Towards a common European strategic culture
Conference cycle 2021-2022
Brussels International College

The quasi-failure of the Arab spring of 2011, the crisis of the negotiation process with Turkey, the downgrading of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the Islamist terrorism and unregulated migration flows, the tragedies of immigrants and refugees are increasing political instability and are threatening the collapse of both economic interdependence and cultural dialogue with the Islamic countries. However, common neighborhood, shared interests (energy provision, trade, and investments; regulation of migration) and geographic proximity oblige both sides to look for new ways of cooperation and dialogue.

25 April 2022 17:00-19:00
Rue Ducale 1, B-1000 Brussels
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SESSION 5
Europe and its southern neighbourhood: how large is the sea between us?

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PROGRAM

CHAIR: WELCOME WORDS
Ambassador Raoul DELCORDE, Belgian ambassador to Sweden, Poland and Canada

LECTURE:
Jean-Pierre FILIU, professor of Middle East Studies at Sciences Po, Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA). A historian and an Arabist

DISCUSSANT:
Faouzia Farida CHARFI, Junior minister of higher education, 1st and 2nd Government of Tunisia post Revolution

Q & A
Conclusion
SPEAKER:
**Prof. Jean-Pierre FILIU** is professor of Middle East Studies at Sciences Po, Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA). A historian and an Arabist, he has also held visiting professorships at the universities of Columbia and Georgetown. Prof. Filiu was a career diplomat from 1988 to 2006, following humanitarian missions in Afghanistan (1986) and Lebanon (1983-84). Hurst (London) and Oxford University Press (New York) published his *Arab Revolution* in 2011, *Gaza, a History in 2014* (Palestine Book Award) and *From Deep State to Islamic State* in 2015. His works about contemporary Islam and the Arab world have been translated in more than fifteen languages, including Arabic.

DISCUSSANT:

MODERATOR:
**Ambassador (hon) Raoul DELCORDE** has been a career diplomat for 35 years and was the Belgian ambassador to Sweden, Poland and Canada. He has a Ph.D in political science and he is a visiting professor at Université Catholique de Louvain and Université de Montréal. Member of the Académie Royale de Belgique.