

The Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies and B'nai B'rith International  
are pleased to present an international conference on

## Strategic Challenges in the Eastern Mediterranean

Wednesday-Thursday, February 17-18, 2016

Nano-Technology Auditorium (Building 206) Bar-Ilan University, Israel

*In English, with simultaneous Hebrew translation*

### Wednesday, February 17

Opening Remarks: **Mr. Dan Mariaschin**, Executive Vice President, B'nai B'rith International

#### 5:00 pm **Why the Eastern Mediterranean Matters**

**Prof. David Abulafia**, Cambridge U., *Mediterranean Past and Mediterranean Future*

**Mr. Michael Doran**, Hudson Institute, *US Policy Towards the Eastern Mediterranean*

**Prof. Efraim Inbar**, BESA Center, *The New Strategic Equation in the Region*

### Thursday, February 18

#### 9:00 am **Perspectives on the Mediterranean I**

Chair: **Mr. Alan Schneider**, Director, B'nai B'rith World Center – Jerusalem

**Maj. Gen. (res.) Yaakov Amidror**, Former National Security Advisor, and Rosshandler Fellow at the BESA Center,  
*Israeli Perspective*

**Vasilis Kikilias MP**, Former Minister of Internal Security, *Greek Perspective*

**Ambassador Zvi Mazel**, Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, *Egyptian Perspective*

**Dr. Amit Mor**, CEO, Eco Energy Financial & Strategic Consulting, IDC, *Energy Resources in the East Mediterranean*

#### 10:45 am **Perspectives on the Mediterranean II**

Chair: **Dr. Haim V. Katz**, Chairman, B'nai B'rith World Center - Jerusalem

**Mr. Michalis Firillas**, DCM, Embassy of Cyprus in Israel, *Cypriot Perspective*

**Ms. Monika Iwersen**, DCM, Embassy of Germany in Israel, *German and European Perspectives*

**Mr. Burak Bekdil**, Hürriyet, *Turkish Perspective*

**Dr. Bruno Tertrais**, Foundation for Strategic Research, *French Policies in the Eastern Mediterranean*

#### 1:30 pm **Global Perspectives**

Chair: **Prof. Eytan Gilboa**, BESA Center

**Dr. Jonathan Rynhold**, BESA Center, *American Attitudes in the East Mediterranean*

**Dr. Anna Geifman**, Bar-Ilan U., *Putin's Involvement in Syria as Russia's Traditional Foreign Policy*

**Ms. Avivit Bar-Ilan**, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *Israel and the UfM*

#### 3:30 pm **Regional Threats and Opportunities**

Chairs: **Prof. Efraim Inbar**, BESA Center and **Mr. Martin Oliner**, Chairman, Religious Zionists of America

**Prof. Hillel Frisch**, BESA Center, *Islamic Radicalism*

**Dr. Ehud Eiran**, Haifa U., *Conflict Scenarios*

**Ambassador Arye Mekel**, BESA Center, *Cyprus-Greece-Israel*

#### 5:30 pm **Concluding Session**

*(with the participation of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations)*

Greetings: **Rabbi Prof. Daniel HersHKowitz**, President, Bar-Ilan University

Chair: **Mr. Gary P. Saltzman**, President, B'nai B'rith International

**Mr. Panos Kammenos**, Greek Minister of Defense

**HE Giulio M. Terzi**, Former Italian Foreign Minister

**Maj. Gen. (res.) Amos Gilad**, Director of Policy and Political-Military Affairs, Israel Ministry of Defense

**Col. (res.) Dr. Eran Lerman**, BESA Center, **Concluding Remarks**

*The conveners thank Irving Silver and Martin Oliner for their generosity and support for the conference.*

The conference will be webcast live at [www.besacenter.org](http://www.besacenter.org)

The conference is open to the public