

# The EU and its Neighbours: In Search of New Forms of Partnership

*With the support of:*

European Commission, DG Education and Culture, Jean Monnet Action



## Programme

Sounio – Greece, 3-6 July 2008

## Thursday 3 July 2008

**Arrival of participants** – Check in at the Grecotel Cape Sounion hotel  
(Tel: +30 22920 69700 Fax: +30 22920 69770 Email: reserv\_so@grecotel.gr)

20:00 - 21:30 **Informal buffet dinner at the “Cape Sounio” restaurant**  
on the first floor of the hotel’s main building

## Friday 4 July 2008

9:00 - 10:00 **Welcome and Introduction**

**Loukas Tsoukalis**, Professor, University of Athens; President of ELIAMEP, Athens  
**Joachim Fritz-Vannahme**, Director Europe, Bertelsmann Stiftung, Guetersloh

10:00 - 12:00 **SESSION 1 Improving our Partnership – Are We on the Right Track?**

*Questions to be raised: What do the neighbours expect from the EU and what does the EU expect from its neighbours? Are the neighbouring countries and is the Union able to fulfil the expectations? What are the strategic objectives behind cooperation? What role does the EU want to play in its direct neighbourhood?*

**Moderator:** **Achilleas Mitsos**, Former Director General of DG Research, European Commission  
**Speakers:** **Elmar Brok**, Member of the European Parliament, EPP, Brussels  
**Abdellatif Benachenhou**, Professor of Economic Science, Former Minister of Finance of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Algier  
**Oleksandr Sushko**, Research Director, Institute for Euro-Atlantic Co-Operation, Kyiv  
**Ivan Krastev**, Chair of the Board of Directors, Centre for Liberal Strategies, Sofia

12:00 - 12:30 **Coffee Break**

12:30 - 14:30 **SESSION 2 Assessing the Existing Instruments and Fora**

*Questions to be raised: What are the deficiencies and the strengths of the existing instruments/fora? Has EU conditionality reached its limits? How effective has economic aid been? How far can shared values take us? Do we need new instruments/fora or do we have to optimize the existing ones? Do we need an “ENP-East” and an “ENP-South”?*

**Moderator:** **Antonio Missiroli**, Director of Studies, European Policy Centre (EPC), Brussels  
**Speakers:** **Andreas Herdina**, Head of Unit, European Neighbourhood Policy, DG External Relations, European Commission, Brussels  
**Dimitri Manjavidze**, Deputy State Minister, State Minister's Office for Reintegration, Government of Georgia, Tbilisi  
**Ibrahim Hegazy**, Chairman, Department of Management, American University, Cairo

14:30 **Lunch** (*Cape Sounio restaurant on the first floor of the hotel’s main building*)

18:00 - 20:00 **SESSION 3 The “Union for the Mediterranean” – Old Wine in New Bottles?**

*Questions to be raised: Will the “Union for the Mediterranean” enhance cooperation between the EU and its southern neighbours? Or will the “Union for the Mediterranean” be nothing more than the old “Barcelona Process” in a new disguise?*

**Moderator:** **Nilgun Arisan-Eralp**, Director of the Secretariat General for European Union Affairs, Prime Ministry of Turkey, Ankara

**Speakers:** **Christophe Farnaud**, Ambassador of France to Greece, Athens  
**Theodoros Sotiropoulos**, General Director for European Union Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Athens  
**Zaki Laïdi**, Director of Research, Centre for European Studies, Sciences Po, Paris

20:30 **Dinner at “CAVO COLONES” terrace restaurant**

After dinner discussion on:

**Europe After the Irish Referendum**

*introduced by* **Dimitrios Katsoudas**, Secretary General for European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Athens

## Saturday 5 July 2008

9:30 - 11:30 **SESSION 4 Shaping the Agenda: Fields of Common Interest and Cooperation**

*Questions to be raised: How can the EU and its neighbours create win-win situations?  
In which fields should the EU and its neighbours cooperate and what are concrete projects?  
Should cooperation concentrate on economic progress rather than on political and social transformation?*

**Moderator:** **Fraser Cameron**, Director, EU-Russia Centre, Brussels

**Speakers:** **Energy** **John Roberts**, Energy Security Specialist, Platts Energy Group, London  
**Education** **Sami Khasawneh**, Professor, Faculty of Educational Sciences, former Vice-President of Jordan University, Amman  
**Agriculture** **Dieter Kirschke**, Professor, Humboldt University, Berlin  
**Migration** **Catherine Wihtol de Wenden**, Research Director CNRS/CERI, Paris

11:30 - 12:00 **Coffee Break**

12:00 - 14:00 **SESSION 5 Alternatives between Full Membership and Non-Membership – Fata Morgana or Silver Bullet?**

*Questions to be raised: Is there a necessity to develop new forms of affiliation and cooperation beneath the level of full membership? Are concepts such as a “privileged membership”, “partial membership” or “extended associated membership” viable options?*

**Moderator:** **Paweł Świeboda**, Director, demosEUROPA-Centre for European Strategy, Warsaw  
**Speakers:** **Valeriu Ostalep**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Foreign Ministry of Moldova, Chisinau  
**Janis A. Emmanouilidis**, Stavros Costopoulos Research Fellow, ELIAMEP, Athens  
**Barbara Lippert**, Vice-Director, Institut fuer Europaeische Politik (IEP), Berlin

14:00 -14:30 **Concluding Remarks – Lessons and Perspectives**

**Joachim Fritz-Vannahme**, Director Europe, Bertelsmann Stiftung, Guetersloh  
**Loukas Tsoukalis**, Professor, University of Athens; President of ELIAMEP, Athens

14:30 **Lunch at the “Cape Sounio” restaurant**  
on the first floor of the hotel’s main building

19:00 Meeting at the hotel lobby  
**Guided visit to the sanctuary of Poseidon at Sounio followed by dinner at a fish tavern by the sea**

## Sunday 6 July 2008

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Departure of participants