It will examine the vulnerabilities, the way to build national resilience (critical infrastructure, cyber etc.), cognitive resilience and how to tackle disinformation campaigns

**Moderator: Dr Georgios Kaffes, Hellenic Army Academy**

#### **Keynote Speaker**

##### **Mr Christos Stylianides**

Minister of Climate Crisis and Civil Protection of the Hellenic Republic

##### **Mr Boštjan Pavlin**

Director-General at the Defence Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia

##### **Mr Athanasios Kosmopoulos**

Data Protection Officer

Ministry of Digital Governance of the Hellenic Republic

##### **Dr Konstantinos Tsetsos**

Head of Foresight at Metis Institute

Lecturer at Bundeswehr University Munich

#### **Q & A**

11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee Break**

11.30 – 13.30

## **Session 10**

### **Greece as a keyplayer of the Mediterranean geopolitical environment**

This session will focus on Greece as a keyplayer of the Mediterranean Geopolitical Environment (Pillar of Peace and Security in the Mediterranean region, its contribution in the Peacemaking / Peacekeeping operations and its role in the future)

**Moderator: Dr Ioanna Lekea**

Lecturer in the Department of Aeronautical Sciences

#### **Keynote Speaker**

**Dr Dimitrios Avramopoulos**

Former European Commissioner of Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of National Defence of the Hellenic Republic

**Dr Angelos Syrigos**

Deputy Minister of Education and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic

**Dr Konstantinos Balomenos**

Director General

General Directorate of National Defence Policy and International Relations, Hellenic Ministry of National Defence

**Mr Alexandros Mallias**

Ambassador (ret.)

Former Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to the USA (2005 – 2009)

#### **Q & A**

13.30– 14.30

#### **Lunch Break**

14.30 – 15.30

#### **Conference Conclusions - Closing Remarks**

**Dr Konstantinos Balomenos**

Director General

General Directorate of National Defence Policy and International Relations, Hellenic Ministry of National Defence









**MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE**  
GENERAL DIRECTORATE  
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