



[www.londonenergyclub.org](http://www.londonenergyclub.org)

[www.prio.org/cypus](http://www.prio.org/cypus)

Members of the Bosphorus Energy Club

London, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Friends,

As 2020 is dawning, we are delighted to invite you to the London Energy Club dinner meeting on **23 January**, held in partnership with the PRIO Cyprus Centre.

The meeting will focus on the changing dynamics of the Eastern Mediterranean energy outlook and its commercial, security and geopolitical aspects; including some **practical considerations** for the attention of government and business leaders.

This exclusive event will mark the launch of a series of sustained engagements on the East Med prospects and developments, which are likely to be with us in the foreseeable future. In addition to existing issues, now there is **new urgency** in the region, as tensions build up due to the Iran-US showdown, Turkey's memorandum of understanding with the Libyan government in Tripoli on maritime boundaries, the still unfolding Syrian debacle and the signing in Athens of an intergovernmental agreement on the East Med gas pipeline.

The complex unfolding issues at hand will be treated in a **holistic approach**. Our intention is to build a **dynamic programme** regarding the East Med opportunities and risks, acting in partnership with key players having a strong interest in turning the Eastern Mediterranean into a region of peace, security, and prosperity, rather than one of tensions and confrontations.

Despite considerable international and regional challenges, East Med gas can conceivably still have a **bright future**. But its success will require pragmatism, realism in expectations, the development of inclusive co-operation arrangements, and the espousal of options that are based on business realities, such as integrated programmes and synergies that would keep costs low. This would require regional states to collaborate truly meaningfully, moving beyond past and present entanglements.

To discuss all these issues, as can be seen from the list below, some **major stakeholders** in and from the region have already been invited, including states, companies, financiers, international organisations and think-tanks; other key players are also currently in the process of being engaged.

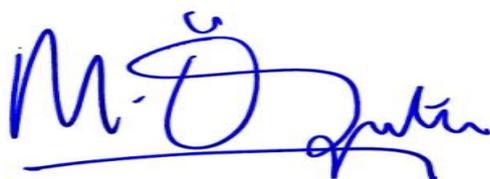
The deliberations will be kicked off by speakers providing a global picture of **different aspects** of the current and anticipated tensions and opportunities in the East Med. This will be followed up by an interactive discussion, under the Chatham House rule, on how to ease geopolitical tensions, create greater certainty for potential investors and lenders, and capture gains for all. Ultimately, the aim is to develop some **key messages and proposed actions** for our business and government leaders.

We are also sending herewith both a copy of The London Energy Club's planned **2020 other meetings' programme**, so that you mark your diary, and details of our membership package.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a happy New Year from all of us.

We look forward to your participation and support for this programme.

Kind regards,



Mehmet Ogutcu  
Executive Chair, LEC



Harry Tzimitras  
Director, PRIO Cyprus Centre

## Venue: The Travellers Club, 106 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5EP

Drinks: 18:30 pm

Start: 19:00 and Finish: 21:30 pm

### Setting the scene

- **Mehmet Ogutcu**, Executive Chair, The London Energy Club
- **Harry Tzimitras**, Director, Prio, Cyprus

### Discussants

- **Charles Ellinas**, CEO, Cyprus Natural Hydrocarbons Company Ltd
- **John Roberts**, Senior Fellow, The Atlantic Council
- **Ümit Yalçın**, Turkish Ambassador to the UK (and former undersecretary of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- **Binyamin (Bini) Zomer**, Country Manager, Noble Energy, Israel

### Invited Participants

- **Mohammed Al Thani**, former Minister of Industry and Economy, Qatar
- **Dimitris Caramitsosd-Tziras**, Ambassador of Greece to the UK
- **Bob Dastmalchi**, Vice-President, Chevron
- **Heiko Harmgart**, Managing Director Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- **Mazen Homoud**, former Jordanian Ambassador to the UK
- **Adel Tarek Ahmed Ibrahim**, Ambassador of Egypt to the UK
- **Sohbet Karbuz**, Director for Hydrocarbons, Mediterranean Observatory for Energy, Paris
- **Andreas Kakouris**, High Commissioner of Cyprus to the UK
- **Sir Michael Leigh**, Senior Fellow, GMF Brussels
- **Gianluca Lufino**, Vice President, Business Development - Central Asia, Worley Parsons
- **Marco Margheri**, Director, Institutional Affairs, Edison
- **Olivier Musset**, Global Head of Energy, Société Générale
- **Mark Regev**, Ambassador of Israel to the UK
- **Urban Rusnák**, Secretary-General, International Energy Charter
- **Arne Walther**, Former Chairman, IEA Governing Board, and Former Secretary-General, International Energy Forum
- **Chris Adams**, Partner, Hakluyt
- **Robert Wood Johnson**, Ambassador of the United States to the UK

## Topics for Discussion

- An update of oil & gas prospects, and pipelines/LNG options in the Eastern Mediterranean by companies involved.
- A changing strategic geometry and security dimensions of the Eastern Mediterranean tensions.
- What do we expect to happen in Libya with two governments and their supporters pursuing different agendas?
- Investment and market outlook: Financial resources and demand remaining challenges.
- How far has the East Med Natural Gas Forum worked in expanding opportunities for co-operation in the region?
- How can Turkey be better included in, and engaged with, the East Med dialogue and partnership?
- Next practical steps to consider.