

# THE FUTURE OF EU DEFENCE INTEGRATION POST-BREXIT

by Dr David Garcia Cantalapiedra

7 September 2017 (Thursday) | 2.30 pm – 4 pm | CIT Auditorium

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**(by 6 September 2017, 10am)**

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## Abstract

The 2016 EU Global Strategy draw a new structure and vision for the future of EU integration regarding the European Union's global role in response to ongoing changes in the International Order and also to the problems in the EU's periphery coming from the crisis in Ukraine and in the North Africa and Middle East. However, the decision by the United Kingdom to leave the EU has created a new scenario for European integration and European security.

The UK probably accounts for 25% of the EU's military capability, and is a solid actor in terms of intelligence capabilities and power projection. How would Brexit impact the vision of EU as a global actor? Despite the difficulties within the EU to create a defense capability of their own (due to the different sensibilities and interests among pro-NATO, pro-European, and also "neutrals" states), the EU institutions had already launched a set of initiatives in 2016 as the Implementation Plan on Security and Defence, a European Defence Action Plan, and a joint NATO-EU declaration. From this point, Brexit, and the unpredictability of President Trump has actually provided an impetus for the EU to look seriously into achieving "strategic autonomy" in its security and defence. However, despite the efforts in 2017 to reflect on the future of European defence, the EU and the Member States still face a deteriorating security environment and differences remain with regards to the problems of territorial defense, security and power projection.

## About the Speaker

Dr David Garcia Cantalapiedra is Associate Professor, Department of International Law and International Relations at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM). He also teaches at the Spanish Foreign Service School and at the Joint Staff Course, Spanish Armed Forces School (ESFAS).

Before his current position, he worked as Senior Analyst, for the Royal Elcano Institute 2007-2009, and from 2010-2011, for NATO in Afghanistan and on NATO Nuclear Posture. His recent publications include Contemporary Spanish Foreign Policy (author and co-editor with Ramón Pacheco.) Routledge. 2014; Aliados. Las relaciones transatlánticas en el siglo XXI. Ed Plaza y Valdés. Madrid and México. 2015. (co-author with Ruben Herrero de Castro); "El Norte de África y el Sahel en la Estrategia Global de Seguridad Europea de 2016" (with Raquel Barras). Revista UNISCI/UNISCI Journal, n° 42 (Octubre 2016).

