

## Promoting Liberal Democracy in the Eastern Mediterranean

**5.11.2018, 14:00-18:30**  
**The Cinema Auditorium**  
**3rd floor, building 1**  
**Netanya Academic College**

The last decade has seen the emergence of a trilateral relationship between the State of Israel, the Republic of Cyprus, and the Hellenic Republic. This relationship has materialized out of joint economic interests and common security concerns.

The joint Israeli-Greek-Cypriot research project that will be presented at this conference suggests that such a trilateral relationship will be strengthened if the liberal democratic values, shared between the three countries, are further clearly articulated to form a normative dimension to the relationship.

The researchers have analyzed the challenges to liberal democracy in the Eastern Mediterranean region – defining them as internal challenges, external challenges, contextual challenges, or inherent to the concept of liberal democracy. At the conference they will present their findings and recommendations for the first time, to be followed by a panel discussion with diplomatic representatives and experts.



14:00-14:30	Gathering and refreshments
14:30-15:00	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Prof. Jacob Hart, President, Netanya Academic College Brig. Gen. (ret.) Dr. Ephraim Sneh, Chair, S. Daniel Abraham Center for Strategic Dialogue, Netanya Academic College Ms. Judith Stelmach, Project Manager, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Israel Office
15:00-16:30	<b>Presentation of Research Project</b> Chair: Dr. Elie Friedman, Director, S. Daniel Abraham Center for Strategic Dialogue, Netanya Academic College <b>The Cypriot Perspective:</b> Mr. George Chr. Pelagias, Executive Director, European Rim Policy and Investment Council (ERPIC) Ms. Marta Murzanska, Researcher and Assistant Project Coordinator (ERPIC) <b>The Greek Perspective:</b> Dr. John Nomikos, Director, Research Institute for European and American Studies (RIEAS) <b>The Israeli Perspective:</b> Dr. Ehud (Udi) Eiran, School of Political Science, University of Haifa
16:30-16:45	Coffee Break
16:45-18:15	<b>Response Panel: Advancing Liberal Democracy through Trilateral Cooperation</b> Chair: Dr. Yair Hirschfeld, Academic Director, S. Daniel Abraham Center for Strategic Dialogue, Netanya Academic College <b>a. How can the three countries leverage the initiative?</b> HE Ms. Thessalia-Salina Shambos, Ambassador of Cyprus to the State of Israel HE Mr. Konstantinos Bikas, Ambassador of Greece to the State of Israel Ms. Iris Ambor, Director of Southern Europe Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs <b>b. The role of the European Community/Germany in enhancing the initiative</b> HE Dr. Susanne Wasum-Rainer, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the State of Israel (TBC) Dr. Col. (ret.) Eran Lerman, Vice President of the Jerusalem Institute for Strategic Studies Mr. Eran Etzion, former Head of Policy Planning at Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs
18:15-18:30	<b>Concluding Remarks</b> Dr. Christodoulos G. Pelagias, Chair, European Rim Policy and Investment Council (ERPIC) Dr. David Altman, Vice-Chair, S. Daniel Abraham Center for Strategic Dialogue, Netanya Academic College

The conference will be in Hebrew and English with simultaneous translation.

Please confirm participation by sending an email to the following address:

[strategicdialogue901@gmail.com](mailto:strategicdialogue901@gmail.com)