

For the Committee on International Trade (INTA)

CONFERENCE

Trade and Economic relations between the EU and the GCC countries

Wednesday, 18 October 2017
Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room 5G3
15.00 - 18.30

DRAFT PROGRAMME

15.00 **Welcome and introductory remarks by**

- **Tokia Saïfi, MEP**, Vice-chair and Standing Rapporteur for the Gulf Cooperation Council of the Committee on International Trade (INTA).
- **Abdel Aziz Aluwaisheg**, Assistant Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council.
- **Joost Korte**, Deputy Director General, DG Trade, European Commission.

15.20 **Panel n° 1: Legal and regulatory framework for business and investment in GCC countries**

- Introduction and moderation by **Arnaldo Abruzzini**, Chief Executive Officer of EUROCHAMBRES.
- **Oliver Cornock**, Managing Editor for the Middle East at the Oxford Business Group.
- **Talal Al Rahbi**, Deputy Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Planning, Oman (tbc).
- **Gilles Klein**, CEO of One Seven.
- **Friedemann Römhild**, Leading Professional Master Planning & Healthy Cities, Royal Haskoning.
- **Ewa Synowiec**, Adviser to the Director General on Gulf countries, DG Trade.

16.10 **Q&A / Debate**

16.40 **Panel n°2: Industrial development in the GCC countries: competition or partnership with Europe and the United States?**

- Introduction by **Michèle Alliot-Marie**, MEP, Chair of the EP delegation to the Arab Peninsula
- **Dr Jean-François Seznec**, Professor for the Middle East and Gulf region at Georgetown and SAIS Universities in Washington.
- **Abdulrahman Al-Harbi**, Deputy Minister for trade of Saudi Arabia.
- **Mikael Houari**, General Delegate in the United Arab Emirates for the Airbus Group.
- **Stefano Martini**, CEO of Quantum.
- High representative of the **EEAS**.

17.30 **Q&A / Debate**

18.00 **Concluding remarks by Tokia Saïfi, MEP, Vice-chair of the Committee on International Trade (INTA)**