

# DOMINIQUE MOÏSI

Special Advisor, Ifri

We have had a very interesting *tour d'horizon*, which looks like a summary of the problem we are faced with. It is impossible to summarise in two minutes, but I will try. Ribal, you said to us, 'Let us not make distinctions.' All terrorists are alike and we have to fight them all without making sophisticated distinctions, which will betray the reality and lead us in the wrong direction. Meir told us that if you want peace between Israel and Palestine, you have to make peace between Israel and the Arab world. The best way is to follow the Saudi plan. It exists and it is there, so why do we not follow that path?

Miguel told us that for coalition, let us start with Europe. Before going to Washington or to Moscow, we have to stick to what we are. This is a fundamental challenge of Europe. Then we moved to Singapore and your key message was somewhat reassuring. The Chinese are so keen to defend the rule of the Communist party that they will behave rationally and prevent any war from occurring. Then we move to India and India made us dream, taking the long view and saying that by the end of this century, the future will be in Africa. An Indian asking us to dream about Africa is very refreshing and illuminating.

Then we came back to the hardcore reality of today and we had a very sobering message. Let us not get trapped by our own emotion. Let us distinguish between the reality and the way we want it to be. In a way, it is a summary of everything we said during this eighth edition of the WPC. There is a debate about the nature of the threat and the way to answer it. Are we condemned globally in the world to a certain Israelisation of our reaction to the threat? Do we have to modify our way of life? Do we have to be on alert every day or every morning? Can we do that without fundamentally modifying what we are?

Then there is a second interrogation, which is nearly of a geographic nature. The farther away you are from the Middle East, the better your chances. The Mediterranean in the 17<sup>th</sup> century was the centre of civilisation, as described by Fernand Braudel. Suddenly, we seem to be exporting the worst of each other, and we are too close to the Middle East. Due to that, the Middle East has not only become a geographic expression but in some ways a state of mind. This is a state of mind that invades its neighbours in the most dangerous way. Then let us dream. Let us dream of Asia and let us dream of the countries in Asia who are thinking beyond the old West and rediscovering Africa. I do not think we have time for any questions. I apologise to all those who wanted to ask questions, but I thank you very much for your resilience. It requires resilience to have survived the programme, in particular, of this eighth WPC.