In November 2015, the EU’s Neighbourhood Policy had the ambition to reconsider the relations of the 28 EU states with the 19 Middle East and North African states (on the southern and oriental shores of the Mediterranean sea), in the perspective of the consolidation of a new democratic and diplomatic agenda.

High years after the «Arab spring», the EU is still looking for a strategic autonomy as well as a global vision characterized by it’s will to build peace, stability and security.

In an area, where tensions remain high, EU can - nevertheless - play an essential role as mediator and facilitator, in the recent crisis affecting the region (civil war in Syria, Irak and Yemen, tensions in regards to the two state solutions - between Israël and Palestine -, uncertainty in the Persian Gulf, in regards to the Qatar and Iran issue, political and social instability in Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt & Sudan, migration and terrorist threats…), thus paving the way for a more strategical role in the region.
International Centre For Relations & Diplomacy (ICRD) and the Institut Prospective et Sécurité en Europe / Institute for European perspective and Security (IPSE), are organising an exclusive event on this crucial topic on board of Rhodes Forum 2019.

**Speakers:**

**Sameh Habeeb**
Sameh Habeeb is a political consultant that has helped a number of European and international NGO’s to maximize their impact and outreach. In 2017 he founded the International Centre for Relations & Diplomacy (ICRD). For over a decade, Habeeb has worked with parliamentarians, governments, academics and journalists across Europe and the Middle East.

**Kader A. Abderrahim,**
Director of studies at IPSE. He is also a Senior lecturer at Sciences Po, specialist in Maghreb and Islamism, also member of the Global Finder Experts of the United Nations. His most recent books: “Geopolitics of Morocco” and “Daesh: history, issues and practices of the Islamic State organization”.

**About the Organisers:**

**The Institut Prospective et Sécurité en Europe (IPSE)**
The Institut Prospective et Sécurité en Europe / Institute for European perspective and Security (IPSE), is a Paris-based think tank, created in 1988. Boasting over 35 fellows and associates in Paris, Brussels, London, Rabat, and Geneva, IPSE provides expert analysis on international security and diplomacy. IPSE produces policy papers, consultancy notes, academic articles focusing on track two diplomacy policy, notably conflict mediation and facilitation across the MENA, Sub-saharan Africa, Central Africa, the Persian Gulf, Caucasus, Central Asia, and Southeast Asian regions. Created with the ambition to foster and develop an autonomous and robust ESDP, IPSE strives for the emergence of Europe as an integrated diplomatic actor. Emmanuel Dupuy, is the actual president of IPSE.

**The International Centre for Relations & Diplomacy (ICRD, London)**
(ICRD, London) is an independent, not-for-profit and non-partisan think tank. ICRD works with national governments, international organisations, and third sector entities, primarily in Western Europe and the Middle East. Its mission is to support policy development through research and documentation, supporting non-violent conflict management. ICRD is committed to democratic governance and acts as a human rights advocacy platform.

**Date:** 12/10/2019  
**Time:** 8:00 to 9:00 am  
**Venue:** Rhodes Forum (Executive Rooms - Rhodes Palace)