Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

On 10 October 2016, the Netherlands Institute of International Relations ‘Clingendael’, in cooperation with the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe (ÖFZ) in Vienna and with the support of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Studies (AIES) in Vienna, the French Institute for International Relations (IFRI) in Paris and the French and Austrian Embassies in The Hague will host a panel discussion. The theme of this discussion is:

“After the Brexit, whither the European Union?”
Exchange of perspectives from France, Austria and the Netherlands

You are cordially invited to participate in this event.

The referendum of June 23th backing the Brexit is a watershed in the history of European integration. The permissive consensus upon which European elites used to rely in the pursuit of European integration has been challenged once more, with unprecedented potency though. The referendum in the UK exposed to bright light the growing dissatisfaction nourished against the EU throughout Europe. It pointed at the EU’s perceived incapacity to respond to the multiple crises it faces, whether economic, political, ideational or security- and migration-related. It certainly marked a new climax in the decade-long rise of Euroscepticism and nationalism in Europe, while underlining the flaws and limitations of the democratic and economic model promoted by the EU both internally and externally. The Brexit not only illustrates these flaws and limitations; it also amplifies them by worsening the political and confidence crisis in the EU, by destabilising the European economy, reinforcing uncertainty and anchoring disintegration in EU narratives.

The panel discussion will focus on the rising EU-related dissatisfaction, of which the Brexit is the latest and most blatant illustration, the echo the referendum found in France, Austria and the Netherlands, and on the broader implications the Brexit may have for the future of the EU, both internally and externally. This topic will be discussed in two sessions. It will be introduced by three panellists. After their introduction, there will be ample room for Q&A and discussion. You will find the programme of the meeting in the attachment to this email.

We would be very honoured if you would be willing to accept our invitation to participate in this event as one of our distinguished guests. The seminar will be held on Monday 10th October 2016 at the Clingendael Institute in The Hague starting at 17.30 hrs.

For registration, please send an email before 5 October to Christine Bakker: cbakker@clingendael.nl. You will receive a confirmation.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the coordinator of this seminar, Christine Bakker (cbakker@clingendael.nl)

We are looking forward to welcoming you at the Clingendael Institute,

Best regards,

Clingendael Institute

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Please visit our website: www.clingendael.nl
Programme

“After the Brexit, whither the European Union?”
Monday 10th October 2016

17.30 Arrival of guests with coffee, tea and sandwiches

18.00 Words of welcome by Jan Rood, senior research fellow at the Clingendael Institute, and by Johannes Kyrle, Secretary General, Austro–French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe

18.15 **Session 1. The Brexit as an acute symptom of European-wide dissatisfaction: resonance in France, Austrian and the Netherlands.**

Moderator: Jan Rood, Senior Research Fellow, Clingendael Institute

Panellists:

- Werner Fasslabend, President AIES
- Vivien Pertusot, Head of IFRI Brussels (tbc)
- Adriaan Schout, Senior Research Fellow/coordinator EU, Clingendael Institute

Followed by Q&A

19.15 Break

19.30 **Session 2. The Brexit as watershed: internal and external implications for the EU**

Moderator: Peter Jankowitsch, former Foreign Minister of Austria

Panellists:

- Yves Bertoncini, Director, Delors Institute
- Johannes Kyrle, Secretary General, Austro–French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe
- Monika Sie Dian Ho, Director of the Clingendael Institute

Followed by Q&A

20.30 Closing of the seminar followed by informal drinks