

Migration, refugees and European security: Fostering co-operation, building coalitions

Tuesday, 10 May 2016
09:00 – 12:30

B & M Theocharakis Foundation for the Fine Arts and Music
(9, Vas. Sofias Avenue & 1, Merlin Street, 106 71 Athens)

The unprecedented flow of refugees and migrants keeps posing a significant humanitarian, political and societal challenge for Europe and its neighbours. The crisis has tested Europe's solidarity and co-operation, put pressure on borders, raised political tensions among transit and receiving states and increased public support for radical political parties and populist movements. Implications of these developments raise serious questions about the future of European stability and security. Is the current migration and refugee crisis becoming another fault line dividing Europe between East and West, North and South? What has been its impact on geopolitical trends, in particular with regard to relations between Russia and Europe, and on sub-regional stability, especially in the Balkans? How can regional organizations such as the OSCE contribute to addressing these issues? How can various national and international actors enhance mutual co-operation and coordination?

This joint OSCE-ELIAMEP event will provide a range of views on challenges posed by the current migration and refugees crisis, discuss recent developments and explore perspectives for strengthening co-operation among relevant players. It will also contribute to a forward-looking discussion on co-operative security within the context of the OSCE and the work conducted by the [Panel of Eminent Persons on European Security](#).

Programme

09.00 – 09.30 **Registration**

09.30 – 09.45 **Welcome Remarks**

H. E. [Mr Nikos Xydakis](#), Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece

09.45 – 10.15 **Keynote Speeches**

Ambassador [Lamberto Zannier](#), OSCE Secretary General

[Dora Bakoyannis](#), Member of the Panel of Eminent Persons on European Security and Member of the Greek Parliament, former Minister of Foreign

Affairs

10.15 – 11.45 Panel Discussion

Moderator Dr. [Thanos Dokos](#), Director General, ELIAMEP

Panel [Monika Ekstrom](#), Head of Sector "Political Reporting & Policy Analysis" of the Representation of the European Commission in Greece, Athens

Dr. [Saban Kardas](#), Director, Center for Middle Eastern Strategic Studies (ORSAM), Ankara

Ambassador [Nina Suomalainen](#), Head of the OSCE Mission to Skopje

Ambassador [Claude Wild](#), Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the OSCE and Chair of the Informal Working Group on Migration

11.45 – 12.30 Open Debate