



CLOSING REMARKS

Allow me, first, to thank our dear speakers for participating in this outreach activity. We are aware that you all have many commitments, and we treasure your availability to help us giving content to this event. You have made a remarkable work by explaining all the topics covered here today. Events like this one provide us with a unique opportunity to meet new people who widen our views and to discuss how to keep fighting together against the different types of threats that we face. The European Union is a complex body in which each country has its own idiosyncrasy. With the Union we have achieved something unique in our history. It has taken many years and we the Europeans have faced some crises; but I think that it makes us proud to call ourselves “European Citizens “. It is not only about the common economic goals, but it also goes beyond that. It is the values promoted by the EU, contributed by all its member States, that make us great. And some of these values are in danger due to external or internal threats, faced by the Intelligence Services.

The EU has no competences in the area of Intelligence Services, since Art. 4.2 TEU states national security is a matter of each member State. Nevertheless, the difficult times we face today, the war in Ukraine and the increasingly dangerous situation in the Middle East make it clear that there is a need for continuous intercommunication and common work between Intelligence Services and the EU institutions on strategic issues. In the first roundtable, we have clearly seen that the dialogue between EU institutions and the Intelligence Services is not new. It has been very interesting to hear about the evolution of the European organs EUMS-INT and EU-Intcen. Also, the important role given to SIAC as one of the tools to achieve the Strategic Compass goals proposed by HR-VP Josep Borrell. We are sure the newly appointed high Representative, Ms. Kaja Kallas, will keep up the good work, along with the Directors of both organisations, both present here today. The speakers expressed the needs for Intelligence inside the EU and pointed out the relevance of having a single entry point for Intelligence in the EU institutions. In the second roundtable, we have discovered how the EU institutions treat the Intelligence they receive in order to make strategic security decisions and to elaborate policy developments. It is possibly more evident or clear in the case of counter-terrorism efforts, but we have seen today how this works in the EU broader foreign policy objectives. In this round table, it was made clear the importance of giving the right information to the right consumer in the right time. The third roundtable has tried to explain different Intelligence Services’ work and the cooperation between us and towards the EU. One of our goals is to provide Intelligence for our Governments and supranational authorities to facilitate the adoption of strategic decisions and the prevention of threats. Our speakers provided us with interesting scopes that help us better understand the functioning of the existing channels of cooperation. They also showed us how the threats they face at a national level are also threats for the European Union. They explained how national and multilateral coordination is done and they expressed that the

success of the cooperation is based on mutual trust. We have had Mr. Sannino talking about the current and future challenges facing the EU in the realm of security, including geopolitical tensions, cyber threats, terrorism and the impact of global instability. These challenges affect us all globally and the tools given by the cooperation between the Intelligence Services and the EU Institutions is crucial.

If there is one word that we have all underlined, it is “cooperation”. It is not always easy, I will give you that, and we sometimes face difficulties, both at a national level and at multilateral. However, we all



want to do what is best for our citizens, and I think we have achieved what I would qualify as a very good level of cooperation (although there is always room for improvement). The ongoing work that we have been doing for decades in Europe, our cooperation, has been clearly presented today in this exercise of outreach. The Intelligence College in Europe is a most appropriate tool for this outreach activity, to give us visibility. I am most pleased about the results of today's seminar. It is my belief that we are going back to our capitals with the conviction that the Intelligence Services and the EU Institutions are doing their best efforts. Not only have we learnt and have we grabbed ideas for establishing better methods, but for improving. We have also made it evident that we work in "building bridges", as Spanish ICE Presidency states in its motto, "Boosting the academic network and building bridges with the EU". Indeed, today we had a great exercise of "building bridges with the EU".

Thank you again for your participation.