

## **Abstract**

### **Strategic Foresight: The European experience**

The presentation will focus on Europe's efforts in developing strategic foresight capacity and in analysing long-term trends associated with European integration and the world. Starting from the 1950s, there have been a number of foresight plans on specific sectors (agriculture, animal health, environment) and on economic and monetary affairs that have contributed to the development of strategic foresight at both the Community level and among Member States. After the end of the Cold War and the creation of the European Union, efforts at strategic forecast have increasingly included the global dimension. In 2003, the adoption of the European Security Strategy (EES) contains for the first time a comprehensive assessment of the current and future risks that the EU would face in a rapidly changing international environment. Since 2011, the establishment of the European Strategy and Policy Analysis System (ESPAS) aims to create within EU institutions something akin to the US National Intelligence Council. ESPAS is a unique inter-institutional project aimed at strengthening the EU's efforts in the crucial area of forward planning. ESPAS brings together the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Secretariat General of the Council of the European Union and the European External Action Service to strengthen the Union's collective administrative capacity to identify and analyse the key trends and challenges, and the resulting policy choices, which are likely to confront Europe and the wider world in the decades ahead.