



### The Arc of Crisis in the MENA Region

Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Atlantic Council Headquarters

Washington, D.C.

9:00–9:30 a.m.

#### **Introductory Remarks**

**Frederick Kempe**, *President and CEO, Atlantic Council*

**Giampiero Massolo**, *President, Italian Institute for International Political Studies*

**Armando Varricchio**, *Italian Ambassador to the United States*

9:30–10:45 a.m.

#### **The Struggle for Regional Hegemony: A Great Powers Game, moderated by Karim Mezran**

**Ambassador Rend al Rahim**, *President of the Iraq Foundation and Former Iraqi Ambassador to the US*

**Mona Yacoubian**, *Senior Advisor for Syria at the US Institute of Peace*

**Nabeel Khoury**, *Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Rafik Hariri Center*

**Federica Saini Fasanotti**, *Nonresident Fellow at the Brookings Institute*

10:45–11:15 a.m.

#### **Coffee & tea**

11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

#### **The Islamic State, al Qaeda, and the Resilience of Jihadism, moderated by Lorenzo Vidino**

**Arturo Varvelli**, *Senior Research Fellow and Co-Head of the Middle East and North Africa Center at the Italian Institute for International Political Studies in Italy*

**Kim Cragin**, *Senior Research Fellow at the National Defense University*

**Hassan Hassan**, *Senior Fellow at the Program on Extremism, George Washington University*

**Frederick Kagan**, *Director of the Critical Threats Project at the American Enterprise Institute*

12:30 p.m.

#### **Lunch served**

1:00 p.m.

#### **Keynote Address**