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DRAFT PROGRAM

The Balkans Success Story - Maintaining Regional Security and Enhancing Stability

Monday 14th

9.00 – 09.30

Welcome Address

Dr. Sc. Dijana GUPTA
President, Atlantic Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina

BG Merle D. HART (US Air Force)
NATO HQ Sarajevo

09.30 – 11.00

Panel 1: Approaching the Wales Summit

With the focus turning on South Asia and the Black Sea region, this Summit will focus on the furthering of cooperation with partners around the world and enhance the significance of sharing of defense capabilities. This 25th meeting of NATO leaders will determine the future of the Alliance and its co-operative strategic approach towards emerging threats, such as terrorism, piracy as well as missile and cyber defense. The follow-on NATO mission in Afghanistan Post-2014 as well as relations with the Russian Federation will be highlighted, as world leaders are expected to adopt a declaration on TransAtlantic security.

Chair

Mr. Goran MILIĆ
Director, Al Jazeera Balkans

-

Dr. Zlatko LAGUMDŽIJA*
Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Maj. General Salvatore FARINA*
Commander, Kosovo Forces (KFOR)

-

Ms. Barbora MARONKOVA*
Project Manager, NATO PDD

11.15 – 12.30

Panel 2: Integrating the Western Balkan Partner Countries into NATO

NATO's newest strategic concept, presented in Lisbon, highlighted the imperative role of partnerships for maintaining security and enhancing stability. The Western Balkan States –Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the Former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Montenegro and Serbia- belong to the Partnership for Peace (PfP) agreement and are active contributors to NATO missions. Despite the level of implementation of the five chapters of the Membership Action Plan (MAP) the Western Balkan Partner States proceed towards Euro-Atlantic integration and aim for the betterment of international security.*

Chair

Prof. Dr. Lidija ČEHULIĆ*
Atlantic Council of Croatia

-	H.E. Amb. Bradimir JUKIC* <i>Ambassador, Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to NATO</i>
-	Prof. Dr. Suad BEĆIROVIĆ* <i>Rector, University of Novi Pazar</i>
-	H.E. Amb. Angel ALEXANDROV* <i>Ambassador, Embassy of Bulgaria to Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>
13.30 – 14.45	Panel 3: Regional Cooperation among the Balkan States and Sharing of Defense Capabilities
	<i>As new emerging challenges become evident and the ongoing financial stagnation in Europe is limiting the ability of states to procure and modernize their defense capabilities, the Allied member states and partners are now in the process of identifying ways to share capabilities and co-operate at a regional level. Arms control, maritime security and cyber defence are a few of the areas that cooperation is currently lacking in and must be improved in order to enhance international security and regional stability.</i>
Chair	Prof. Dr. Mića JOVANOVIĆ* <i>President, The Atlantic Council of Serbia</i>
-	<i>OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>
-	Dr. Arian STAROVA <i>President, The Atlantic Council of Albania</i>
-	Mr. Predrag TASEVSKI <i>Founder, cybersecurity.mk</i>
19.30	Reception
Tuesday 15th	
09.30 – 10.45	Panel 4: Unresolved Territorial Disputes and Self-Determination: From Dayton to Maiden
	<i>After the self-determination of the Crimeans and the annexation of the territory by the Russian Federation, actors in the region have been preparing for an escalation. At the same time, armament and support of pro-Russian groups inside Ukraine and the presence of Russian troops in the borders has also mobilized the international community. NATO and the EU are now taking steps to bolster Ukraine and other neighbouring states in order to abridge Russian actions in the region. The handling of the crisis in Ukraine is decisive for the Alliance and its future role.</i>
Chair	Prof. Dr. Dragan PANTIĆ* <i>Professor, University of Sarajevo</i>
-	Dr. Solomon PASSY* <i>President, Atlantic Club of Bulgaria</i>
-	Ms. Oksana DRAMARETSKA* <i>Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Ukraine to Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>
-	Prof. Dr. Amela ZORANIĆ* <i>Prorector, University Novi Pazar</i>
11.00 – 12.30	Panel 5: Border Security and the Balkans: What are the Stakes?
	<i>Sharing borders and proximity to a conflict state are two of the major determinants and denominators of regional conflict diffusion. Since the Arab uprisings we are witnessing a shift in structural mobilizing factors. Mass media, social media and transnational networks nowadays can induce the possibility of conflict spill-overs. Thus the questions of national sovereignty and border security move beyond traditional tools to counter mobilization. The recent events in Crimea have proven that unresolved territorial disputes can affect regions that do not necessarily share border, such as Transnistria, South Serbia, and Northern Kosovo, thus, raising questions of border security.</i>
Chair	Prof. Dr. Kerima FILAN* <i>Professor, University of Sarajevo</i>

-	Prof. Dr. Milos SOLAJA* <i>Director, Center for International Relations, Banja Luka</i>
-	Dr. Savo KENTERA* <i>Atlantic Council of Montenegro</i>
-	Ms. Klaudia TANI <i>Researcher, University of Kent</i>
13.30 – 15.15	Roundtable: The Future of TransAtlantic Relations: What is the Role of the Western Balkan States?
-	<i>The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is an alliance that creates a link between North America and Europe. Its consultative role on matters of security and defense provides new co-operative instruments for the Allies and its partners. Since the end of the Cold War, NATO has shifted its mandate continuously towards arising security challenges; terrorism, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD's), cyber-attacks, piracy, financial stagnation and transnational networks among others, predicaments the Alliance faces in the 21st century. Current developments though necessitate another reprioritization.</i>
Chair	Dr. Arian STAROVA <i>President, Atlantic Council of Albania</i>
-	Dr. Savo KENTERA* <i>Atlantic Council of Montenegro</i>
-	Prof. Dr. Mevludin DUDIĆ* <i>Rector, International University Serbia</i>
-	Mr. Zlatko DIZDAREVIĆ* <i>Independent Journalist and Diplomat</i>
-	Prof. Dr. Kerima FILAN* <i>Professor, University of Sarajevo</i>
15.30 – 17.00	Discussions and Policy Brief Drafting
Topics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The progress of gender mainstreaming (implementation of UNSC 1325) in the Western Balkans; • Sharing of defense capabilities within the region; • Involving minority groups and diasporas to promote Euro-Atlantic integration; • Promoting collective strategies to counter cyber attacks; • Integrating the Western Balkan partners into NATO.
Wednesday 16th	
09.30 – 13.00	Discussions and Policy Brief Drafting
Topics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The progress of gender mainstreaming (implementation of UNSC 1325) in the Western Balkans; • Sharing of defense capabilities within the region; • Involving minority groups and diasporas to promote Euro-Atlantic integration; • Promoting collective strategies to counter cyber attacks; • Integrating the Western Balkan partners into NATO.
14.00 – 15.15	Panel 6: Three Years After the Uprisings: the Refugee Crisis and Returning Foreign Fighters
-	<i>Three years ago, the international community witnessed a momentum in history. Social movements were formed, demanding regime change; political figures were ousted, interim military governments took their place and begun reforms while organizing democratic elections. Nevertheless, since early 2011 the MENA region has experienced a mass outward migration, with 5.1 million people resettling in Europe alone. The shortage of labor in the region and the overwhelming flow in Europe has caused an imbalance to both continents. Migration to and from the Syrian theater also foreshadows the emergence of a new threat environment that will effect Europe and the middle East.</i>
Chair	Mr. Zlatko DIZDAREVIĆ* <i>Independent Journalist and Diplomat</i>
-	H.E. Amb. Yasser Sayed Mahmoud ELATAWI* <i>Ambassador, Embassy of Egypt to Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>

-	H.E. Amb. Burak ÖZÜGERGIN <i>Ambassador, Embassy of Turkey to Croatia</i>
-	Ms. Stephanie SIKLOSSY* <i>Political Officer, Political Affairs and Security Policy Division's Middle East and North Africa Section, NATO</i>
15.30– 17.30	Discussions and Policy Brief Drafting
-Topics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The progress of gender mainstreaming (implementation of UNSC 1325) in the Western Balkans; • Sharing of defense capabilities within the region; • Involving minority groups and diasporas to promote Euro-Atlantic integration; • Promoting collective strategies to counter cyber attacks; • Integrating the Western Balkan partners into NATO.
Thursday 17th	
09.30 – 10.45	Panel 7: 19 Years after the Dayton Agreement and Where Do the Western Balkan Partner Countries Stand?
	<i>Almost two decades after the signing of the Dayton agreement, the Western Balkan states have achieved what many thought impossible. Commitment to NATO and aspiration towards EU membership, has constructed prerogatives have made Balkan countries valuable components of international security structure. With the aim of strengthening the TransAtlantic bond they have induced cooperation with NATO's member and partner countries while at the same time furthering their own economic and social development.</i>
Chair	Prof. Dr. Besim SPAHIC* <i>Professor, University of Sarajevo</i>
-	Prof. Dr. Muamer ZOKORLIĆ* <i>Professor, International University Novi Pazar</i>
-	NATO HQ Sarajevo
-	Prof. Dr. Radovan VUKADINOVIC* <i>Atlantic Council of Croatia</i>
09.30 – 13.00	Panel 9: Engagement of Women (UNSC 1325), Diaspora and Minority Groups in Promoting Regional Stability
	<i>Since the signing of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSC) 1325, on Women, Peace and Security, international organizations have taken steps to further the importance of women's involvement in security, especially during missions. To that end, approximately 75% of civilians caught in-between fighting factions are women and children. Engaging women with the civilian populations alleviates the fear of this affected population that should be considered a valuable information source on rebels and militias. Moreover, the involvement of minority groups during negotiating settlements is incontestably a step towards normalization of interethnic relations and with the varied involvement of diaspora groups in the Balkans and around the globe, these communities when requested to assist represent a source of economic and social development.</i>
Chair	Ms. Klaudia TANI <i>Researcher, University of Kent</i>
-	Ms. Mari SKÅRE* <i>Special Representative on Women, Peace and Security, NATO</i>
-	Mr. Sokol HAVOLLI* <i>Deputy Director, Central Bank of the Republic Kosovo</i>
-	Ms. Lana ACKAR <i>National Programme Officer for Gender Issues, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>
13.30 – 15.00	Roundtable: The Future of the Western Balkan States: NATO, the EU and Regional Agreements
	<i>Can regional integration bring forward a face of the Western Balkans long desired by the international community? This roundtable will examine the role of bilateral and trilateral agreements in the region and the progress of the Western Balkan countries towards NATO and EU accession. Development in the economic, political and social sectors as well as security sector reforms have</i>

	<i>slowly advanced the role of the Western Balkan states in the international arena.</i>
Chair	Prof. Dr. Radovan VUKADINOVIC* <i>Atlantic Council of Croatia</i>
-	Ms. Dominika EMINI <i>Researcher, Kosovo Centre for Security Studies</i>
-	Mr. Zekerijah (Mevludin) OSMIĆ* <i>Minister, Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>
-	H.E. Mr. Flamur GASHI* <i>Ambassador, Embassy of Albania to Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>
15.00 – 17.00	Discussions and Policy Brief Drafting
Topics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The progress of gender mainstreaming (implementation of UNSC 1325) in the Western Balkans; • Sharing of defense capabilities within the region; • Involving minority groups and diasporas to promote Euro-Atlantic integration; • Promoting collective strategies to counter cyber attacks; • Integrating the Western Balkan partners into NATO.
Friday 18th	
09.00 – 11.30	Policy Brief Presentations
Topics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The progress of gender mainstreaming (implementation of UNSC 1325) in the Western Balkans; • Sharing of defense capabilities within the region; • Involving minority groups and diasporas to promote Euro-Atlantic integration; • Promoting collective strategies to counter cyber attacks; • Integrating the Western Balkan partners into NATO.
11.30 – 12.00	Concluding Remarks
-	Dr. Sc. Dijana GUPTA <i>President, Atlantic Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>

*Refers to speakers who are in the process of being confirmed.

**Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.