

## ***Speakers Corner***

The *Speakers Corner* initiative of the **Center for Foreign Policy Planning** of the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic](#) is a series of closed discussions for Ministry staff that aims to contribute towards a nuanced understanding of complex issues and to provide space for exchanges of hard truths on current affairs and the futures of diplomacy.

### **2023 in Review: Navigating Diplomatic Frontiers**

#### **\*\*Diplomatic Futures Unveiled\*\***

Initiating interdisciplinary exchanges, we explored the intersection of history and policy with Prof. [Davide Rodogno](#) setting the stage for strategic planning and foresight.

#### **\*\*French Perspectives on Planning\*\***

A rendezvous with our colleague Mr. [Manuel Lafont Rapnouil](#) unveiled the evolution of planning at the Quai d'Orsay, emphasizing the need for foresight in navigating today's challenges.

#### **\*\*Digital Diplomacy Discourse\*\***

Ambassador [Ekaterini Boura](#) guided us through the realms of digital diplomacy, emphasizing the dynamic role of ideas in shaping foreign policy.

#### **\*\*Intelligence and Strategic Narratives\*\***

[Jake Sotiriadis, Ph.D.](#) delved into the challenges of intelligence research and strategic communications, urging us to harness foresight for effective narratives.

#### **\*\*Religion, Diplomacy, and Inclusion\*\***

Examining the rise of aggressive ideologies and violent extremism globally, [Constantinos Alexandris](#) explored the link between religion and diplomacy, and discussed the challenges faced by religious leaders and institutions today.

#### **\*\*Human Rights on the Horizon\*\***

Discussing human rights, Prof. [Maria Gavouneli](#) illuminated the challenges faced by UN processes. We are fostering more synergies between think tanks and diplomatic services.

#### **\*\*Decoding Regional Realities: Israel-Hamas War\*\***

In two separate sessions, Ambassador [Michael Harari](#) with experts from *Diplomeds* and Prof. [Eitan Shamir](#), guided us through planning for new regional dynamics post-Israel-Hamas war. Insights on the mindset in the various constituencies, the pulse on the ground and the stance of political elites helped us complement our own take.

**\*\*Global Collaborations on Diplomacy\*\***

The Speakers Corner initiative concludes its yearly reflections with gratitude to all contributors and a special thanks to PRIO, [ELIAMEP \(Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy\)](#) and [Institute of International Relations - ΙΔΙΣ](#) for facilitating these engaging sessions and of course the office of the Minister and the staff of [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic](#) for their support throughout.