



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic

CEPA Forum

October 1, 2015

#CEPAForum

The CEPA Forum is the leading annual transatlantic security conference in Washington, DC. The Forum highlights the transformative economic, strategic and political potential of the countries between the Baltic and Black Seas and their importance to the United States. It brings together more than 400 leaders from government and business for meetings focused on strengthening U.S. engagement in Central and Eastern Europe.

The conference provides the only platform of its kind in Washington for government leaders and the expert community to engage on key issues in strategy and commerce. Forum panels bring together executives and senior decision-makers to discuss emerging opportunities and ideas for overcoming obstacles to closer engagement. The Forum is covered widely in Central and Eastern Europe and U.S. media.



Transatlantic Security in a Cold Climate

October 1

Thursday, October 1, 2015

The Willard InterContinental Hotel

1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

8:00 a.m.

Arrivals and Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Opening Keynotes

Wess Mitchell, President, CEPA (Confirmed)

Lubomír Zaorálek, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
(Confirmed)

Representative Ed Royce, Chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs
(Confirmed)

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

PANEL I

Hard and Soft Security: Rethinking Defense in an Era of Hybrid War

MODERATOR: Edward Lucas, Senior Vice President, CEPA (Confirmed)

Toomas Hendrik Ilves, President of Estonia* (Confirmed)

Raimonds Vējonis, President of Latvia (Confirmed)

Richard Stengel, Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs (Confirmed)

Senator Chris Murphy (Confirmed)

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Break



Day 1

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Panel II

Europe Whole and Free: Schengen, Security and Solidarity

MODERATOR: Janusz Bugajski, Senior Fellow, CEPA (Confirmed)

Jan Hamáček, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (Confirmed)

Marieluise Beck, Member of German Bundestag (Confirmed)

Radosław Sikorski, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland (Confirmed)

Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga, former President of Latvia* (Confirmed)

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch

1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

PANEL III

Empowering Diversification: What's Next for U.S. Gas and Crude Exports

MODERATOR: Edward Lucas, Senior Vice President, CEPA (Confirmed)

Vaclav Bartuška, Ambassador-At-Large for Energy Security of the Czech Republic (Confirmed)

Jason Bordoff, Founding Director, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University (Confirmed)

Jan Chadam, President of Polish LNG S.A. (Confirmed)

Péter Kaderják, Director of the Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research, Budapest (Confirmed)

Rokas Masiulis, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Lithuania (Confirmed)

2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Break



Day 1

2:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSION 1 (WILLARD ROOM)

Preparing for the Warsaw NATO Summit

Co-Hosted with The Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM) and The Slovak Atlantic Commission (SAC)

MODERATOR: Marcin Zaborowski, Executive Vice President, CEPA (Confirmed)
Lt. General Ben Hodges, Commander of U.S. Army Europe (Confirmed)
Gerlinde Niehus, Head of Engagements Section, NATO (Confirmed)
Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia (Confirmed)
Radosław Sikorski, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland (Confirmed)

First Respondents: Marcin Terlikowski, Head of the European Security and Defence Economics Project, Polish Institute of International Affairs and Róbert Vass, Executive Vice-President, Slovak Atlantic Commission*

2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSION 2 (CRYSTAL ROOM)

Winning the Information War

MODERATOR: Anne Applebaum, Senior Fellow, CEPA* (Confirmed)
Konstantin von Eggert, Fellow, Legatum Institute (Confirmed)
Nataliya Gumenyuk, Ukrainian Journalist (Confirmed)
Igor Slobodnik, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic (Confirmed)
Liz Wahl, Journalist (Former RT Journalist) (Confirmed)



Bringing Central Europe to Washington

Speakers



Anne Applebaum

Senior Fellow, CEPA

Anne Applebaum is a fellow of CEPA. She is also a columnist for the Washington Post and Slate and the Director of the Transitions Forum at the Legatum Institute. She is the author of several books, including *Gulag: A History*, which

won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction, and *Iron Curtain*, which won the 2013 Cundill Prize for Historical Literature. She is a former visiting professor at the LSE, a former member of the Washington Post editorial board, a former deputy editor of the Spectator magazine, and a former Warsaw correspondent of The Economist. Her work has also appeared in the New York Review of Books, the New Republic and many other publications in Europe and the US. She is a graduate of Yale and the London School of Economics. ●



Vaclav Bartuška

Ambassador-At-Large for Energy Security of the Czech Republic

Vaclav Bartuška assumed the position of Ambassador-at-Large for Energy Security of the Czech Republic in 2006. He works

on a wide range of issues from oil and gas supplies to energy strategy. During the gas dispute between Russia and Ukraine in January 2009, when the Czech Republic held the EU Presidency, he was involved in negotiations with Russian, Ukrainian, and EU leadership. In 2010, he was appointed by the Czech Government as the Commissioner for expansion at the Temelin nuclear power plant. Since 2003, he has taught modern history and security studies at New York University, Prague campus. ●



Marieluise Beck

Member of German Bundestag

Marieluise Beck is a member of the German Bundestag. She was first elected to the German Bundestag in 1983 as a member of the Greens. In 2005, Ms. Beck became a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the German Bundestag, where she is the spokesperson on eastern European affairs for the Green parliamentary group on matters concerning Russia, Belarus, and the Western Balkan countries. Ms. Beck is a member of the German-Ukrainian group as well as the German-South Caucasus Parliamentary Friendship Group, and is a Member of the Parliamentary Assemblies of the Council of Europe and the OSCE. For her work on human rights issues in Eastern Europe, she has been awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. ●



Jason Bordoff

Founding Director, Center on Global Energy Policy

Jason Bordoff joined the Columbia faculty after serving until January 2013 as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Energy and Climate Change on the Staff of the National Security Council, and, prior to that, holding senior policy positions on the White House's National Economic Council and Council on Environmental Quality. One of the world's

top energy policy experts, he joined the Administration in April 2009. At Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs, Bordoff is a professor of professional practice and serves as founding Director of Columbia's Center on Global Energy Policy. ●



Bringing Central Europe to Washington



Janusz Bugajski

Senior Fellow, CEPA

Janusz Bugajski is a Senior Fellow at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) in Washington, D.C. and host of “Bugajski Hour” and “Bugajski Time” television shows broadcast in the Balkans. Bugajski has authored

19 books on Europe, Russia, and transatlantic relations and is a columnist for several media outlets. His recent books include *Conflict Zones: North Caucasus and Western Balkans Compared* (2014), *Return of the Balkans: Challenges to European Integration and U.S. Disengagement* (2013), *Georgian Lessons: Conflicting Russian and Western Interests in the Wider Europe* (2010), *Dismantling the West: Russia’s Atlantic Agenda* (2009), *America’s New European Allies* (2009); and *Expanding Eurasia: Russia’s European Ambitions* (2008).

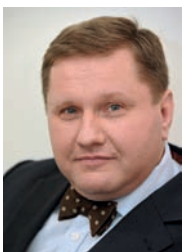


Jan Chadam

President of Polish LNG S.A.

Jan Chadam is a Doctor of Economics who, in the course of his career, has held a host of executive positions, including Financial Director, Vice President and President of the Board at Pro Futuro S.A., Warszawa, Member of the Board at Elzab S.A., Zabrze,

Financial Director at SIPMA Group, Lublin, President of the Board at SIP-MOT S.A., Zamość, and Director of the Internal Audit Department at Polkomtel S.A. (PLUS GSM cellular network operator). He has written several dozen domestically and internationally recognised publications on finance and management and has taught at several universities and MBA programmes. In February 2009, he was appointed Member of the Board at GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. and subsequently President of the Management Board of Gas Transmission Operator GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. as of July 2009. ●



Konstantin von Eggert

Ambassador-At-Large for Energy Security of the Czech Republic

Konstantin von Eggert is a Russian journalist and political commentator.

From 1992-1998 he was the diplomatic correspondent, and later deputy foreign editor of Izvestia daily. His assignments included, among other areas, the Middle East, Iraq, Iran, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and the Balkans. He was Moscow bureau chief for the BBC Russian Service in 2002–08, and deputy editor and then editor in chief of the radio station Kommersant FM in 2012–13. He is currently hosting a weekly live current affairs programme for the station. Konstantin is also a regular columnist for Deutsche Welle, writing on Russia and the post-Soviet space. In 2009–10, he worked as vice president for public affairs of ExxonMobil Russia Inc. In 2008, for services to the BBC, Queen Elizabeth II named him Honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire. That same year, President Valdas Adamkus awarded him Commander’s Cross of the Order of Merits to Lithuania. ●



Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga

Former President of Latvia

Former President of Latvia Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga is President of the Club of Madrid and former President of the Republic of Latvia (1999 –

2007). She was instrumental in achieving membership in the European Union and NATO for her country and raised the nation’s recognition through her international activities. She was named United Nations Special Envoy on UN reform in 2005 and was official candidate for UN Secretary General in 2006.

Since 2007, she has been solicited as a speaker on democracy, social issues, moral values, European historical dialogue, security and defence policy. In 2007 she was appointed Vice-chair of the Reflection group on the long-term future of Europe. In 2011-2012 she chaired the High-level group on freedom and pluralism of the media in the EU. Since 2014, she is President of the Club of Madrid of over 100 democratically elected former Heads of State and Government. ●



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Nataliya Gumenyuk

Ukrainian Journalist

Nataliya Gumenyuk is an Ukrainian journalist and commentator specializing in foreign affairs. She is co-founder and currently head of Hromadske.TV - an initiative of Ukrainian journalist to create public broadcasting in Ukraine,

and Hromadske International www.en.hromadske.tv. Since the start of the revolution and later conflict in Ukraine she has been reporting from the field: Maidan, Crimea, and Donbas. As an independent, international correspondent, she has reported on major political and social events from nearly 50 countries. During the last few years, she has focused on post-Arab Spring developments in the Arab world and is the author of the book "Maidan Tahrir. In Search Of The Lost Revolution". Nataliya cooperates with a number of Ukrainian and international media. ●



Jan Hamáček

Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

Jan Hamáček is the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. Jan Hamáček

has held this position since 2013, serving as the Deputy Speaker and Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee from 2010 until 2013. He was first elected to be a member of the Chamber of Deputies in 2006, serving as the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee and as a member of the European Affairs Committee. He was re-elected as a member of the Chamber of Deputies in 2010 and 2013. He was the International Secretary for the Czech Social Democratic Party from 2004 to 2006 and the Caucus Secretary for the Central Bohemia Regional Authority from 2001 to 2004. ●



Lt. General Ben Hodges

Commander of U.S. Army Europe

Ben Hodges is Commanding General of U.S. Army Europe. He graduated from the United States Military Academy in

May 1980 and was commissioned in the Infantry. After his first assignment as an Infantry Lieutenant in Germany, he commanded Infantry units at the Company, Battalion and Brigade levels at the 101st Airborne Division and in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. His most recent operational assignment was as Director of Operations, Regional Command South, in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Lt. Gen. Hodges has also served in a variety of Joint and Army Staff positions to include Tactics Instructor at the Infantry School; Chief of Plans, 2nd Infantry Division in Korea; Aide-de-Camp to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe; Army Congressional Liaison Officer; Task Force Senior Observer-Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, LA; Coalition/Joint -3 (CJ3) of Multi-National Corps-Iraq in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM; Chief of Staff, XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg; and Director of the Pakistan Afghanistan Coordination Cell on the Joint Staff; Chief of Legislative Liaison for the United States Army. ●



Toomas Hendrik Ilves

President of Estonia

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves was born on December 26, 1953, in Stockholm, Sweden. He acquired his education in the United States – he

graduated from Columbia University in New York City and the University of Pennsylvania. In 1984 he moved to Europe, to work at the office of Radio Free Europe in Munich, Germany, first as a researcher and foreign policy analyst and later as Head of the Estonian Desk. He served as Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia to the United States of America, Canada, and Mexico from 1993 until 1996. He has been Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia, Chairman of the North Atlantic Institute (1998), Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Estonia and Member of the European Parliament. Ilves was elected President of the Republic of Estonia in 2006 and was re-elected for a second term in office in 2011. ●



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Péter Kaderják

Director of the Regional
Centre for Energy Policy
Research, Budapest

Péter Kaderják has been the Director of the Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research at the Corvinus University

of Budapest (www.rekk.eu) since 2004. He received his MSc in economics from the Budapest University of Economic Sciences in 1987. In 1998 he was appointed as Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of Economic Affairs and started to work on the liberalisation of the electricity and gas sectors in Hungary. In January 2000 he became the President of the Hungarian Energy Office, the national energy regulator. Between 2000 and 2004 he also served as the Chairman of the Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA), an association of energy regulatory institutions of countries from Central and Eastern Europe, the CIS and South East Europe. He has directed several recent research efforts with relevance for Central and South East Europe. In 2011 he was appointed as alternate member of ACER's (Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators) Board of Appeal. His major research fields are energy economics, energy security, regulation and modelling of network industries and environmental economics. ●



Edward Lucas

Senior Vice President, CEPA

Edward Lucas is a senior editor at The Economist, the world's foremost newsweekly. His expertise includes energy, cyber-security, espionage, Russian foreign and security policy and the politics and economics of Eastern

Europe. He is also a senior vice-president at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA). In 2008 he wrote *The New Cold War*, a prescient account of Vladimir Putin's Russia. In 2011, he wrote *Deception*, an investigative account of east-west espionage. A forthcoming book is on cyber-security. He has also contributed to books on religion and media ethics. An experienced broadcaster, public speaker, moderator and panelist, Edward Lucas has given public lectures at Harvard, Oxford, Cambridge and other leading universities. He is a regular contributor to the BBC's *Today* and *Newsnight* programmes, and to NPR, CNN and Sky News. He is regularly cited by Foreign Policy magazine as one of the top 100 Twitterati. ●



Rokas Masiulis

Minister of Energy of the
Republic of Lithuania

Rokas Masiulis was appointed Lithuania's Minister of Energy on 25 September 2014. Before, Masiulis served as the Managing Director at

the state-controlled oil terminal operator, Klaipėdos Nafta, where in September 2010 he became a member of the Board of Directors. During his term as the Managing Director at Klaipėdos Nafta, Masiulis was responsible for the implementation of an LNG import terminal, which started operation in December 2014. Prior to joining Klaipėdos Nafta, Masiulis served as a Managing Director at Lithuania's natural gas trading company, LITGAS. From 2009 to 2010, Masiulis served as a Director of Business Development and Finance at LEO LT, an electricity holding company uniting most electricity assets in Lithuania. For 14 years Masiulis held a number of senior staff positions at Energy practices of Arthur Andersen and Ernst & Young. His regional focus covered Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Belarus, Russia, and Kazakhstan. Minister Masiulis holds a Master's Degree in International Relations and Political Science and received an undergraduate degree in Economics and Production Management from Vilnius University. Masiulis is fluent in English and Russian and has basic knowledge of Polish and Chinese. ●



A. Wess Mitchell

President, CEPA

A. Wess Mitchell is President of the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA), a foreign policy institute dedicated to the study of Central and Eastern Europe with offices in Washington, DC and Warsaw Poland. A

co-founder of CEPA, Mitchell has played an active role in its growth into a successful 501(c)(3) policy organization. Mitchell is the author of numerous publications on transatlantic security. His commentaries have appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Washington Post*, *American Interest* and others. During the 2012 U.S. Presidential election, Mitchell served on the National Security Transition Team for the Mitt Romney presidential campaign. He is the Chair of the Europe Working Group for the John Hay Initiative and a member of the advisory councils of the Brzezinski Institute for Geostrategy and the Richard G. Lugar Center for Diplomacy. Mitchell holds a Master's Degree from Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, where he was awarded the 2004 Hopper Award. His second book, an examination of the security dilemmas facing U.S. allies in frontier regions co-authored with Jakub J. Grygiel, is forthcoming from Princeton University Press. ●



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Senator Christopher S. Murphy

U.S. Senate

Christopher S. Murphy is the junior United States Senator for Connecticut. Murphy serves on the Appropriations Committee, the Health, Education,

Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, the Foreign Relations Committee, and the Democratic Steering & Outreach Committee. Prior to his election to the U.S. Senate, Murphy served Connecticut's Fifth Congressional District for three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. Senator Murphy grew up in Wethersfield, Connecticut, and attended Williams College in Massachusetts. In 2002, he graduated from UConn Law School in Hartford, Connecticut. ●



Gerlinde Niehus

Head of Engagements Section, NATO

Dr. Gerlinde Niehus leads the Engagements Section within NATO's Public Diplomacy Division. As such, she oversees NATO's Public Diplomacy

engagements with audiences in NATO nations and with partners across the globe, be it peer-to-peer or by digital means. Gerlinde Niehus started her professional life as a TV and radio editor for public broadcasters in Germany (WDR and Deutschlandfunk). She then moved to a German think tank, focusing on international relations and a growing range of education and training programmes with partners in Central and Eastern Europe and the New Independent States (NIS). This work brought her to the European Commission in Brussels, where she built up the information and communications programme EU – NIS, and subsequently developed a communications strategy for the European Commission's Directorate General Information Society. In 1999 she joined NATO, and in 2012 assumed her present position. Gerlinde Niehus holds a Ph.D. in International Relations from Muenster University, Germany. ●



Edgars Rinkēvičs

Foreign Minister of Latvia

Edgars Rinkēvičs is Minister of Foreign Affairs since October 25, 2011. He was Head of the Chancery of the President of Latvia from October 2008 till October 2011. He also served as State Secretary in the Ministry of Defence of the

Republic of Latvia from August 1997 till October 2008. He also worked as Chief of the Office for organising the NATO Summit of Heads of State and Government, which took place in Riga, 2006. Mr. Rinkēvičs graduated from the University of Latvia and received his Master's degree in Political Science in 1997. From 1999-2000 he also studied at the U.S. National Defence University, Industrial College of the Armed Forces and has a graduate degree in National Resource Strategy. ●



Representative Ed Royce

Chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs

Ed Royce (R), U.S. Representative serves California's 39th Congressional

District, based in Orange, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties. Royce was selected to be Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Prior to becoming Chairman of the Committee, Royce served as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade and a member of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. A California native, he is a graduate of California State University, Fullerton, School of Business Administration. Prior to entering public service, Royce was a small business owner, a capital projects manager, and a corporate tax manager for a Southern California company. ●



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Radosław Sikorski

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

Radosław Sikorski is the former Polish minister of foreign affairs. Born and raised in Bydgoszcz, Poland, Mr.

Sikorski embarked on his political path

in 1981, when he led a student strike committee as part of the Solidarity movement. Afterward, he fled Poland and was granted political asylum in Great Britain, where he graduated from Oxford University with a B.A. and an M.A. in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE). He then served as a war reporter in Afghanistan and Angola. In 1988, he was awarded the World Press Photo. Mr. Sikorski returned to his home country in 1989, where he enjoyed a long and successful tenure in the Polish government, starting as a member of parliament and later serving as the minister of defense, the minister of foreign affairs, and the marshal of the Sejm. As the minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Sikorski was the Polish signatory of the Treaty of Lisbon, in 2007, and a key contributor to several international agreements, including the Poland-US missile defense agreement and the accord between the pro-EU opposition and Ukrainian President Yanukovich, in 2013. In 2012, Foreign Policy named him one of its 100 global thinkers for “telling the truth even when it’s not diplomatic.” ●



Igor Slobodník

State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic

Igor Slobodník is the State Secretary in Ministry of Foreign and European

Affairs of the Slovak Republic. Mr Igor Slobodník started his diplomatic career in 1992 in Prague, at the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Czechoslovakia as Private Secretary to the Minister. He occupied several positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia, as well as at the Ministry of Defence of Slovakia. In 1993, he became Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Slovakia in Denmark. In 1997, he was appointed Ambassador of Slovakia to the United Kingdom, later serving as Political Director at the Ministry of Defence. In 2004, he became the Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the North Atlantic Council. In 2008, he took the position of the Political Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2010 to 2015, Mr Slobodník served as Ambassador of Slovakia to the Federal Republic of Germany. In his current capacity as State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia, Mr Slobodník is responsible for the security policy, external economic relations, development assistance, international organizations, and the countries of the Eastern Partnership, Africa, Asia and Pacific as well as Americas. ●



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Richard Stengel

Under Secretary of State for
Public Diplomacy and Public
Affairs

Richard Stengel was sworn in as Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs on February 14, 2014.

As Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, he provides global strategic leadership of all Department of State public diplomacy and public affairs engagement and oversees the bureaus of Educational and Cultural Affairs, International Information Programs, and Public Affairs, and the Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications.

Prior to assuming this position, Richard Stengel was the Managing Editor of TIME from 2006 to 2013, which includes print and digital, domestic and international. From 2004 to 2006, he was the President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Mr. Stengel was the Ferris Professor of Journalism at Princeton University in 1999.

From 1992 to 1994, Mr. Stengel worked with Nelson Mandela on his autobiography, Long Walk to Freedom, and later served as an associate producer of the 1996 Oscar-nominated documentary, Mandela. Mr. Stengel received an Emmy award in 2012 for his work as executive producer on TIME's documentary, "Beyond 9/11: Portraits of Resilience."

Richard Stengel has written for many publications and is the author of several books, including Mandela's Way and January Sun: One Day, Three Lives, A South African Town. During his career at TIME he also served as the magazine's national and culture editor as well as editor of TIME.com.

Mr. Stengel received a B.A. from Princeton University and studied English and History as a Rhodes Scholar at Christ Church, Oxford. ●



Marcin Terlikowski

Head of the European Security
and Defence Economics
Project, PISM

Marcin Terlikowski is head of European Security and Defence Economics project in the Polish Institute of

International Affairs (PISM). Since 2007 he has been a research fellow in PISM, and between 2013 and 2014 served as acting coordinator of International Security Program. In his research he focuses on European defence industry and defence equipment market, European Union's Common Security and Defence Policy, defence and military cooperation in Europe. He is the author of numerous policy reports and academic papers on European defence, defence economics, Polish security policy and crisis management operations. He co-led a number of collaborative research programs, including Defence Austerity: a New Paradigm for Defence and Security Cooperation in the Visegrad Region (2011-2013) (DAV4); Weimar Defence Cooperation – Projects to Respond to the European Imperative (2011); Restructuring Europe's Armed Forces in Times of Austerity: A Dialog on Challenges and Opportunities for Government and Industry (2010). ●



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Róbert Vass

Executive Vice-President, Slovak Atlantic Commission

Róbert Vass is the Executive Vice-President and CEO of Central European Strategy Council and Founder of the GLOBSEC Forum. He began his started his professional

career as President of non-governmental organisation Euro-Atlantic Center in 2002. He had remained in this position for the next four years. In 2006, he was elected Chairman of the Slovak Atlantic Commission (SAC) and in 2008 its Secretary General. Under his leadership, SAC has achieved substantial development, opened two new offices in Banská Bystrica and Bratislava, extended its programme and activities and became the exclusive member of Atlantic Treaty Association for Slovakia. In 2005, he founded the tradition of Bratislava Global Security Forum and since then he has been the patron of this initiative. He also organised the accompanying conference of NATO Defence Ministers Meeting and established the successful magazine on foreign policy and international security Euro-Atlantic Quarterly. In connection with the sixtieth anniversary of the United Nations, the UN Information Service in Vienna chose him as its temporary representative for Slovakia. Robert has a Master's degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from the Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica. ●



Raimonds Vējonis

President of Latvia

His Excellency Mr Raimonds Vējonis is the current President of the Republic of Latvia. He assumed office on 8 July 2015 and is a member of the Latvian Green Party. He previously served as the Minister of Defense (2014-2015), the

Minister of the Environment (2002-2011) and was a member of the Parliament of the Republic of Latvia (2011-2014). He also worked as the European Union Associated States Environmental Legislation Control and Implementation Branch National Coordinator (1998-2002), and was the Director of Lielrīgas Regional Environmental board (1996-2002). Raimonds Vējonis has been awarded the Order of Three Stars (second grade) for his distinguished career in public service. He holds a Masters Degree in Biology from the University of Latvia. ●



Marcin Zaborowski

Executive Vice President, CEPA

Marcin Zaborowski is the executive vice-president and head of the Warsaw Office for the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) since July 2015. Previously, from 2010 to 2015, Mr.

Zaborowski served as the director of the Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), in Warsaw. Prior to that, Mr. Zaborowski directed the Transatlantic Programme at the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS), in Paris, where he dealt with transatlantic relations, U.S. foreign policy, EU Common Security and Defence Policy, and EU enlargement. He was a lecturer in international relations at the University of Birmingham and Aston University, in the UK, from 2001 to 2005, and a coordinator and director of the Transatlantic Programme at the Centre for International Relations, in Warsaw, from 2002 to 2004. Mr. Zaborowski holds a Ph.D. in European Politics and an M.A. in International Studies from the University of Birmingham. He is also a graduate of the Adam Mickiewicz University, in Poznan, Poland. Mr. Zaborowski is a member of the Council of the Slovak Atlantic Commission (SAC) and a consultant for the Strategic Security Review of Poland. He is a member of the prestigious international expert policy group under the NATO secretary general that formulated a report on the most important challenges facing NATO before its 2014 Wales summit. ●



Liz Wahl

Journalist (Former RT Journalist)

Liz Wahl is an American journalist based in Washington, D.C. She has appeared on CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, The View, The Colbert Report, and several international news outlets. From 2011

to 2014, she was a correspondent and anchor for the U.S. branch of RT TV and made international headlines following her resignation from the channel, publicly denouncing its distorted coverage of the conflict in Ukraine and Russian intervention in Crimea. Wahl has spoken widely about Russian propaganda tactics, journalistic ethics, and current challenges and responsibilities in new media on panel discussions and journalism conferences throughout Europe. Previously, she had worked as a producer in her home state of Connecticut and reporter and anchor overseas in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands and was a regional correspondent for the NBC affiliate in the territory of Guam. She graduated from Fairfield University with a major in English/Journalism. She was born on a U.S. Naval base in the Philippines and is of Filipino and Hungarian descent. ●



Bringing Central Europe to Washington



Lubomír Zaorálek

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Lubomír Zaorálek was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic on 29 January 2014. Prior to his appointment as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lubomír Zaorálek was

a leading figure in the Czech Parliament. From 2002 – 2006 he was the Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies and later the Deputy Chairman. In 1998 he was elected the Deputy Chair of the Czech Social Democratic Party, and since 2002 he was the Party's Shadow Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 1996, Lubomír Zaorálek was elected to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic for the first time. In 1990 he was elected to the Municipal Assembly of the City of Ostrava on the ballot of the Civic Forum (Obanské fórum), as one of its founders and representatives appointed to the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly. At that time he joined the staff of the Philosophy Department of the Ostrava University teaching political philosophy, contemporary philosophy, ethics and Czech political thought of the 19th and 20th centuries. ●



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Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic





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