

FRIDE and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) are pleased to invite you to a roundtable entitled:

Insecurity in the Sahel and the Levant after the Arab Spring

Welcome remarks:

- **Michael Ehrke**, Director, Madrid Office, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
- **Giovanni Grevi**, Director, FRIDE

Speakers:

- **Edward Burke**, Associate fellow at FRIDE
- **Barah Mikail**, Senior researcher at FRIDE
- **Anouar Boukhars**, non-resident Scholar in the Middle East Programme of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Associate Fellow at FRIDE

Moderator:

- **Giovanni Grevi**, Director, FRIDE

Three years after the uprisings in the Arab world, the extended MENA region is increasingly unstable. From the Sahel to the Levant, trans-national threats and geopolitical competition intersect, with destabilising effects for regional security.

Extremist militant groups and trans-national criminal networks are operating in the region's most fragile states, from Mali to Libya, and from Syria to Iraq. These groups exploit widespread corruption, weak government capacity, crushing poverty, entrenched social and ethnic tensions and ongoing civil wars. The unrest is spilling over borders and aggravating regional crises.

This roundtable will address the sources of this instability as well as current regional and international security policies. It will focus on, respectively, the Sahel and the Levant. It will examine how the collapse of the security order in the Sahel and parts of the Maghreb has led to an unprecedented - and destabilising - escalation of competition among countries in the region and the spread of illicit traffics and networks. It will also assess the surge of extremist networks and terrorist activities in Syria and Iraq, including implications for the Shia-Sunni confrontation and prospects for the regional balance of power. Linkages and differences between the two theatres' security challenges will be discussed, with a view to presenting their implications for the stability of the wider MENA region.

Wednesday, 9 July 2014, 10:00-12:00h
FRIDE (C/ Felipe IV, 9 - 1º Dcha. Madrid)

Please register at
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