



## European Bangladesh Forum (Voice of European Bangladeshis)



### "Countering Violent Extremism: Global Context and Bangladeshi Diaspora"

Tuesday, 11 July 2017

Press Club Brussels Europe  
Rue Froissart 95 - 1040 Brussels

14:00      **Registration & Tea/Coffee**

14:30      **First session: Bangladesh & global context**

Chair: **Mr. Ansar Ahmed Ullah**, President, European Bangladesh Forum, UK

Keynote: **Major General (Retired) Abdur Rashid**, Executive Director of the Institute of Conflict, Law & Development Studies (ICLDS), Dhaka

**Dr Elizabeth O’Casey**, Director of Advocacy, International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU), Belgium – *“The role of free expression and secularism in combating violent extremism in Bangladesh and beyond”*

**Mr. Saleem Samad**, senior journalist, an Ashoka fellow (USA) and working with Bangladesh Observer and Special correspondent, the Asian Age, Dhaka

**Mr. Jim Fitzpatrick**, Member of Parliament, Labour Party, U.K.

**Guest of Honour: Mr. Geoffrey Van Orden**, Member of European Parliament, Conservative Party, UK

15:30      **Questions & Answers**

16:00 – 16:15      **Break**

**16:15**                      **Second Session: Impact of Terrorism and what can the Diaspora do**

**Chair: Prof Chetan Bhatt**– Centre for Study of Human Rights, London School of Economics, UK

**Ms. Roberta Bonazzi**, Head of Counter Extremism Project in Brussels & Founder and President of the European Foundation for Democracy, Belgium

**Ms. Emma Achilli**, Front Line Defenders, Belgium (TBC)

**Mr. Thomas Renard**, Senior Research Fellow, Europe in the World, Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations, Belgium - *“Key trends of terrorism in Belgium and Europe”*

**Ms. Amma Asante**, former Member of Parliament, Labour Party, the Netherlands

***Guest of Honour* - Mr. Brando Benifei**, Member of European Parliament, Social-Democratic Party, Italy

**17:15**                      **Questions & Answers**

**17:45**                      **Summing up & Concluding Remarks**

**Vote of thanks:** Mr. M. M Murshed, Coordinator, Brussels Dhaka Peace Committee

**18:00**                      **Reception-Dinner/Networking**