

Minsk Dialogue Forum

Eastern Europe: In Search of Security for All

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Minsk Marriott Hotel

Speakers' biographies



Dr. [Wolfgang Sender](#) is the Country Director Belarus of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, a German political think tank. With over 20 years of experience in public policy, public affairs, media relations, policy advice, and security policy he focuses on analyzing, drafting, discussing and implementing communicative change processes with target groups in the political and public sphere. He also has a focus on military sociology. Wolfgang presents regularly at international conferences and workshops with a focus on the Eastern Partnership and publishes on Belarus and Russia. In his PhD thesis Wolfgang analyzed the OSCE election observations with regard to Russia. He has lectured at European Humanities University, Freie Universität Berlin, and Minsk State University. Wolfgang's previous employments included positions in international companies, German government institutions, and the German Parliament. He studied political science, sociology and communications and holds a PhD from Freie Universität Berlin. Wolfgang is a member of several advisory boards in the field of economics, science, and politics.



Vladimir Makei has served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus since August 2012.

In 1993 he graduated from the Austrian Diplomatic Academy. He then served at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Secretary of several departments (Information and Humanitarian Cooperation, Analysis and Forecast, Office of the Minister, State Protocol Service) prior to becoming Deputy Head of the State Protocol Service in 1995.

From 1996 to 1999 Vladimir Makei served as Counselor of the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in the French Republic and represented Belarus in the Council of Europe concurrently. In 2000—2008 he was an Assistant to the President of the Republic of Belarus and from 2008 to 2012 served as the Head of the Administration of the President of the Republic of Belarus.



Sergey Glazyev is a Russian economist, politician, Presidential Adviser on regional economic integration, and a member of the National Fiscal Council of the Bank of Russia. He is also a Doctor of Economics, a Professor, and a member of the Russian Academy of Science since 2008. From 1991 to 1992 he served as the First Vice-Chair of the Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of the Russian Federation and First Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations of Russia.

From 1992 to 1993 Glazyev was the Minister for Foreign Economic Relations of the Russian Federation, and from 1993 to 1995 he was the deputy of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. In 1996 he served as the Head of the Department for Economic Security of the Security Council for several months.

Glazyev was the deputy of the State Duma of I, III, IV convenings. He also was one of the leaders of the electoral bloc Rodina from 2003 to 2004, and a candidate for the presidency of the Russian Federation in 2004.

In November 2008 Sergey Glazyev was appointed to the post of deputy Secretary-General of the Eurasian Economic Community (EURASEC). In February 2009 Glazyev officially accepted the post of the Executive Secretary of the Commission of the Custom Union of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation.

In 2012 Sergey Glazyev was appointed Adviser to the President on the Development of the Integration within the Customs Union and the United Economic Space of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Kazakhstan. Glazyev also became the Representative of the President of the Russian Federation in the National Fiscal Council.



Dr. [Erkki Tuomioja](#) is a Member of Finnish Parliament. From 2000 to 2007 and 2011 to 2015, he served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Finland.

Before becoming a Member of Parliament, Tuomioja was a journalist and also Deputy Mayor in Helsinki. He became a Member of the Finnish Social Democratic Party in 1970-79 and then again from 1991 till the present day.

Between 1991 and 1996, he was also the Vice Chairman of the SDP parliamentary group and was made Chairman in 1996 until 1999. After this, he held the position of Minister of Trade and Industry until 2000 under the government of Paavo Lipponen. Following this, he was made Minister for Foreign Affairs when Tarja Halonen was elected President of Finland till 2007. Erkki Tuomioja has a Ph.D. in political science, B.Sc. in economics and holds a lectureship in political history in the University of Helsinki. He is author of 18 books, including *Europe and the Nordic Fringe* written in English and published in 1991.



Thomas Graham is the Managing Director of Kissinger Associates, Inc., an international consulting firm based in New York.

Previously, Graham was a special assistant to President George W. Bush, a Senior Director for Russia on the National Security Council staff from March 2004 to February 2007, and Director for Russian Affairs on the National Security Council Staff from June 2002 to February 2004. From August 2001 to May 2002, he served as the Associate Director of the policy planning staff of the Department of State.

From 1998-2001, Graham was a Senior Associate in the Russia/Eurasia program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. During this period, he was a frequent commentator on Russian affairs and U.S.-Russian relations. His articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Wall Street Journal*, and in European and Russian publications.

From 1984-1998, he was a Foreign Service officer. His assignments included two tours of duty at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, where he served as head of the political/internal unit and acting political counselor. Between tours in Moscow, he worked on Russian and Soviet affairs on the policy planning staff of the Department of State and as a Policy Assistant in the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy.



Sun Zhuangzhi is Secretary-General at the Center for Shanghai Cooperation Organization Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and Director of the Central Asian Department at the Institute for East European, Russian and Central Asian Studies.

Mr. Sun has been a recipient of the State Council special allowance. He is also a member of the Good Neighbourly Cooperation Committee of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Executive Director of

the Asia-Africa Development and Exchange Society of China, and Executive Director of the China Center for Contemporary World Studies under the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. His research areas include international politics, Central Asian relations and SCO.



Hannes Swoboda is President of the International Institute for Peace and a former Member of the European Parliament.

After studying law and economics at the University of Vienna, Swoboda worked in the Vienna Chamber of Labour (1971–86) and was Director of the Department for Urban Policies and Housing Policy.

Swoboda also held a number of different functions within the Social Democratic Party of Austria (SPÖ). From 1983, he was a member of the municipal council and member of the city council of Vienna. In 1988 he became municipal councillor, regional minister, responsible for urban development, planning, transport and external relations. Swoboda is a member of the federal party executive committee of the SPÖ and the Viennese party executive committee.

Since 1997, Swoboda has been the Vice-President of the European Parliament's delegation for relations with South-East Europe. Much of his parliamentary work is focused on the Balkans - he is Chairman of the Parliamentarian Working Group on Western Balkans -, the Middle East, Turkey and the Maghreb. He was rapporteur for the Accession of Croatia to the European Union. In December 2011 he recommended Croatia's accession to the European Parliament which voted in favor with a great majority. Besides the above-mentioned, Swoboda focuses in his work in the Committee of Foreign Affairs on Central Asia and Russia.

Swoboda was elected as President of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D) in 2012. As a staunch pro-European and a dedicated member of the Social Democratic Party in Austria (SPÖ), he joined the European Parliament right after Austria's accession to the EU and was the leading candidate of the SPÖ in following elections (2004, 2009).

He is known as an engaged parliamentarian having served in 15 committees, 11 delegations and the rapporteur of countless reports. Through his regional focus on Turkey and South-East Europe, central-Asia and Russia, and steady contribution to the fight against political extremism and promoting minority rights, Swoboda is considered to be an expert of European integration.



Jovan Kovačić is the Founder and President of East West Bridge, an international think-tank, a member of the Executive Committee of the Trilateral Commission and Chairman of the Serbian National Group of the Trilateral Commission.

He worked for decades worldwide as a war correspondent for CNN, ABC, NPR, BBC and other major media. He ended his award-winning reporting career as a Reuter's correspondent for ex-Yugoslavia covering the wars from Slovenia in 1991 to Kosovo in 1998. He joined the Office of the High Representative to Bosnia in 1998, as a political advisor in charge of reconstruction and negotiating the safe return of thousands of refugees and DPs. He also played an active role in the pro-democracy movement in Serbia.

Jovan was seconded to OSCE in 2001 in Belgrade as a Media Advisor, to streamline and develop major media outlets. He created and implemented a strategy for transforming the state TV, RTS, into a mainstream PBS.

Jovan is the CEO of GCA Global Communications Associates Ltd, which is helping regional governments, companies and political entities establish better working relationships with Euro-Atlantic structures and vice-versa.. He is also the CEO of Henderson Asset Protection, the Serbian branch of Henderson Risk Ltd of UK. Jovan is also a member of several global foundations and think-tanks and lectures worldwide.



Oleg Kravchenko has served as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus since January 2017.

His work at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus began in 1994, when he was appointed Third secretary of the State Protocol Service.

From 1999 to 2003 he served as Counselor of the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in Sweden with accreditation to Norway and Denmark, prior to becoming Head of the

Division of the Department of Humanitarian Cooperation and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus in 2003.

In 2007 Oleg Kravchenko was appointed Counselor of the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in the United States and in 2008 he became Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Belarus in the United States, a position he held until 2014.

In 2014 Mr. Kravchenko was appointed as Deputy Director of the Americas Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, later becoming Director of the above-mentioned Department.



Volodymyr Khandogyi – President of the Public Organization “Ukrainian Association for Foreign Policy”.

In 1988-1992 he held the post of first secretary of the Permanent Mission of the USSR to the United Nations, and in 1992-1994 he worked as an advisor, deputy permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations, acting permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations.

In 1994-1995 V. Khandogyi was the head of the department of the international organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. In 1995-1998 the politician was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the head of the National Commission of Ukraine for UNESCO.

Subsequently, from 1996 to 1998 he was representing Ukraine in the Executive Council of UNESCO, and in 1998-2000 he was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to Canada and representative of Ukraine to the International Civil Aviation Organization.

From 2000 to 2002, the politician was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

In the period of 2000-2005 Volodymyr Khandogiyi was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine in Belgium and Luxembourg and non-resident head of Ukraine's mission to NATO. From October 2005 to January 2006 he served as the Director of the NATO Department, and in July 2007 became First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

From March to October 2009 V. Khandogiyi was acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. In 2010-2014 he was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.



Vladislav Kulminski is Executive Director of the Moldovan Institute for Strategic Initiatives. Mr. Kulminski was previously the Political Adviser to the Prime Minister of Moldova, on domestic politics and reforms. He was heavily involved in efforts to push reform in a number of areas, including public administration.

Prior to this, he led a Confidence Building Measure program for Moldova and its Transnistrian region, and worked as a Political Advisor to the UK Embassy. He has an M.A. in International Relations and EU studies from the Central European University.



Gwendolyn Sasse has been the Director of the Centre for East European Research and International Studies (Zentrum für Osteuropa- und internationale Studien, ZOiS) since 1st October 2016.

She is a Professor of Comparative Politics at the Department of Politics and International Relations, and at the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, at the University of Oxford, Professorial Fellow at Nuffield College and Non-Resident Senior Fellow at Carnegie Europe. Her academic career

spans the study of history, Slavonic studies and political science at the University of Hamburg and she has an MSc and PhD in political science from the London School of Economics. After gaining her doctorate, she first took up a post as Assistant Professor at the Central European University, and then as Lecturer/Senior Lecturer at the London School of Economics before moving to Oxford in 2007.

Prof Sasse's research interests are post-communist transitions, comparative democratisation, EU eastward enlargement, international conditionality, ethnic and regional conflicts, minority rights, migration in Europe and Ukrainian politics.



Vyacheslav Kholodkov is Head of the International Economic Organizations Department at the Russian Institute for Strategic Studies.

In 1975 Kholodkov graduated from the Institute of National Economy n.a. G. V. Plekhanov. He worked in the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the USSR, the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation, and the Presidential Administration of Russia (executive

office of the Security Council of the Russian Federation). In RISS since August 2011. Kholodkov conducts research in the field of international economic relations, foreign trade, investment. He was twice (1983-1984, 1997-2006) on long-term business trips to Japan as an employee

of the Trade mission of Russia (USSR). His scientific interests include the adaptation of the Russian economy to the conditions of WTO Membership, the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations within the WTO, economic integration in the CIS and BRICS, the internationalization of the ruble, economic relations between Russia and Ukraine, Western sanctions against Russia, trade and economic relations with Japan and other countries of East Asia, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership and the Trans-Pacific Partnership.



Eugene Rumer is a Senior Fellow and Director of the Russia and Eurasia Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Rumer's research focuses on political, economic, and security trends in Russia and former Soviet states, as well as on U.S. policy toward that region.

Prior to joining Carnegie, Rumer was a national intelligence officer for Russia and Eurasia at the U.S. National Intelligence Council from 2010 to 2014. Earlier, he held research appointments at the National Defense University, the International Institute for Strategic Studies, and the RAND Corporation. He has also served on the National Security Council staff and at the State Department, taught at Georgetown University and the George Washington University, and published widely. He holds a BA from Boston University, an MA from Georgetown University, and a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Dirk Schuebel is Head of Division for bilateral relations with the Eastern Partnership countries at the European External Action Service. He has been the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Moldova since November 2009. Before, Dirk Schuebel was the Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Ukraine.

He also previously worked with Hungary from Brussels (helped to bring it into the European Union as political desk officer for Hungary).



Timur Onica is a program officer of the European Foundation for Democracy since January 2015. He manages programs for supporting democracy, civil society and mass media in the countries of Eastern Partnership, including Belarus and Moldova. Prior to joining the EBF, he held positions in UNDP and in the East Europe Foundation.

He received a master's degree in Central European University.



Andrey Devyatkov is a Senior Researcher at the Center for Post-Soviet Studies at the Institute of Economics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and an Associate Professor of the Department of Regional Problems of World Politics at Moscow State University. He holds a Ph.D in History.

From August 2014 to January 2016, he held the position of specialist, and later Head of the Export Center of the Tyumen region under the government of the Tyumen

region. In 2012-2015 he was a visiting researcher at the Center for EU and Russian studies of Tartu University (Estonia), the College of New Europe (Bucharest, Romania), the Fund for Science and Politics (Berlin, Germany), as well as the head of research projects with financial support of the administration of the President of the Russian Federation and the Russian Humanitarian Scientific Fund.

Devyatkov carries out research and expert activities on topics related to political and economic processes in post-soviet countries, in particular: the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict and integration processes within the Republic of Moldova, as well as the foreign policy of Russia, Romania, Germany and the EU in the region.



Tony van der Togt is a Senior Research Fellow at the Clingendael Institute in The Hague. Before joining Clingendael he held different positions in the Dutch Foreign Ministry, both in The Hague and at Dutch representations abroad, dealing with Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Tony van der Togt established the first Netherlands Embassy in Kazakhstan, serving as Chargé d'Affaires a.i. in Almaty from 1995-98. At the Ministry he worked on

Eastern Europe and Central Asia in several functions, including Head of Eastern Europe/Central Asia Division from 2000-2005. He worked at CFSP-department from 1998-2000, including as Acting European Correspondent and was Special Advisor on the OSCE from 2005-2008. More recently, he served as Consul-General in St Petersburg (2008-2011) and as Special Representative for the Netherlands-Russia bilateral year in 2013.

He has published several articles on topics such as Russia and the Eurasian Union, the EU's Eastern Partnership and Dutch-Russian bilateral relations.



Eugene Chausovsky is a Senior Eurasia Analyst at Stratfor who focuses on political, economic and security issues pertaining to the former Soviet Union, Europe and Latin America. He worked as a researcher at the University of Texas, where he focused on Russian demographic trends and their impact on the country's political and electoral systems. He also holds a degree in international relations from the same university.

His areas of expertise include politics, economics and security trends in the former Soviet states; Russia's foreign policy and strategy in the former Soviet periphery; EU and U.S. policy toward the former Soviet states; Sovereignty and integration processes in Europe and the former Soviet states; Economic and political trends in Latin America.



Jörg Radeke is a Managing Economist with Berlin Economics, and an independent economics consultant. He coordinates the project "Economic Policy Dialogue in the Transnistrian Region" which provides economic policy advice to the administration in Tiraspol in order to support them with measures to facilitate trade. Jörg Radeke is also member of the German Economic Team Moldova and the German Advisory Group Ukraine.



Elena Korosteleva is a Professor of International Politics at the University of Kent and Jean Monnet Chair in European Politics, which she received twice in recognition of her research and teaching excellence.

She is co-founder and co-Director of the Global Europe Centre, at the University of Kent, an interdisciplinary and cross-site (Brussels and Canterbury) centre with the focus on Europe's international relations.

Elena is currently Deputy Head of the School of Politics and International Relations at Kent with responsibility for Internationalisation, working on strengthening existing and developing new international partnerships and student recruitment opportunities. Elena Korosteleva is currently Director (Professional Studies) of the Global Europe Centre at the University of Kent, which offers a unique framework for research-led interdisciplinary and cross-site (Brussels and Canterbury) multi-user collaboration.

Elena received her Doctoral Degree in European Politics from the University of Bath (2001), and a PhD equivalent in Political Sociology from the Belarusian State University (1997). Thereafter she served as a British Academy Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow, and is currently a visiting Professor at the Belarusian State University, College of Europe (Natolin, 2015-16), CIFE (2016+) and Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy (2016+). Elena is member of the International Advisory Board for the GLOBSEC and Central European Strategy Council; Professorial Fellow of the Dahrendorf Forum at LSE IDEAS, and member of BASEES executive committee. Elena works closely with the European Commission, EEAS, IRI, and national governments of the Eastern region and Central Asia; and is a regular media commentator for BBC, ITV, France24 and Sky News.

Elena's research interests include the concepts of governance/governmentality, capacity-building, resilience, peoplehood and democracy promotion; EU Global Security Strategy and Foreign Policies (ENP/EaP) including relations with Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



Dr. [Hanna Shelest](#) is Editor-in-chief of UA: Ukraine Analytica, a member of the Board at the Foreign Policy Council "Ukrainian Prism" and curator of the Ukrainian Peacebuilding School. Previously Shelest served as a Senior Researcher at Odessa branch of the National Institute for Strategic Studies and a Visiting Research Fellow at the NATO Defence College (Italy). She has a PhD in International Relations, specializing in conflict resolution and security issues. She has more than 50 academic and more than 100 media articles on conflicts and security. Shelest is a Rotary Peace Fellow (2010), a John Smith Fellow (2012) and a Marshall Memorial Fellow (2016).



[Sergey Markedonov](#) is an Associate Professor at the Department of Foreign Regional Studies and Foreign Policy of the Russian State Humanitarian University. Also he is an expert at the Russian Council on International Affairs and the Gorchakov Foundation. He holds a Ph.D in History. In 1998-2001 he was a Senior Lecturer of the Rostov State Pedagogical University and the Rostov Regional Institute of Retraining of Educators, as well as the Chief specialist of the Press Service of the Governor of the Rostov region. From 2006 to 2010 he was an Associate Professor of the Faculty of World Politics of Lomonosov Moscow State University and of the Department of National History of Modern times of the Russian State Humanitarian University. From 2009-2010 he served as Head of the Department and Deputy Director of the Institute for Political and Military analysis. In 2010-2013 he was a visiting research fellow at the Center for Strategic and International studies of the program "Russia and Eurasia" (Washington, DC, USA).



[Jana Kobzova](#) is Policy Director at Rasmussen Global. Before joining RG, she worked as a Senior Programme Officer for an international NGO, the European Endowment for Democracy, where she oversaw the organisation's programming in the Eastern Partnership region.

Before moving to Brussels in September 2013, Jana was a policy fellow and coordinator at the Wider Europe programme at ECFR's London office, where she wrote policy reports on the EU's relations with its eastern neighbours including Russia, worked on increasing ECFR's profile in the area, and expanding the Wider Europe programme's activities. Between 2006 and 2009 she led the Belarus democratisation programme at the Pontis Foundation in Slovakia.

Jana has an MA in Politics, Security and Integration from the School of East European and Slavonic Studies at University College London and an MA in Political Science from the Comenius University in Slovakia.

She has co-authored several books on Eastern Europe and the EU's eastern neighbourhood policy and continues to write about the subject as an Associate Fellow at ECFR. Her research interests include the EU's foreign policy towards the Eastern Partnership countries and Russia, as well as democratisation and transition in the post-Soviet space.



[Andrew Wilson](#) is a Professor in Ukrainian Studies at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies at University College London and a Senior Policy Fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations.

As well as Ukraine, Andrew's area of expertise is the comparative politics of democratisation in the post-Soviet states and political technology.



Vladimir Socor is a Senior Fellow of the Washington-based Jamestown Foundation and its flagship publication, Eurasia Daily Monitor (1995 to date), where he writes analytical articles on a daily basis. He is an internationally recognized expert on the former Soviet-ruled countries in Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia, and covers Russian and Western policies, focusing on energy policies, regional security issues, secessionist conflicts, and NATO policies and programs.

Mr. Socor is a frequent speaker at U.S. and European policy conferences and think-tank institutions. He is a regular guest lecturer at the NATO Defense College and at Harvard University's National Security Program's Black Sea Program (JFKennedy School of Government). He is also a frequent contributor to edited volumes. Vladimir Socor was previously an analyst with the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Research Institute (1983-1994). He is a Romanian-born citizen of the United States based in Munich, Germany.



Balázs Jarábik is a nonresident scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, where his research focuses on Eastern and Central Europe, with particular focus on Ukraine. Jarábik worked with Pact, Inc. in Kyiv, Ukraine to build its presence as one of the largest international nongovernmental organizations in Eastern Europe, and later served as Project Director for Pact in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Prior to joining Carnegie, Jarábik was an Associate Fellow at FRIDE in Madrid and Senior Fellow at the Central European Policy Institute in Bratislava. He was a civic activist in Slovakia in the 1990s, and he later co-founded the Bratislava-based Pontis

Foundation's international development projects in the Balkans and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

He also worked as a consultant for political parties and civil society organizations in the Balkans and CIS countries, as well as an adviser with wide range of international, governmental, and parliamentary institutions.



Sir [Roderic Lyne](#) is an Adviser to the Russia and Eurasia Programme at Chatham House.

He was a member of the British Diplomatic Service from 1970 to 2004. From 1990 to 1993 he was Head of the Soviet and then Eastern Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and from 1987 to 1990 Head of Chancery at the British Embassy in Moscow. In his earlier career he served in the Soviet Union, Senegal and at the UK Mission to the United Nations in New York, as well as in the Soviet and Rhodesian departments of the Foreign Office and as Assistant Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary.

He served as British Ambassador to the Russian Federation from 2000 to 2004; UK Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organisation, the UN and other international organisations in Geneva from 1997 to 2000; and Private Secretary to the Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Northern Ireland from 1993 to 1996.

Roderic Lyne is a Governor of the Ditchley Foundation; Chairman-designate of the Board of Governors of Kingston University; and a non-executive director of Petropavlovsk plc (formerly Peter Hambro Mining). He is a member of the committee of Privy Councillors conducting the Iraq Inquiry; and has served as a Special Adviser to leading global corporations including HSBC, BP and JP Morgan. Roderic Lyne was Deputy Chairman of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) from 2009 to 2016.



Alexander Iskandaryan is the Director of the Caucasus Institute (Yerevan), which he has headed since 2005. He was previously its Vice-Director for Research (2002–2005). The institute engages in research, conducts conferences, publishes books and research papers.

His areas of scientific interest include ethnopolitical conflicts, post-Communist transformations and nation building in the former USSR in general, and in the Caucasus in particular.

He has published and spoken on the emergence of post-Soviet institutions, elites and identities; he has also conducted and supervised research on conflicts, migrations, discourses, media development and cross-border integration. Iskandaryan lectures on Political Science at the Caucasus Institute and other universities in Armenia. He is also a popular political commentator on television and other types of media.



Andrey Sushentsov is a Program Director of the Valdai discussion club. He is also an Associate Professor of the Chair of applied analysis of international problems, MGIMO-University and holds a Ph.D in History.

Since January 2014 he has been a Head of the analytical agency "Foreign policy". Since September 2014 he has been a Program Director of the Foundation for development and support of MDK "Valdai".

In 2005 he graduated with honors from the History Department of Lomonosov Moscow State University, and in 2010 he completed postgraduate studies at MGIMO. His publications are devoted to the US foreign policy in the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, Russian-American relations and Russia's policy in relations with Georgia and Ukraine.

Andrey Sushentsov was a visiting researcher at Georgetown University (2007), Johns Hopkins University (2008) (Washington, DC, USA). He also

was a visiting Professor at the Free University of International Studies, Guido Carli, Rome (2013), Armenian State University of Economics (2014). He is a fellow of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (2015). He is also a Visiting Professor at the Davis Center at the School of Public Administration at Harvard University (Cambridge, USA) (2016) and at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (Monterey, USA) (2017).

Since 2006 he has been working at MGIMO and in the MFA of Russia on scientific-analytical, teaching and administrative work. From 2011-2012 he was an assistant to the First Vice-Rector of MGIMO.

He is a member of the International Studies Association (USA) and a member of the Working group on the future of Russian-American relations.



Dr. [Valbona Zeneli](#) is a Professor of Security Studies and Director of the Black Sea and Eurasia Program at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies. Previously she also served as deputy director for the Central and Southeast Europe program.

Dr. Zeneli is member of the teaching faculty for the Program in Applied Security Studies (PASS), the Program on Countering Narcotics and Illicit Trafficking (CNIT), the Program on Cyber Security Studies (PCSS), the Senior Executive Seminar (SES), and the Seminar on Regional Security (SRS). She is also involved with Partnership for Peace Consortium of Defense Academies and Security Studies Institutes as a member of the working group on Southeast Europe, and of the security sector reform working group. Before joining the GCMC, Dr. Zeneli was a Professor of International Economics at the European University of Tirana from 2009-2011 and an Associate Professor at the New York University of Tirana from 2006-2011. From 2003-2005, Dr. Zeneli served as Chief of Protocol, and later as Economic Adviser, to the Albanian Prime Minister. Prior to that, she worked as an adviser to the Minister of Economy of Albania from 2002-2003. She has also advised companies on marketing and international relations in the private sector.

Dr. Zeneli holds a PhD in political economy from the University of Studies "Aldo Moro", Bari, Italy (2011). Valbona Zeneli has published

numerous papers and book chapters and is a frequent contributor to international leading magazines, such as *The Diplomat*, *The Globalist*, *Atlantic Community*, among others. Her research interests extend to various issues of European and Transatlantic security, with an emphasis on Eastern and Southeastern Europe, economic security, international trade and development, good governance and anticorruption, and security sector reform.



Paul Révay is a member of the Board of Trustees of Friends of Europe, a “Think and Do Tank” in Brussels after having served the Trilateral Commission as its European Director from 1981 to 2017. He graduated from Sciences-Po Paris, the Institut d’Études Politiques, and the Faculty of Law of the University of Paris II. He was actively engaged from 1996 to 2017 with the Lisbon-based Fundação Oriente organizing its annual Arrabida Meetings.

From 1994-2000, he coordinated the “Informal Advisory Group” set up in Geneva by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

In 1978 he joined the Foreign Trade Board of the French Government (CFCE) involved, as a Senior Research Officer, in assisting French exporting companies to the (then) centrally-planned economies of the COMECON countries and was appointed desk manager for Yugoslavia-Albania-China.

In 1995-1996, he participated in European Union TACIS projects on technical assistance (institution-building) to the Executive Secretariat and to the Inter-State Economic Committee (MEK) of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in Minsk and in Moscow. Between 1980 and 1996, he was Secretary General of the French Committee of the East-West Vienna International Council and, in 1994-1996, a member and Treasurer of the French Business Association for the World UN Social Summit (BUSCO) as well as in 1989-92 Secretary General of an East-West project on creating a Management Institute for Training in Europe (MITIE).



Tatiana Romanova is an Associate Professor of the Chair of European studies of the St. Petersburg State University (SPBU), Head of the J. Monne Excellence center, and holds a Ph.D in History.

In 2000 she graduated with honors from the Faculty of International Relations of St. Petersburg State University. In 2001 she received a master's degree in European politics and administration from the College of Europe, Belgium.

In 1999-2000 she worked in the Committee for External Relations of St. Petersburg Administration. In 2001 she worked at the Directorate of Transport and Energy of the European Commission (Belgium). Since 2002 she has been working at the Department of European studies of the Faculty of International Relations of St. Petersburg State University. Since 2011 she was a member of the Board of the Association of European Studies, Head of the J. Monnet center (opened in the Department of European studies).

Her scientific interests include the relations between Russia and the European Union, especially in the economic field and energy, as well as problems of legal harmonization between Russia and the European Union, research of problems of development of the European Union at the present stage, including the issues of legal development, competition law, energy policy, transport, problems of free movement of people.



Alexander Lukashenko is a Belarusian politician and statesman, the current President of the Republic of Belarus from July 20, 1994.

In 1990 he was elected member of the parliament of the Republic of Belarus. He led the the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus commission for examining the operation of commercial entities established under the auspices of state administration bodies.

On 10 July 1994, after a difficult election campaign involving five other candidates, Alexander Lukashenko was elected President of the Republic of Belarus. He won 80.3% of the vote.

On 9 September 2001 Alexander Lukashenko was re-elected President of the Republic of Belarus with 75.6% of the vote.

On 19 March 2006 he was elected President of the Republic of Belarus for the third term with 83% of the vote.

On 19 December 2010 Alexander Lukashenko secured a convincing victory at the presidential election and was re-elected President of Belarus with 79.6% of the vote.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Belarus, Head of the Security Council of the Republic of Belarus.

The President of the National Olympic Committee of Belarus.

In 1997 he was elected Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Union of Belarus and Russia. In January 2000 he became Chairman of the Supreme State Council of the Union State.

In 2005-2006 and in 2008 he was the Chairman of the Interstate Council of the Eurasian Economic Community.



Ambassador [Thomas Greminger](#) is the Secretary General of the OSCE.

Ambassador Greminger joined the diplomatic service of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) in 1990 and has held numerous senior management positions during his career. Prior to his appointment as OSCE Secretary General, he was Deputy Director General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, overseeing an annual budget of USD 730 million and 900 staff in Bern and abroad.

From 2010 to 2015, Greminger was the Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the OSCE, serving as Chair of the Permanent Council during Switzerland's 2014 OSCE Chairmanship. Prior to his assignment at the Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to the OSCE, Greminger was Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs' Human Security Division, Switzerland's competence centre for peace, human rights, and humanitarian and migration policy.

Thomas Greminger holds a PhD in history from the University of Zurich and the rank of Lieutenant Colonel (General Staff) in the Swiss Armed Forces. He has authored a number of publications on military history, conflict management, peacekeeping, development and human rights. In 2012, he was awarded the OSCE white ribbon for his long-standing support for gender equality.



James Appathurai is the Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy and NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia.

Prior to that he was Deputy Head and Senior Planning Officer in the Political Affairs Division of NATO and NATO's Spokesman.

A graduate of Political Science and History Departments at the University of Toronto, he then studied International Relations at the University of Amsterdam, where he defended his M.A. thesis in 1993.

Before joining NATO he worked as a Policy Officer in the Canadian Department of National Defence in Ottawa and as an Editorial Assistant for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in Toronto. He has published articles and book chapters on security issues including NATO, peacekeeping, Euro-Atlantic and regional security cooperation.



Nikolai Bordyuzha is a Russian general and politician.

From 1989 to 1991 he was Head of KGB Human Resources, and from 1992 to 1998 served as First Deputy Chief and later Chief of Russia's Federal Border Guard Service. On 7 December 1998 he was appointed Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, and also Chief of the Presidential Administration

of Russia. He served in this position until 18 March 1999. In April-May 1999 he was Chairman of the State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation, and in July-December 1999 the Ambassador-at-Large of the Russian Foreign Ministry. From 1999 to 2003 Bordyuzha served as Russian ambassador to Denmark. From 2003 to 2017 he held the position of Secretary General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization.



Ambassador [Maira Mora](#) serves as Director General of the permanent Secretariat of the Council of the Baltic Sea States with its seat in Stockholm, Sweden.

From 2011 to 2015, she was Head of the EU Delegation in Belarus within the European External Action Service.

Before this, she has held the position of Ambassador at Large, Head of the Policy Planning Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia from 2010 to 2011. Prior to this, she was

Ambassador of the Republic of Latvia to Belarus from 2004 to 2010 and to Lithuania from 2000 to 2004.

Within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, she worked as Counsellor and Acting Head of the Policy Planning Group after working for two years in Vienna as the Deputy Head of Latvian Delegation to the OSCE.

Alongside her native Latvian, Maira Mora is fluent in English, Russian, French, German, and has knowledge of Italian, Belarusian and Lithuanian and did translations into Latvian such as Henry Kissinger's "Diplomacy" (2001).



Christine Muttonen was the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (2016-2017).

Christine Muttonen was elected OSCE PA President at the 2016 Annual Session in Tbilisi and re-elected on 9 July 2017 in Minsk. Following the 15 October 2017 legislative elections in Austria she stepped down as Assembly President on 9 November.

Among the priorities of her presidency were women's empowerment in international politics, the security implications of climate change, the use of culture as a peace-building tool, and pursuing closer relations with OSCE Partners for Co-operation. She also advocated for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, as well as strengthening the contribution of parliamentarians to the activities of the OSCE family.

Before becoming Assembly President, Muttonen had served as Vice-President of the Assembly and as Special Representative for Central and Eastern Asia. She was also Deputy Head of the Austrian Delegation to the PA.



Yauheni Preiherman is Head of the Minsk Dialogue Track-II initiative.

Yauheni Preiherman's main research interests include the foreign policies of small states, international affairs in Eastern Europe, and Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security.

He is a regular contributor to the Eurasia Daily Monitor by the Jamestown Foundation (USA) and other Belarusian and international publications. Yauheni is a member of several professional and alumni networks, including the Younger Generation Leaders Network on Euro-Atlantic Security (YGLN), the Chevening alumni network, and the British International Studies Association (BISA). He is also Chairman of Board at the Discussion and Analytical Society Liberal Club (Minsk).

Yauheni holds a BA in International Relations from the Belarusian State University, an MA in European Politics from Sussex University (UK), and is currently pursuing a PhD in Politics and International Studies at Warwick University (UK). His PhD thesis deals with foreign policy strategies of small states, which are stuck amid geostrategic asymmetries.



Samuel Charap is Senior Political Scientist at the RAND Corporation, in Washington, DC.

From November 2012 until April 2017, Charap was a Senior Fellow for Russia and Eurasia at the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Prior to joining the IISS, he served at the U.S. Department of State as Senior Advisor to the Undersecretary for Arms Control and International Security and on the Secretary's Policy Planning Staff, covering Russia and Eurasia. From 2009-2011,

Charap was Director for Russia and Eurasia at the

Center for American Progress.

Charap was a visiting scholar at the Carnegie Moscow Center and the International Center for Policy Studies (Kyiv), and a Fulbright Scholar at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. Charap holds a Ph.D. in political science and an M.Phil. in Russian and East European studies from the University of Oxford, where he was a Marshall Scholar. He received his B.A. in Russian and Political Science from Amherst College.

His research interests include the political economy and foreign policies of Russia and the former Soviet states; European and Eurasian regional security; and US-Russia deterrence, strategic stability and arms control. Charap's articles have appeared in *The Washington Quarterly*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Survival*, *Current History*, the *International Herald Tribune*, the *Moscow Times* and several other journals. His commentary has appeared in numerous news outlets, including the BBC, Reuters TV, and NPR.



Dr. [Andrei Zagorskiy](#) is Head of the IMEMO Department of Arms Control and Conflict Resolution Studies, and a Professor of International Relations at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO-University).

In 1992—1999, he served as the Vice Rector of the MGIMO-University. In 1999—2001, he worked for the EastWest Institute as the Senior Vice President, Director of the International Security Program and Project

Director. He has been involved in the CSCE/OSCE studies at MGIMO since the early 1980s and, in 1987—1991, served as external advisor to a number of Soviet CSCE delegations. In 2005, he provided his expertise to the OSCE Panel of Eminent Persons. Since 1995, he has been the co-editor of the OSCE Yearbook. He is also member of the editorial board of the Security and Human Rights Journal (former Helsinki Monitor). Since the late 1990s, he has been a permanent participant to the annual Focus on the OSCE conference held in Geneva.

His areas of expertise include European security, arms control, post-Soviet studies, Arctic studies, conflict resolution and negotiations studies.



[Oleksiy Semeniy](#) is Director of Institute for Global Transformations (Kyiv).

He graduated from the Institute of International relations at Kyiv T. Shevchenko National University and Carl Friedrich Goerdeler College for Good governance (Berlin, Germany). He wrote his PhD thesis at Wilhelms Westphalia University of Muenster (Germany). Later he worked at the German Bundestag in the framework of International Parliamentary Scholarship (IPS).

His professional experience includes positions in the Foreign Policy Department of the Presidential Administration of Ukraine, an employee of a legal department at one of the largest Ukrainian

financial-industrial groups, an associate expert at the International Centre for Policy Studies (Kyiv) and Deputy Director of United World foundation (Kyiv).

Since January 2013 he has been the Director of Institute for Global Transformations (Kyiv).

Dr. Semenyi is a member of Younger Generation Leaders Network on Euro-Atlantic Security, the Munich Young Leaders network, the EASI Next Generation project, and a member of IISS-FES working group "Scenarios for Ukraine until 2030". He was also a member of the Transnistria Task Force.



Reinhard Krumm is Head of the Regional Office for Cooperation and Peace in Europe (ROCPE) of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Vienna.

Dr. Reinhard Krumm got his MA in Russian History from the University of Hamburg in 1989, and his PhD from Regensburg University, Germany in 2003, where he has been a lecturer on Russian History since 2008. He holds an honoree professorship from the department of Political Science at Moscow State University. From 1991 to 1998 he worked as a journalist in the former Soviet Union, as the Moscow correspondent of Der Spiegel magazine from 1996 to 1998.

He joined the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in 2002, serving as the Head of the Regional Central Asian office in Tashkent/Uzbekistan from 2003 to 2007, as the Head of the Russian office in Moscow from 2007 to 2012 and from 2012 to 2016 as the Head of the Department of Central and Eastern Europe in Berlin. Currently he is heading the newly established Regional Office for Cooperation and Peace in Europe, based in Vienna.



Werner Fasslabend is the President of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES).

After being elected to various councils in his hometown Marchegg and in the Province of Lower Austria, he was nominated by the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP, Österreichische Volkspartei) as a Representative to the Lower House (Member of Parliament) in 1987.

From December 1990 until February 2000 he was Federal Minister of Defence and thus became the longest serving Minister of Defence in the history of the Republic of Austria. During his tenure he initiated far-reaching reform in the Ministry and adapted the organisation of armed forces to the new threat scenario. He also strongly supported Austria's active participation in the formulation of the future European security policy and organised the first meeting of EU-Ministers of Defence in 1998. Furthermore, he founded the Central European Cooperation in Peace-keeping (CENCOOP) in 1997.

From 2000 until 2002 he was the 3rd president of the Austrian parliament. From the 11th of January 1997 until the 11th of October 2003 he held the position of the Chairman of the Austrian Workers and Employees Association in the Austrian People's Party.

From October 2004 – September 2015 he served as President of the Political Academy (PolAk) of the Austrian People's Party.

Alongside being the President of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES) he is President of the Austrian-Slovak-Society and Head of the Austrian-Iranian Society. He is also Head of the Academic Council of the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies in Brussels.



[Łukasz Kulesa](#) is Research Director at the European Leadership Network.

His interests include non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, Russian security policy, NATO, nuclear and conventional deterrence, the role of missile defence, and the future of arms control.

Previously, he worked as the Head of the Non-proliferation and Arms Control Project at the Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), and between 2010–2012 as Deputy Director of the Strategic Analyses Department at the National Security Bureau, a body providing aid and support to the President of the Republic of Poland in executing security and defence tasks.

Łukasz is a graduate of the Law Department of the Jagiellonian University (Cracow). He holds a Master of Arts degree in International Relations and European Studies from the Central European University (Budapest).



[Aliaksander Alesin](#) is a journalist, economic and military correspondent of the newspaper "Belarusians and the Market", a permanent expert of the Belarusian service "Radio Liberty", of an Internet newspaper "Belarusian News", etc. Alesin specializes in the sphere of military analysis. He was graduated from Belarusian State University in 1968.



Sir [Adam Thomson](#) has been the Director of the European Leadership Network since November 2016.

Before joining the ELN Sir Adam had a 38 year diplomatic career in the British Diplomatic Service, preceded by short spells at the World Bank and at Harvard. His final diplomatic posting was as the UK Permanent Representative to NATO between 2014 and 2016. Prior to that, from 2010 Sir Adam served as British High Commissioner to Pakistan and between 2002 and 2006 he was British Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. Earlier postings included Moscow, NATO, Washington DC and New Delhi. Sir Adam has also worked in London on Israel/Lebanon, in the Cabinet Office as the Soviet analyst for the UK's Joint Intelligence Committee (1989 – 91), as the Head of the FCO's Security Policy Department and as FCO Director for South Asia and Afghanistan.



Dr. [Valery Varanetsky](#) serves as Chairman of the Standing Committee on International Affairs of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of Belarus. He has a PhD in economics, and has previously served as Foreign Policy Advisor to the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Belarus; Adviser to the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in the Kingdom of Belgium; Head of the Foreign Policy Department of the Administration of the President of the Republic of Belarus; Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Belarus to the Slovak Republic; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus; Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Belarus to the Republic of Austria with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Croatia; Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus to the International Organizations in

Vienna; Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus to the OSCE.



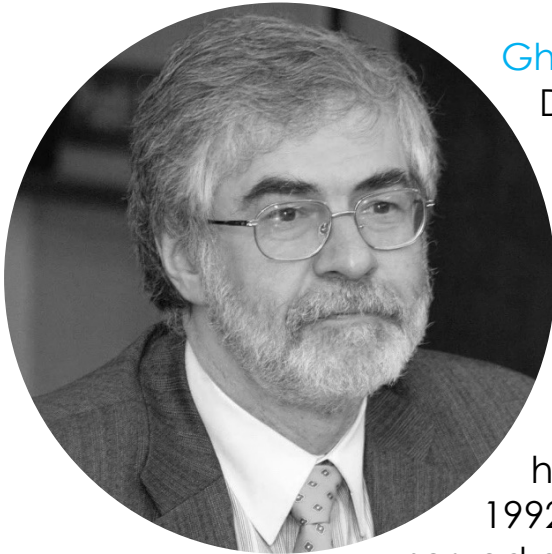
Omid Nouripour is a German politician of the Alliance '90/The Greens who currently serves as a member of the Bundestag, representing the state of Hesse. He has been a member of the German federal parliament since 2006. He chairs the Green Party caucus in the Defence Committee and is the party's spokesman on defence and security. He has been a member of the Green Party (Alliance '90/The Greens) since 1996, serving on the managing board (2002–2006). Until 2009 he was also spokesperson for the Green's Federal Working Committee on Migrants and Refugees.

In addition to his committee, Nouripour has been chairing the German-Ukrainian Parliamentary Friendship Group since 2018. He previously served as deputy chairman of the German-US Parliamentary Friendship Group and the German-Indian Parliamentary Friendship Group.



Dr. **Thomas M. Buchsbaum** is an Austrian career diplomat and currently Special Envoy on Eastern Partnership of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Integration, Europe and Foreign Affairs. Born in Vienna, he graduated from Vienna and Cambridge universities and undertook post-graduate research in Paris, London and The Hague. He previously served as Austrian Ambassador to Poland and Iran and also at Austrian Embassies in Damascus, Budapest, Algiers, New Delhi, and Tokyo, as well as twice at the Austrian Mission to OSCE and as special advisor to the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe. He has published on the

OSCE, the Council of Europe, (e-)democracy, (e-)voting and Roma issues.



Ghia Nodia is a Professor of politics and the Director of the International School of Caucasus Studies in Ilia Chavchavadze State University in Tbilisi, Georgia. He is also a founder of the Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development (CIPDD), an independent public policy think tank in Tbilisi and member of the Forum's NDRI think tank network, which he has led since August 2009 and between 1992-2008. From February–December 2008, he served as the Minister for Education and Science of Georgia. Prof. Nodia has published extensively on democratization, state-building, security, and conflicts in Georgia and the Caucasus, theories of nationalism, and democratic transition in the post-cold-War context. He has been involved in pro-democracy advocacy efforts in Georgia and internationally and has been a frequent participant of international congresses and conferences on related topics.



Céline Marangé is a Research Fellow at the Institute of Strategic Research at the French Ministry of Defence (IRSEM). Her current research interests include Russian foreign and defense policy, Russian strategic culture, and Russian political elites. She holds a Ph.D. in political science from the Paris Institute of Political Studies. Most recently, she edited two special issues devoted to Russia's new strategic posture: one that deals with the reconfiguration of the European order in the aftermath of the conflict in Ukraine (Champs de Mars, August 2017) and the other explores Russian strategic strengths and weaknesses and the security dilemma

for Russia (Revue de Défense nationale, Summer 2017, with Isabelle Facon).



Dr [Hovhannes Nikoghosyan](#) is an Adjunct Lecturer at the American University of Armenia and Senior Visiting Lecturer at the Russian-Armenian University in Yerevan. He teaches graduate courses and seminars on International Security, Armed Conflicts, Human Rights, Media and Politics. Previously, he served as Aide to the President of the Republic of Armenia, and worked at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington DC) and Duke University (Durham, NC).



[Carmen Claudín](#) is an Associate Senior Research Fellow at CIDOB, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, where she has been the Director of Research since 1998 and previously Deputy Director from September 1999. She was awarded a Master's in Philosophy from the University of the Sorbonne, Paris, where she studied a postgraduate course in Philosophy and History, specialising in Russian and Soviet history. Her book on Lenin and the Cultural Revolution has been translated into different languages. She has written various chapters for other books and articles in magazines and newspapers related with Soviet and post Soviet issues. From 1990 to 1992, she was a member of the High Task Force Group on Soviet Union of the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS), Paris, together with other European experts. Her main areas of interest are: Russia and Ukraine's domestic and foreign policies, conflicts in the post-Soviet space, the transformation of post-Soviet society and reform processes in the former Soviet countries. She is a member of the Executive Board of the Migration Policy Group, Brussels, and Member of the Editorial Board of Foreign

Policy, Spanish edition, Madrid. She has travelled extensively throughout Russia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Central Asia, and the Balkans. Prior to establishing residence in Barcelona in 1976, she lived in Soviet Union and France. She speaks Spanish, French, Catalan, English and Russian.



Florent Marciacq is Deputy Secretary General and a Research Fellow at the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe, a Vienna-based intergovernmental organisation promoting European integration in the Western Balkans and regional cooperation in Eastern Europe. He is the cofounder and a co-coordinator of the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkans Reflection Forum initiatives. Both aim at strengthening the interface between research and policy levels in European rapprochement matters and mobilising the community of think-tankers at the pan-European level in the pursuit of an open, inclusive, strategic and policy-oriented reflection on the EU's approach towards the Western Balkans / Eastern neighbourhood. Florent Marciacq holds a Ph.D. in political sciences from the University of Vienna and Luxembourg. He was, until recently, an Associate Researcher at the European Governance Research Group of the University of Luxembourg, an OSCE Researcher in residence in Prague and a guest researcher at the Austrian Defence Academy in Vienna. His research interests include the politics of EU enlargement and Eastern partnership, national and European foreign and security policies and inter-organisational relations. Florent Marciacq has taught European politics in various universities and published widely both academic literature, think tank papers and articles in the press

Li Qinggong is director of Research Center for National Security of Eurasian System Science Research Association of China. Retired senior colonel of PLA. Educated at MIT with MS. Specialized in international regional and national security studies.



Dr. [Anar Valiyev](#) is Associate Vice-Rector of Academic Affairs at ADA University.

He received his Bachelor's degree in History from Baku State University (1999) and Master's degree in History (2001) from the same university. From 2001 to 2003 he studied public policy at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University in Bloomington, where he received his second masters. In 2007 he successfully defended his dissertation at School of Urban and Public Affairs from University of Louisville, KY. From 2007 to 2008 he worked as Assistant Professor at Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. In 2008 he joined ADA University.

Dr. Valiyev is the author of numerous peer-reviewed articles and encyclopedia entries, his research works appeared in journals such as Problems of Post Communism, Communist and Post-Communist Studies, Eurasian Geography and Economics, Cultural Geographies, Cities and others.

His areas of expertise are public policy of post-Soviet republics, democracy and governance, urban development and planning.



[Trine Flockhart](#) is a Professor at the University of Southern Denmark.

Flockhart was a Senior Researcher at the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) in Copenhagen (2006-2015) and a Senior Resident Fellow at the Transatlantic Academy in Washington DC (2013-2014). Before joining DIIS she held positions such as Associate Professor at universities in Australia, Denmark and Britain.

Through her research Flockhart has sought to bridge the gap between scholarly and policy-relevant research. Her research interests are focused on international order, the liberal international order, European security, NATO and transatlantic relations, norms transfer through socialization and processes of change and transformation. Flockhart's research is

based on an eclectic use of theory from Constructivism, Practice Theory and English School Theory.

Her academic articles have appeared in journals such as Review of International Studies, Contemporary Security Policy, International Relations, International Politics, Journal of Common Market Studies, European Security and European Journal of International Relations. Flockhart is also the editor of the Palgrave Series, Governance, Security and Development.



Suren Sargsyan is Co-founder and an expert/analyst at the International and Comparative Law Center of Armenia. He previously was Adviser to the Prime Minister of Armenia.

Sargsyan received his Diploma in Constitutional Law from the Yerevan State University and his Masters of Science in Law from the American University of Armenia. Sargsyan worked for several years for non-profit legal agencies including as Legal Advisor to the Social Center for Legal Aid and as Project Coordinator for the Media Law Institute. From 2003 to 2004 he was employed as an attorney with the Ministry of Finance and from 2005 to 2008 worked as Senior Expert in the Office of State Legal Issues. He was also Senior Expert to the Office of Legal Department Administration and worked on a number of independent commissions concerned with corruption, electoral violations, parole of convicts and penalty commutation.



Johannes Schraps is a member of the German Bundestag since 2017. He studied political science in Bielefeld, Hamburg and Vaxjo (Sweden) and worked as an assistant of European Parliament's deputy and as a research fellow of Bundestag deputy Achim Barhmann.



Charles Grant is Director of the Centre for European Reform, an independent think-tank which he helped found in 1996, that is dedicated to promoting a reform agenda within the European Union.

After studying modern history at Cambridge University, Charles took a diploma in French politics at Grenoble University. Returning to London, Grant joined Euromoney, the financial magazine, in 1981. He moved to The Economist in 1986, becoming defence editor in 1994.

Charles was a director and trustee of the British Council from 2002 to 2008. He is a member of the international advisory boards of the Moscow School of Civic Education, the Turkish think-tank EDAM and the French think-tank Terra Nova. He is a member of the Council of the Ditchley Foundation, and Chairman of the foundation's programme committee. In 2004 he became a Chevalier of France's Ordre Nationale du Mérite, and in 2013 a Companion of St Michael and St George (CMG). In 2015 he was awarded the Bene Merito medal by the Polish government and in December 2015 he was presented with the Star of Italy medal by the Italian government. Charles is a regular contributor to the Financial Times, the International New York Times and many other publications. He writes principally on EU foreign and defence policy, transatlantic relations, Russia and China's relations with the West.



Thomas Gomart is Director of the French Institute of International Affairs (IFRI).

Thomas Gomart's academic and professional background has been closely related to post-Soviet space, as Lavoisier Fellow at the Moscow State Institute for International Relations (2001), as a Visiting Fellow at the EU Institute for Security Studies (2003) and Marie Curie Fellow at Department of War Studies at King's College (2003-2004). He holds a PhD in History (Paris I - Panthéon La Sorbonne) and an EMBA from HEC Paris.

He founded and was Director of the Russia/NIS Centre of IFRI from 2004 to 2013, Vice-President for Strategic Development of IFRI from September 2010 to March 2015, and was appointed Director of IFRI in April 2015.



Tobias Flessenkemper is Programme Director and Senior Fellow at the Centre international de formation européenne (Nice/Berlin), with an expertise in foreign and security policy, democratisation, rule of law and accountability. Tobias Flessenkemper is the cofounder and a co-coordinator of the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkans "Reflection Forum initiatives ". Both aim at strengthening the interface between research and policy levels

in European rapprochement matters and mobilising the community of think-tankers at the pan-European level in the pursuit of an open, inclusive, strategic and policy-oriented reflection on the EU's approach towards the Western Balkans / Eastern neighbourhood. He is also Managing Director of elbarlament.org, an independent, non-partisan and impartial organisation providing technical assistance, expertise and research in political transition processes. Flessenkemper was a Visiting Fellow at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin (2012-2013) and previously held various senior functions in EU missions in Skopje and

Sarajevo. He was Secretary General of the European Youth Forum between 1998 and 2001 and Secretary General of the Young European Federalists in Brussels between 1996 and 1998. He holds Magister Artium (M.A) in political science from the University of Cologne and a European Master in International Humanitarian Assistance (E.MA) from the University of Bochum. Tobias Flessenkemper serves on the Board of the South East Europe Association



Siddharth Shanker Saxena is Director of the Cambridge Central Asia Programme. He holds PhD degrees in Experimental Physics and Social Anthropology. His research interests are in the areas of religion and identity, knowledge systems, social and political development and institutional history in Central Asia and the Middle East. Dr. Saxena has been involved in field-based research in Central Asia, the Caucasus, Russia and China. His work focuses on the creation of scientific and industrial technology platforms, and studying social and economic developments in Central Asia and neighbouring regions. He was awarded a medal for service to education in Kazakhstan; Presidential Medals by Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan; the Magnetism Medal of International Union of Pure and Applied Physics; and was made Honorary Professor by several institutions in Eurasia. He serves on science review committees of European, American and Asian bodies and has created a number of technology start-ups. Dr. Saxena is an editor in chief of Cambridge Journal of Eurasian Studies and editor of Cambridge Central Asia Reviews.



Baroness [Alison Suttie](#) is the Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Northern Ireland in the House of Lords.

She is a party whip and a member of the Liberal Democrat foreign affairs team. She is a member of the House of Lords EU Select Committee as well as the EU Sub-Committee on External Relations.

A Member of the British House of Lords since October 2013, Alison previously worked for over ten years in the House of Commons. She also worked for 10 years in the European Parliament between 1996 and 2006 where she gained an in-depth knowledge of EU politics and the EU institutions. She was Press Secretary to the President of the European Parliament from 2002 to 2004.

Alison was Head of the Liberal Democrat leader's office from 2006 to 2010, and served as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Deputy Prime Minister for the first 18 months of the Coalition government from 2010 to 2011. Since 2012 Alison has worked on capacity building projects in several parliaments – including in Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, and Tunisia. She is also an active campaigner on raising awareness of tuberculosis, particularly in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and is Vice-Chair of the Eurasian Parliamentary Group on TB, which brings together parliamentarians from the wider European region to campaign against TB.

Alison graduated from Edinburgh's Heriot-Watt University in 1990 with a degree in French and Russian. She also studied at Voronezh University in the Soviet Union in 1988 and the University of Upper Alsace in Mulhouse, France in 1989.



Valery Kantorov is an Advisor of the Executive Director of Gorchakov Fund for the Support of Public Diplomacy. He is Major-General of Justice, Honored Lawyer of the Russian Federation. He was graduated from Leningrad State University's Faculty of Law. He was a chairman of Murmansk regional court, a consultant of the department of social-economic analysis and legal expertise in the Office of the President of the USSR. In 1992-1999 V. Kantorov was in the Foreign Intelligence Service of Russia. He held the post of the chief of legal department there. In 1999-2000 he was the Head of Administrative Department of the Staff of the Government of Russia.



Volodymyr Fesenko is Chairman of the Board of the Center for Applied Political Studies "Penta", PhD. He graduated from the Kharkov State University and postgraduate studies at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. He undertook an internship in the USA (1998, Harriman Institute, Columbia University) and in Canada (2000, Queen's University, Kingston). He was an Associate Professor of the Department of the Ukrainian History and Political Science of the Ukrainian Engineering Pedagogical Academy (1990-2000), and an Associate Professor of the Applied Sociology Department at the Sociological Faculty of the Kharkiv National University (1999-2002). Volodymyr Fesenko was the coordinator of the programs "Civil Society" at the Kharkiv Regional Office of the International Fund "Revival" (1993-1999). In 2001-2003 he was Deputy Director of the Bureau of the Political Consulting "Penta". In 2003 he became Chairman of the Board of the Center for Applied Political Studies "Penta". In the summer of 2010 became the Head of the Gorshenin Kiev Institute of Control Sciences. Since December 2010 he again heads the Center for Applied Political

Studies "Penta". Volodymyr Fesenko is a member of the Community Council under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Ukraine and the Russian-Ukrainian Advisory Council.



Joseph Vann is a Professor of Transnational Security Studies and Director of the Marshall Center's Program on Countering Transnational Organized Crime. He has more than 31 years of government service with more than five years association with the Marshall Center. Professor Vann has been a member of the teaching faculty for the Program on Terrorism Security Studies, the Program on Cyber Security Studies, the Program on Countering Transnational Organized Crime, and other resident and non-resident Marshall Center programs. From 2011-2014, Professor Vann served at the Marshall Center as a Professor of National Security Studies. Vann has held a variety of senior management within NCIS and the Department of the Navy to include assignments as the strategic advisor to three NCIS directors; NCIS Deputy Assistant Director for cyber operations; counterintelligence advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, and Space; senior advisor for combating terrorism and counterintelligence to the commander (U.S. Navy Warfare Development Command) etc. Mr. Vann earned a master's degree in Policy Management from the Georgetown University Public Policy Institute and a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from Florida State University.



Ulf Schneider is the Founder and Managing Partner of Schneider Group and Co-Chairman of the Working group on the common economic space from Lisbon to Vladivostok.

Ulf Schneider is also Managing Director and Publisher of the OWC Foreign Trade Publishing House.

Before setting up Schneider Group, Ulf Schneider worked as CFO in the Moscow office of Allianz Insurance Company. During that time he led projects in financial management with focus on restructuring.

After studying economics in Kiel and at the University of Illinois Ulf Schneider worked for 5 years with Procter & Gamble in financial management, corporate taxation and planning. His assignments were at different places in Germany and also in Brussels, Belgium.



Jacek Giedrojc is a Founding partner and Chairman of Warsaw Equity Group, one of the oldest private equity firms in Poland. He is also the President of Liberalna Edukacja, a foundation dedicated to promoting liberal education in Poland and its eastern neighbors. He was also employed at Boston Consulting Group and Office of the Auditor and Controller General.

Giedrojc holds a PhD in sociology from the Polish Academy of Sciences, a MBA from Harvard Business School and a BA in economics from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.



Since 2015 [Daniel Krutzinna](#) has been a Member of the Supervisory board of JSC "Development Bank of the Republic of Belarus".

He received a Bachelor's degree in Geoecology from Potsdam University in 2000. After obtaining his Master's degree in Public Administration and International Development from Harvard Kennedy School in 2002, he has gained broad experience in the consultancy field working in various positions in a number of Investment and Consulting companies, including UNITER Investment Company, Roland Berger Strategy Consultants and Capgemini Consulting. Since 2013 Mr. Daniel Krutzinna has been a Managing Partner at Civitta Belarus.



[Vladimir Senko](#) is Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus on International Affairs and National Security. He served as Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus from 1994 to 1997.

In 1973 Mr. Senko graduated from Moscow State Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR; in 1987 from the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR.

From 1973 till 1991 Mr. Vladimir Senko worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR. From 1991 till 2011 he worked in the system of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus. He occupied the positions of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, Ambassador to Poland, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus to the European Union and NATO. Vladimir Senko is Chairman of the Commission of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia on foreign policy issues.



Nadezhda Arbatova is the Head of a department of European political research in the Institute of Global Economy and International Relations of Russian Academy of Sciences (IMEMO), the Director of scientific programs of the Committee "Russia in united Europe", the Vice-president of the Council of Mediterranean and Black sea researches (Russia), and a Member of the Council on External and Defensive Policies (SEDP).

Arbatova was at the department of international journalism at MGIMO MFA of the USSR in 1973, and in 2003 defended her PhD degree on "National interests and foreign policy of Russia of 1991-1999: European direction" (Europe Institute of RAN's). Her main scientific interests include the problems of European integration and the problem of security in south-east Europe.



Tobias Bunde is Head of Policy and Analysis of the Munich Security Conference.

He studied international relations at various institutions in Germany, France, and the United States and wrote his PhD dissertation at Freie Universität Berlin.

He is the co-author of the annual Munich Security Report and has written for the Financial Times, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Project Syndicate, and others.

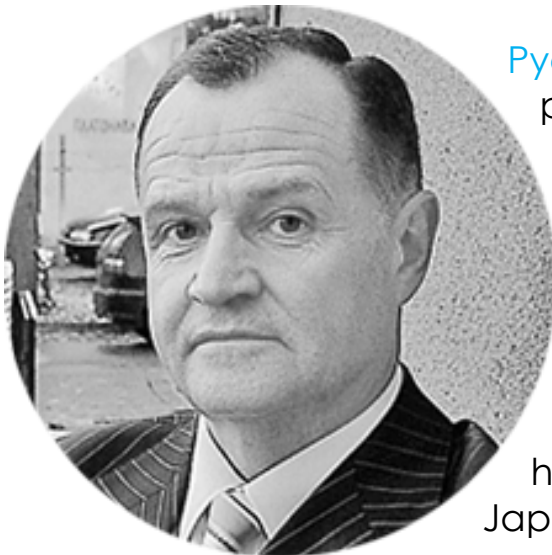
In 2014, Tobias was a member of the Atlantic Council's NATO Emerging Leaders Working Group tasked by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen to develop policy recommendations for the Wales Summit.

Currently, Tobias Bunde is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre for International Security Policy (CISP) at the Hertie School of Governance. He is a political scientist with a research focus on the foreign and security policies of liberal democracies, especially Germany and the United States. He is particularly interested in how

ideational factors (identities, ideologies, ideas etc.) shape world politics.



[Anna Maria Dyner](#) is Head of the Eastern Europe Programme at the Polish Institute for International Affairs. Her interests include the domestic and foreign policy of Belarus and the Russian Federation. She also deals with the hard security issues in the post-Soviet region including military reform and the modernisation of the Russia's military-industrial complex. She is the author of various PISM analyses and papers about Belarus and Russia. She has also written on Belarusian and Russian affairs for Rzeczpospolita, Nowa Europa Wschodnia, Polska Zbrojna, EUobserver, New Eastern Europe.



[Pyotr Krauchanka](#) is a Belarusian diplomat, political scientist, historian and politician. He was the first Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus from 1990 to 1994. He served as Deputy Leader of Supreme Soviet of Belarus from 15 May 1990 to 27 November 1996. Pyotr Krauchanka graduated from Belarusian State University in 1976. From 1999 to 2002 he served as Belarusian Ambassador to Japan.



Grigory Ioffe is a Professor of geography at Redford University (Virginia, USA). In the past he has worked at the Institute of geography of the Russian Academy of Sciences. In 1974 he graduated from Moscow State University (socio economic geography). In 1989 he emigrated with his family to the USA. He specializes in sociology and the demography of agricultural regions of Russia, as well as the history of nationalism and national identity in the countries of the former USSR. He is the author and the chief of the research project "Understanding Belarus", and the author of the monography "Understanding Belarus and How Western Foreign Policy Misses the Mark" (2008). His articles are regularly found in the journal Eurasia Daily Monitor, published by Jamestown Foundation.



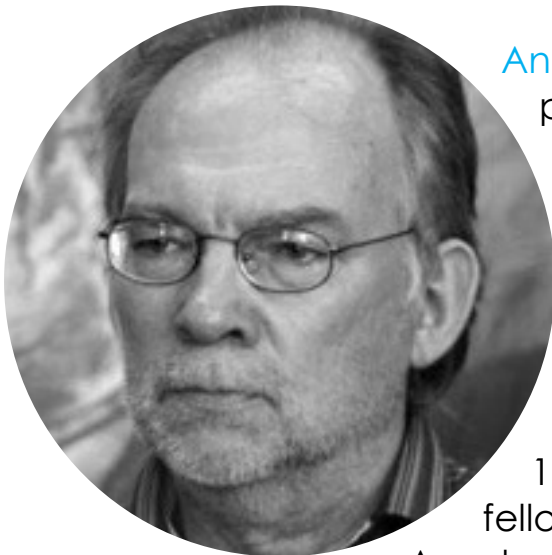
Kamil Kłysiński is a Senior Fellow in the Department for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova at the Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW) in Warsaw. Kamil Kłysiński graduated from the Eastern Europe Studies and Politology Faculty at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan. His area of expertise include the domestic political and economic situation in Belarus, as well as Belarusian foreign policy and tendencies in society.



Andrey Kazakevich is the Head of the Institute of Political Studies “Palitychnaya sfera”, a Doctor in political science, and the Editor in Chief of the magazine “Palitychnaya sfera”. He is also a co-organizer of the International Congress of the Belarusian Researchers and a regular contributor to “Beloruski ezhegodnik”. His main research interests include the policy of Belarus and countries of Eastern Europe, the history of political ideas, and judicial power.



Paul Hansbury is an Associate Fellow at the Minsk Dialogue Track-II Initiative. Paul earned his doctorate at St Antony's College, University of Oxford. His PhD research considered the foreign policies of ‘small powers,’ using Belarus as its primary case study. His principal ongoing research interests include the foreign and security policies of states in Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and Central Asia, with particular reference to their relations with Russia. He presently teaches courses in International Relations and International Security. He also has a masters degree in Russian and East European Studies from Oxford, and a BA in Politics from the University of London, while his commentaries have appeared in Foreign Policy (with Christian Davies), E-International Relations, and elsewhere.



[Andrei Vardomatsky](#) is the Director of the private independent research service "NOVAK". He was a Candidate of Philosophy in 1983 and a Doctor of Sociology in 1992. In 1978 he graduated from the Belarusian State University and in 1991 served an apprenticeship at the University of Michigan, USA.

From 1978 to 1980 he lectured at BSU. In 1984-1993 he was junior, then senior research fellow, and a Doctoral Candidate of the Academy of Sciences of the BSSR. From 1992 to 1993 he worked as Vice-Rector of the Belarusian Institute for Cultural Problems. He is one of the creators of axiometry. Vardomatsky is a member of the international sociologists' organizations WAPOR, ESOMAR, and a participant of their congresses in Davos, Hague, Istanbul, Berlin and Paris.



Dr. [Bernhard Thies](#) is Chairman of the Board of Directors of DKE (German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE). He is also Vice-Chairman of the EEBus Initiative, a network of leading companies, associations and stakeholders in the German and international energy, telecommunications and electrical industry, which aims to open up new markets in smart connectivity. Dr Thies is Vice-President

of the Asian Management Association (China), the international institute providing professional training and consulting services for organizations and individuals in China. He has also given lectures for a number of years at the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen (RWTH Aachen), where he obtained his doctorate. Before joining DKE in 1999, he was President of ABB Traffo-BB GmbH, a company specializing in power, distribution and transformers.

In March 2014, he was elected as Chairman for the External Relations Committee of CEN, CENELEC and ETSI. In January 2016 Dr. Thies

started his duties as the incoming CENELEC President; his CENELEC presidency will last from 2016 until 2018.



Sergey Shukhno is the Director of the Integration Development Department of the Eurasian Economic Commission. From 1984 to 1993, he worked in various positions in the Internal Affairs bodies of the Republic of Belarus, from 1993 to 1997, he worked in the Government Office of the Republic of Belarus. From 1997 to 2000, he was the Head of the Mission of the Executive Committee of the Union of Belarus and Russia in Minsk, from 2000 to 2003 off the Mission of the Permanent Committee of the Union State in Minsk.

From 2003 to 2011, he worked as Deputy Secretary of State and Member of the Permanent Committee of the Union State.

In 2011-2014, he was Chief of the Department of International Cooperation and Trade of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus.

From 2014 to July 2016, he was Deputy Director of the Integration Development Department of the Eurasian Economic Commission. Since July, 2016, he is the Director of the Integration Development Department of the Eurasian Economic Commission. Sergey Shukhno is the author of several scientific publications. Participated in preparation of the Contract about formation of the Community of Belarus and Russia, the Charter of the Union of Belarus and Russia, Agreement on the Union of Belarus and Russia, Agreement on the creation of Union state.



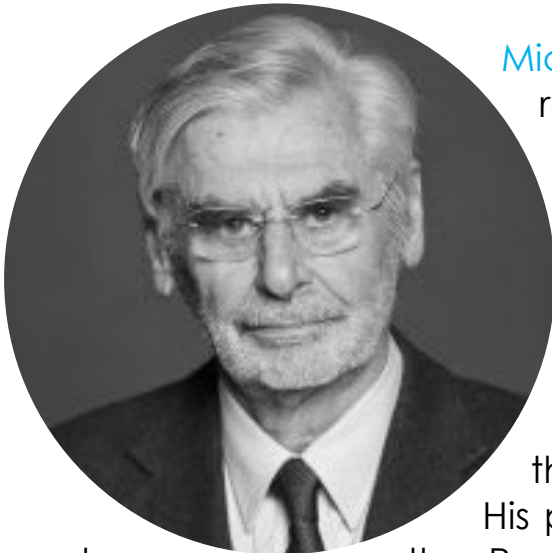
[Alexandra Dienes](#) is a Research Associate at the Friedrich Ebert Regional Office for Cooperation and Peace in Europe.

She got her MA in Political Science from the Freie University Berlin in 2012 and her PhD from the University of Amsterdam in 2017. She specializes in political economy of Russia and the post-Soviet space. Before joining FES in 2017, she taught international relations and political economy at the University of Amsterdam and interned for German political foundations in Georgia and China, the European Parliament in Brussels and the German Development Agency GIZ. She also did a documentary film on barriers to regional trade in Central Asia. As a research associate at the Regional Office for Cooperation and Peace in Europe she focuses on economic aspects of regional security and cooperation and coordinates the network of young experts FLEET.



[Aleksey Matsevilov](#) is Head of the main directorate of economic integration at the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Belarus. In 1999 he graduated from the Grodno State University named after Y. Kupala, in 2002 he completed his postgraduate studies at the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus.

He taught at the Grodno and Belorussian state universities. Since 2004, he worked at the Academy of Public Administration under the aegis of the President of the Republic of Belarus as Head of the Youth Policy Department of the Research Institute, Head of the Social Technologies Department of the Research Institute, Deputy Director of the Innovation Center. He was the Head of the Department for Preparation of Conceptual Documents, as well as Deputy Director of Information and Analytical Center under the Aegis of the Belarus President Administration.

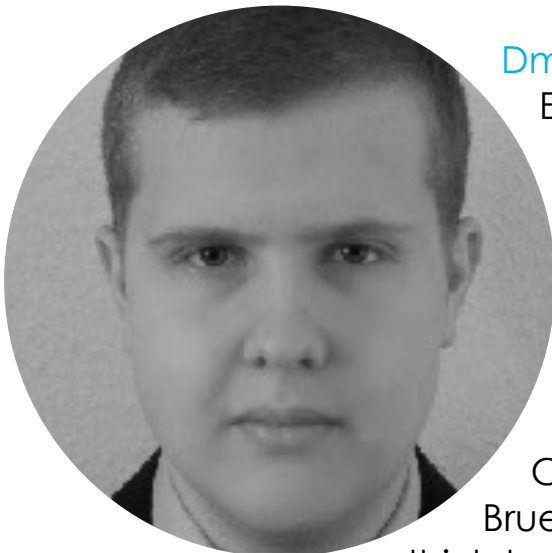


Michael Emerson is an associate senior researcher fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels. He has an MA from the University of Oxford in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and honorary doctorates from the Universities of Kent and Keele.

Michael Emerson began his career as an economist at OECD in Paris before joining the European Commission in Brussels in 1973.

His positions there included economic adviser to the President and research director for projects assessing the economic costs and benefits of completing the EU's single market and, later, of the EU moving on to monetary union. His last position for the Commission was as Ambassador to Moscow from 1991 to 1995.

From there he went to the London School of Economics, where he was senior research fellow until 1998 when he joined the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS). Emerson has published widely on European integration and East European affairs.



Dmitry Chervyakov is an Economist at Berlin Economics, an independent economic policy consultancy, and also the Project Manager of the German Economic Team Belarus. His consulting activities and research interests lie in the area of monetary, fiscal and trade policy, as well as macroeconomic issues in general.

Before joining Berlin Economics, Dmitry Chervyakov worked at the DIW Berlin and Bruegel, a Brussels-based economic policy think-tank. Moreover, he is a member of the project "Economic Policy Dialogue in the Transnistrian Region" which provides economic policy advice to the administration in Tiraspol in order to support them with measures to facilitate trade.



Kirill Entin is a Research Fellow at the Center for Comprehensive European and International Studies of the Higher School of Economics (Moscow) with a focus on EU law and politics and EU-Russia relations. He delivers lectures on EU institutions, law, EU-Russia relationship and public international law at the Higher School of Economics. Since November 2015 he is a Counsellor at the Court of the Eurasian Economic Union (Minsk).

He graduated from the College of Europe (MA in European Legal Studies) and MGIMO University (MA in European Law) and holds a Ph.D. degree. Kirill is the first Russian lawyer to complete a paid 5-months internship at the Court of Justice of the European Union (Luxembourg). In 2015 he was a researcher at the Institute of European Law at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). Kirill Entin is also an expert of the Russian Council on Foreign Affairs and the Council on Foreign and Defense Policy.



Victor Shadurski is the Dean of the Faculty of International Relations of the Belarusian State University (since September 2008), Doctor of Historical Sciences, and Professor. The sphere of his academic interests includes current issues of foreign policy of the Republic of Belarus, its relations with European states, internal and foreign policy of France, place and role of the Baltic states in modern world politics, global development challenges and their impact on Belarus.

He authored many academic papers on the mentioned topics, published in Belarus and abroad. Also Shadurski is Member of the Scientific Council of BSU and Chairman of editorial board of "Journal of International Law and International Relations".



Joris Voorhoeve is Chairman of the Dutch Advisory Council on International Affairs (AIV).

He is also a Lecturer in International Peace, Law and Security at The Hague University of Applied Sciences, a Professor of International Organisations at Leiden University and Director of Studies at the Amartya Sen Foundation for Research and Education in International Cooperation.

Joris was Director of the Institute of International Relations Clingendael and Minister of Defence of the Netherlands (1994-1998). Between 2007 and 2013, he was chairman of the Supervisory Board of Oxfam Novib in the Netherlands. Mr. Voorhoeve also served as Co-Chair of the Board of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) from 2010 to 2017, and as Chair of the Board of the foregoing institution, the European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP) from 2007. Voorhoeve is the initiator of The Third Hague Peace Conference



Ivan Antonovich is a Belarusian sociologist, linguist, political scientist, philosopher, diplomat, and politician. He is a Doctor of Philosophy (1973) and Professor (1977). He is the founder of the Republican Party of Labour and Justice. He was the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Belarus from 1997 to 1998.

In 1969, Mr. Antonovich was working at the Secretariat in the United Nations in the UNESCO. In 1977, he was the Head Secretary of Minsk City CPB and later was the Head of Culture and Department of Communist Party of Belarus. From 1990 to 1991 he served as Deputy Head of the Department of the Central Committee of links with social and political organizations. From 1990 to 1991 he was a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of the RSFSR. From 1990 to 1991, he was the Secretary of the Communist Party of the RSFSR Relations socio-political organizations. From 1991 to 1993 he worked in the international non-governmental research and

educational organization "Rau-Corporation." He served as the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus from 1996 to 1997. In 1995-1997, he was also Chairman of the National Commission of the Republic of Belarus for UNESCO, and between 1996-2000 he was a member of the UN Committee on Economic and Social Rights.



Tinatin Khidasheli started her career as an office employee of the Parliament of Georgia in 1994. In 1996 she became a Program's Director at group Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA). Later she became a Chairwoman of the same organization in 1999. At the same time, she served as member of the State Anti-Corruption Council from 2002 to 2004. After a brief tenure as a Chairperson of the Board of Open Society Georgia Foundation from 2004 to 2005, Khidasheli joined the Republican Party of Georgia and served as the party's secretary for international affairs from 2005 to 2009. She was elected to the Council of Tbilisi in 2010 and entered the Parliament of Georgia in the 2012 election, where she chaired the parliamentary committee on European integration. In 2015 Khidasheli became Georgia's Defense Minister. During her tenure, Khidasheli sought close cooperation with NATO and the United States. She resigned on 1 August 2016, after her party decided to leave the ruling Georgian Dream coalition.

Tinatin graduated from Tbilisi State University with a degree in International Law. Later she carried on her studies at Central European University in Budapest. She also attended School of Law in Washington DC. Tinatin also holds a degree from Yale University.



Bruce McClintock is an adjunct policy analyst at the RAND Corporation. He conducts research and analysis of security challenges across political, military, diplomatic, cultural, and informational arenas for a broad range of U.S. government clients.

Prior to joining RAND, McClintock was a career military officer and completed three decades of service in the Air Force, retiring as a Brigadier General. He served as the Senior Defense Official and Defense Attaché in the US Embassy in Moscow, Russia from 2014 to 2016. In this role, he advised multiple combatant commanders and members of the office of the Secretary of Defense and Joint Staff as well as the US Ambassador to Russia. He also briefed and advised military and political leaders from numerous allied countries. In his final assignment in the military, McClintock was a special assistant to the commander of Air Force Space Command where he conducted an independent review of space live, virtual, constructive training and advised the commander on other space topics. His military service included assignments as a White House Fellow, experimental test pilot, an A-10 pilot and weapons officer, and a military strategist. He has over 3,500 hours in 35 different aircraft and his military awards include the Air Force Combat Action Medal, Air Medal and Bronze Star. McClintock holds an M.S. in aeronautical engineering from the University of Florida and an M.S. in airpower art and science, from the School of Advanced Airpower Studies.



Dzianis Melyantsou is the coordinator of the Belarusian Foreign Policy Programme of the Minsk Dialogue Track-II Initiative. A graduate of the History Department at Mahilou State University, he then studied at the Institute for International Relations and Political Sciences in Vilnius (Lithuania), where he defended his MA thesis in 2006 (International Relations and Diplomacy). He also holds an MA in International Relations from the Belarusian State University (Minsk).

From 2007 to 2017 Dzianis worked as a Senior Analyst at the Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies (BISS). Concurrently, from 2006 to 2009 he lectured at the European Humanities University in Vilnius. He specializes in Belarus's foreign policy, Belarus-EU and Belarus-US relations, international and European security.