



Latvian Presidency
of the Council of the
European Union



“The shaping of Eastern Europe” Alternative priorities and outcomes

*Conference organised by
the NATO Defense College Foundation
in cooperation with
the NATO Public Diplomacy Division, the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union,
the Balkan Trust for Democracy, and the US Mission to NATO*

ROME, 18th – 19th of May 2015

Venue: *Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Piazzale della Farnesina, 1
Sala delle Conferenze Internazionali*

Draft Agenda

MONDAY, 18TH OF MAY

14,30-15,00 Arrival of participants - Registration

15,00 Welcome remarks

- ❑ **Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo**, President, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome *
- ❑ **Janusz Bojarski**, Commandant, NATO Defense College, Rome *
- ❑ **Benedetto Della Vedova**, Under-secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, Rome *

Opening address

- ❑ **Ivan Vejvoda**, Vice-President, German Marshall Fund, Washington DC *

15,30-17,00

SESSION 1 WHAT KIND OF SECURITY?

The crisis in Ukraine and the attendant Russian annexation of Crimea have objectively challenged previous, often unformulated assumptions. Concepts, practices and situations like buffer areas and frozen conflicts need to be critically reviewed and probably to be reformulated and solved, but following which criteria? Who are the security providers in the area and can they co-operate also by complementing the Readiness Action Plan?

Chair: **Jamie Shea**, Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges, NATO, Brussels *

- **Ian O. Lesser**, Senior Director for Foreign and Security Policy, German Marshall Fund, Brussels *
- **Marcin Zaborowski**, Director, Polish Institute for International Affairs, Warsaw *
- **Rüdiger Lentz**, Director, Aspen Institute Deutschland, Berlin *
- **Alexander I. Nikitin**, Director, Centre for Euro-Atlantic Security, MGIMO University and Chief Researcher, IMEMO Institute, Moscow *

General Discussion

17,15-17,30 Coffee/Tea break

17,30-19,00

SESSION 2 ENERGY SUPPLY AND SECURITY SCENARIOS

What is the degree of interdependence between Russian suppliers and Euro-Atlantic customers, taking into account short and medium term pricing scenarios? What are the prospects of a reorientation of Russian supplies towards China and Japan? How can the Russian energy sector be modernised? In the meantime the shale gas surge in the USA and the creation of a Georgian energy hub can influence significantly the overall picture.

Chair: **Ojars Eriks Kalniņš**, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Parliament, Riga *

- **Alexander Duleba**, Director, Foreign Policy Association, Bratislava *
- **Marco Arcelli**, Director Upstream Gas Division, ENEL, Rome *
- **Christina Lin**, Center for Transatlantic Relations, Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC *
- **Andriy Kobolyev**, Chief Executive Officer, Naftogaz, Kiev *

General discussion

TUESDAY, 19TH OF MAY

9,30 Arrival of participants

9,45-11,15

SESSION 3

CO-OPERATION AMIDST CURRENT CRISES AND FROZEN CONFLICTS?

The paradigm of co-operation in the East European region has to be redefined in order to strengthen stability factors, defuse ongoing crises and prevent future instabilities. Are the existing NATO and EU treaties and bodies adapted to the new realities? Or new links should be created between existing institutions? Which co-operation arrangements can be reinforced and which new ones can be proposed?

Chair: **Leigh Sarty**, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Canada to Russia, Moscow *

- **Jon Fredriksen**, Ambassador, Embassy of Norway to Ukraine, Kiev *
- **Jiri Schneider**, Director of Special Projects, Prague Security Studies Institute (PSSI), Prague *
- **Andrei Tarnea**, Executive Director Aspen Institute Romania, Bucharest *
- **Benoît D’Aboville**, Vice President of the Fondation de la Recherche stratégique, Paris

General Discussion

11,30-11,45 Coffee/Tea break

11,45-13,15

SESSION 4

DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMY: THE INDISPENSABLE COUPLE?

The times of the end of history when it was thought that one political and economic system would solve all problems are gone. Europe is facing a complex dilemma between stagnation and the Angst of mature democracies. The East European context, moreover, is overshadowed by authoritarian regimes or restrictive democracies where economic achievements can be a supporting derivative of politics. Will Eastern Europe chose between an alternative or will it find its third way? What can the European and American contributions be?

Chair: **Istvan Gyarmati**, President, International Centre for Democratic Transition, Budapest *

- **Enzo Quattrocioche**, Secretary General, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, London
- **Toby Vogel**, Senior Associate, Democratization Policy Council, Brussels *
- **Sasha Bezuhanova**, Founder, MoveBG, Sofia *
- **Oded Eran**, Senior Researcher, Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Aviv *

General discussion

13,20-14,30 Light lunch

14,30-16,00

SESSION 5 CAUCASUS: THE INTERPLAY OF OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The Caucasus is the region of Europe with most frozen conflicts and where the effects of the Ukrainian crisis are intertwined with the repercussions of the Near East and Central Asia. It is important to avoid further tensions and negative dynamics, allowing these countries to express their full economic and cultural potential beyond just their role of strategically placed energy suppliers.

Chair: **Amb. Yannis Alexis Zepos**, former Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, Athens *

- **Claude Salhani**, Senior Editor, Trend News Agency, Baku *
- **Janos Herman**, Ambassador, European External Action Service, Tbilisi *
- **Firuz Demir Yamani**, Professor, American University of the Emirates, Dubai *
- **Irina Busygina**, Professor, Moscow State Institute for International Relations, Moscow *

General discussion

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Ivan Vejvoda, Vice-President, German Marshall Fund, Washington DC *

* Confirmed

We thank for the collaboration: SIOI.