On Behalf of Chairman Larry Hochberg: <u>important news from Friends of ELNET</u>

Dear Supporters,

FRIENDS OF ELNE

Friends of ELNET and the ELNET organization are pleased to let you know of several important, exciting personnel and Board of Director changes that will be taking place shortly.

Mr. Eran Etzion, who has been the Executive Director of our Forum of Strategic Dialogue (FSD) program for the last 4 ½ years, will be leaving the FSD to engage in a new political movement in Israel. Eran played a central role in building the FSD and turning it into a major part of our network. He guided the FSD to higher professional levels while gaining the respect and appreciation of senior European and Israeli policy makers. During his tenure, the Strategic Dialogue (SD) concept has grown to encompass new activities, partners and countries using innovative models such as the Mini SD, the upcoming Trilateral Dialogue (Europe-Israel-USA), the EU dialogue on regional Middle East cooperation, the new dialogue on Africa, plus exciting new programs in Italy and Spain. Eran brought new world class partners to the table, including Chatham House in the UK, as well as other institutions. His personal leadership and role in the

dialogues were invaluable. He was a warm host while at the same time prodded the participants to reach beyond their comfort zones.

Brigadier General Michael Herzog (Ret.) will now be leading much of the FSD agenda, together with Ms. Pascaline Wagemans who is the FSD Deputy Director with a long record of achievement. General Herzog is a renowned expert on Middle East policy issues including Iran, Syria, Israel's relations with the Palestinians and the Arab States, and other Middle East strategic and diplomatic issues. He has been a leading figure in the Arab-Israeli peace process, participating in most of Israel's negotiations with the Palestinians, Jordanians, and Syrians, including at the Wye Plantation summit, Camp David summit, the Taba negotiations, and the Annapolis summit and the 2013-2014 round of negotiations with Secretary John Kerry. He has served as Chief of Staff to Israel's Minister of Defense and head of the Strategic Planning Division of the Israel Defense Force (IDF).

Mr. Andreas Hinterhauser is stepping down as Chairman of the Board of ELNET-Germany after over 5 years of service in that role. He has provided solid and helpful guidance in our formative years. ELNET is grateful for his dedication and success. **Mr. Thomas Kessler**, partner at Herbert, Smith, Freehills will act as Chairman of ELNET-Germany going forward. His reputation as an attorney and his dedication to the cause of the German-Israeli community will be a big asset to us.

Current ELNET-Germany Executive Director, **Daniele Nati**, will be leaving the organization October 5th. We thank Daniele for his years of devoted service to the organization. Under his watchful eye, ELNET-Germany has instituted many important initiatives which helped ELNET-Germany gain a highly respected reputation as a pro-Israel advocacy organization in Berlin. We wish Daniele great success in his future endeavors.

We want you to be among the first to know that we will soon be announcing a new, highly respected Executive Director for ELNET Germany who will bring experience and energy that will allow ELNET-Germany to increase its profile among leaders in the Government. We will provide further details shortly once final arrangements are concluded.

As serious supporters of our work we wanted to keep you apprised. As always, we would be happy to hear from you should you have any questions.

We hope you will join us and delegations from all our ELNET affiliates in Europe at our FIRST ever groundbreaking **ELNET International Policy Conference** in Paris, France October 7-10, 2018. There will be an array of top level international speakers. Confirmed presenters include:

MK Yair Lapid (Israel), **Dan Meridor** (Israel), **Fulvio Martusciello** (European Parliament),

Elliott Abrams (USA) **Irwin Cotler** (Canada), **Dr. Bruno Tertrais** (France), and many others. There are a few spaces still available and you can register <u>here</u>.

Wishing you the best for you and your family in the coming year. L'shana Tova!

Very truly yours,

Larry J. Hochberg Friends of ELNET Chairman and Co-founder

> To register for: ELNET International Policy Conference October 7-10 in Paris, France click here

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To Support Friends of ELNET, You can donate here

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