

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.