



DOMINIQUE MOISI

Special Advisor to Ifri - Introduction

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. This is the third plenary session. My name is Dominique Moïsi. I have the awesome honour of moderating the discussions with my friend Jim Hoagland. You can see there's been a certain "inflation". We left the comfortable armchairs we used during the initial sessions for a more modest setting. There are a lot of participants this evening.

This topic provides for an extraordinarily open and wide-ranging discussion: governance from the perspective of current events. We can talk about anything we want. And when you look at the make-up of tonight's speakers, you might think that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict represents 50% of the news or close to that. This, of course, isn't the case but it shows the emotional centrality of the conflict.

Jim Hoagland and I have decided to divide up the task based on the grand tradition of transatlantic relations. The American will do the difficult work of introducing each speaker, "setting the stage" as they say in English. And as a lazy European, I get to wrap up and summarise the discussions. I do have to say, and Jim will repeat this, that since there are so many of us, we will have to be fierce about keeping each speaker to the time limit of 10 minutes. Thank you in advance for sticking to this time limit. I now yield the floor to Jim, who has the task of starting the discussions.