THINK-TANKS & GOVERNMENTS: BRIDGING THE GAP

21st November 2012 – Milan, Palazzo Clerici

3.00-3.15 pm Kick-off speech
James McGANN, Director of the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania

3.15-5.45 pm Round Table
Chair: Giancarlo ARAGONA, President, ISPI

Isabelle IOANNIDES, Member of the Bureau of European Policy Advisers (BEPA), European Commission, Brussels
Hans MARTENS, Chief Executive Officer, European Policy Centre (EPC), Brussels
Alberto MARTINELLI, Professor of Political Science and Sociology, State University, Milan
Daniele RAVENNA, Head of the Research Department, Italian Senate
Pierfrancesco SACCO, Head of the Unit for Analysis, Planning and Historic Diplomatic Documentation, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Enrico SETA, Head of the Division on International Affairs and Security, Italian Chamber of Deputies

5.45-6.00 pm Concluding remarks
Kyle R. SCOTT, US Consul General in Milan

Concept: Think-tanks play a significant role in the US since they traditionally provide individuals for key posts in the Administration and produce studies and analyses which are able to impact on the US legislation and policies. Conversely, in continental Europe, they are usually considered as ‘research centres’ whose link with Institutions tends to be loose, if not opaque. In particular, the Conference intends to address the following issues:

- The rationale behind the relevance of think-tanks in the US political system;
- The proximity of the major US think-tanks to the Obama Administration and the potential impact of the next Presidential elections;
- The main features of European think-tanks and the extent to which the successful American experience can be replicated in Europe and, particularly, in Italy.

In cooperation with

Simultaneous translation will be provided