



NATO 2024

Beyond the 75th anniversary

High-Level Conference

under the High Patronage of the President of the Republic

Organised by the NATO Defense College Foundation and the Centro Alti Studi per la Difesa

in co-operation with the Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung,

the NATO Defense College and the Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo

Rome, 8th of July 2024

Venue: Centro Alti Studi per la Difesa – Sala Multimediale

14,15 – 15,00 CEST *Participants arrival*

15,00 – 15,20 *Welcome Remarks*

- **Giacinto Ottaviani**, President, Centro Alti Studi per la Difesa, Rome *
- **Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo**, President, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome *
- **Max A.L.T. Nielsen**, Commandant, NATO Defense College, Rome *
- **Silke Schmitt**, Project Leader, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung, Rome

15,20 – 15,30 *Special Intervention*

- **Stefano Pontecorvo**, Chairman, Leonardo Company, Rome *

SESSION 1
POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC CHALLENGES
A FOCUS ON THE FUTURE TOWARDS CHANGE

A political-strategic arena where at the same time allies have to face the threat of Russia and other important geographic and planning challenges. This requires an indispensable consensus on the political functioning of the Alliance and on a coherent set of priorities. How to keep the necessary consensus and the centrality of the Alliance as an international security provider? How to strengthen its ITDB (Industrial Technological Defence Base)? What has to be redefined in the role of NATO? The most important political military alliance in history is driven by need and is able to adapt to emerging realities.

Chair: **Daniela Irrera**, Professor of International Relations, CASD, Rome *

- **Thomas Erndl**, Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Bundestag, Berlin *
- **Oana Lungescu**, Former NATO Spokesperson, Royal United Services Institute, London *
- **Jamie Shea**, Professor, Strategy and Security Institute, University of Exeter *
- **Thomas Gomart**, Director, Institut Français des Relations Internationales, Paris

Q&A Session

16,40 – 16,50 *Special Intervention*

- **Alessandro Ercolani**, CEO, Rheinmetall Italy, Rome *

16,50 – 17,20 *Coffee Break*

17,20 – 17,30 *Special Intervention*

- **Giuseppe Cossiga**, Director, International Relations, MBDA Italy, Rome *

SESSION 2
REINFORCING THE PARTNERSHIPS IN THE SOUTH
A RENEWED STRATEGIC OUTLOOK

Partnerships are more relevant than ever to promote the priority of cooperative security. Those on the North Atlantic and Middle East have a special history. The partnerships in the Southern Region (Mediterranean Dialogue and Istanbul Cooperation Initiative) are crucial in countering Russia's initiatives in the Near East and Africa, secure the gateways to the Indian Ocean, prevent and manage crises that impact NATO's security and prosperity. How to intensify relations with the Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council? What crisis management strategy for Yemen, Libya and the Sabel? How to guarantee freedom of navigation beyond the Suez Canal?

Chair: **Ian Lesser**, Vice President; and Executive Director, Brussels Office, The German Marshall Fund of the United States, Brussels

- **Ahmad Masa'deh**, former Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean, Amman *
- **Abdulaziz Sager**, President, Gulf Research Center, Jeddah *
- **Sheik Fawaz Meshal Al-Sabah**, former Assistant Undersecretary National Security Bureau, Kuwait *
- **Sergio Piazzzi**, Secretary General, Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, Naples *
- **Maria Luisa Fantappiè**, Head, Mediterranean, Middle East and Africa Programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome

Q&A Session

18,40 – 18,50 *Special Intervention*

- **Charles Kupchan**, Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations, Washington DC *

18,50 – 19,10 *Concluding Remarks*

- **Giulio Tremonti**, President of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Chamber of Deputies, Rome

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