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Speakers' bios

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Jon B. Alterman is director and senior fellow of the Middle East Program at CSIS. Prior to joining CSIS, he served as a member of the Policy Planning Staff at the U.S. Department of State and as a special assistant to the assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs. He is a member of the Chief of Naval Operations Executive Panel and served as an expert adviser to the Iraq Study Group (also known as the Baker-Hamilton Commission). In addition to his policy work, he teaches Middle Eastern studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and

the George Washington University. Before entering government, he was a scholar at the U.S. Institute of Peace and at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. Alterman has lectured in more than 25 countries on subjects related to the Middle East and U.S. policy toward the region. In addition to his academic work, he is sought out as a consultant to business and government and is a frequent commentator in print, on radio, and on television. His opinion pieces have appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *Asharq al-Awsat*, and other major publications.



Carl Gershman is President of the National Endowment for Democracy. In addition to presiding over the Endowment's grants program in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union and Latin America, he has overseen the creation of the quarterly 'Journal of Democracy', International Forum for Democratic Studies, and the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program. He also took the lead in launching in New Delhi in 1999 the World Movement for Democracy, which

is a global network of democracy practitioners and scholars. Prior to assuming the position with the National Endowment for Democracy, Mr. Gershman was Senior Counselor to the United States Representative to the United Nations, in which capacity he served as the U.S. Representative to the UN's Third Committee that deals with human rights issues, and also as Alternate Representative of the US to the UN Security Council. Mr. Gershman has lectured extensively and written articles, books and reviews on foreign policy issues.



Silvio Gonzato is Head of Secretariat of the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs. A European Parliament official since 1988, Mr. Gonzato spent most of his career (13 years) working in different committee secretariats, covering both internal and external policies. During that period Mr. Gonzato had the opportunity to acquire hands-on experience of the work of a parliamentary body on a variety of subjects from assisting MEPs in legislative dossiers (including the negotiations on the new EU external financial instruments in 2004-2006 and the recent negotiations

on the establishment of the European External Action Service) to developing new oversight methods (Working Group on the European Social Fund which monitored the implementation of ESF monies in EU Member States, Working Groups on the external financial assistance instruments and Monitoring Group on the Southern Mediterranean). He has also covered in particular the countries of the Western Balkans and the EU enlargement strategy.



Philip H. Gordon was nominated Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs in 2009. As Assistant Secretary, he is responsible for 50 countries in Europe and Eurasia as well as NATO, the EU and the OSCE. Dr. Gordon has previously served as a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC; Director for European Affairs at the National Security Council under President Bill Clinton; and Senior Fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, London. He has a Ph.D. and M.A. from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and a B.A. from Ohio University. His working languages include French, German, Italian and some Spanish. Dr. Gordon is the author of numerous books and articles on international relations and foreign policy and has been a frequent contributor to major publications such as *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *International Herald Tribune*, and *Financial Times*.



Eva Gross is Senior Fellow and head of the research cluster 'European Foreign and Security Policy' at the Institute for European Studies (IES), Vrije Universiteit Brussel. An expert on EU foreign and security policy, she has published widely on various aspects of European crisis management and the reconstruction of Afghanistan. Eva Gross holds a Ph.D from the London School of Economics, and has been a Visiting Fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations (CTR), SAIS/Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C., the EU Institute for Security Studies in Paris and the Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels.



Daniel Hamilton is the Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation Professor and Director of the Center for Transatlantic Relations at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University. He also serves as Executive Director of the American Consortium for EU Studies, designated by the European Commission as the EU Center of Excellence Washington, D.C. He has held a variety of senior positions in the U.S. Department of State, including Deputy Assistant Secretary for European Affairs, responsible for NATO, OSCE and transatlantic security issues; U.S. Special Coordinator for Southeast European Stabilization; Associate Director of the Policy Planning Staff; Director for Policy in the Bureau of European Affairs; and Senior Policy Advisor to the U.S. Ambassador and U.S. Embassy in Germany.



Sylvie Kauffmann is executive editor of *Le Monde*. As former deputy executive editor and most recently a Southeast Asia correspondent for that paper, she replaced Alain Frachon, who was appointed in 2007. She has been with *Le Monde* since 1988. Hired initially 'for her expertise on Eastern European politics and society', according to *Le Monde*, Ms. Kauffmann reported on the fall of the Berlin Wall before postings to Washington and New York from 1993 to 2001. Born in Marseille, she started her career at *Agence France-Presse*, France's largest news agency, serving in Paris, London, Warsaw and Moscow, where she covered the era of *perestroika* and *glasnost*, building to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Soviet Union.



David Kenner is an assistant editor at Foreign Policy. A native of Boston, Massachusetts, he received his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University, also spending time studying in Turkey. He lived in Lebanon from 2006 to 2008, where he reported on Middle East politics and pursued a master's degree from the American University of Beirut. After leaving the Middle East for the District of Columbia, he worked as an editorial researcher at FP and a research assistant at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. He has written for *The New Republic*, *The Weekly Standard*, and *Slate*, among others.



Daniel Keohane specialises in the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) at the EUISS. He was previously Senior Research Fellow for security and defence policy at the Centre for European Reform (CER) in London, and a research associate at the Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University, in Washington DC. He also worked at the Aspen Institute in Berlin. He has given evidence about EU security and defence policy to the Oireachtas Sub-Committee on Ireland's future in the European Union, the Sub-Committee on Defence and Security of the European Parliament, and the UK House of Commons Defence Committee. He has carried out studies (both alone and as part of consortia) commissioned by the European Defence Agency (EDA) and the European Space Agency (ESA). He has published articles in numerous peer-reviewed journals and contributed to several publication projects.



Daniel Korski joined the European Council on Foreign Relations as a Senior Policy Fellow in October 2007 and since 2011 has run the Middle East Programme. In 2010, he worked as a Defence and Security Adviser in the Department for International Development (DfID). Previously, he went on secondment to the U.S. State Department, working as a Senior Adviser to the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization; and he spent the first quarter of 2007 in Basra in southern Iraq as Head of the UK/US Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT). Beforehand, Daniel was the Deputy Head of the UK's Post-Conflict Reconstruction Unit (PCRU), an inter-departmental organisation set-up by the Ministry of Defence, the Foreign Office and Department for International Development; and worked in Afghanistan as a Policy Adviser to the Minister for Counter-Narcotics. Prior to joining the Civil Service, Daniel worked as Policy Adviser to the UK House of Commons Defence Select Committee; and as the Head of Political-Military Affairs for Lord Paddy Ashdown, the then-High Representative of Bosnia-Herzegovina. In Bosnia, he also served as a Political Adviser to the Chairmen of the Bosnian Defence Reform Commission, the Expert Commission on Intelligence Reform and the Commission on Police Restructuring. Daniel started as an intern with the UN in Geneva and the International Crisis Group (ICG).



Daniel Levy is a Senior Research Fellow and Co-Director of the Middle East Task Force at the New America Foundation. He is also a Senior Fellow at The Century Foundation and serves as a co-editor of The Middle East Channel, an online initiative of *Foreign Policy* Magazine. During the Barak Government of 1999-2001, Daniel Levy worked in the Israeli Prime Minister's Office as special adviser and head of Jerusalem Affairs, following which he worked as senior policy adviser to then Israeli Minister of Justice, Yossi Beilin. In this capacity he was responsible for coordinating policy on various issues including peace negotiations, civil and human rights, and the Palestinian minority in Israel. Mr. Levy was a member of the official Israeli delegation to the Taba negotiations with the Palestinians in January 2001, and previously served on the Israeli negotiating team to the 'Oslo B' Agreement from May to September 1995, under Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. He also served as the lead Israeli drafter of the Geneva Initiative, a joint Israeli-Palestinian effort that seeks a peace agreement to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. From 2003 to 2004, he worked as an analyst for the International Crisis Group Middle East Program. Mr. Levy was a founder of the J Street organisation, the pro-peace pro-Israel movement that has become prominent since its launch in April 2008, and he continues to serve on their advisory board. Levy writes regularly for sites such as TPM Café, the Huffington Post, the Guardian, and ForeignPolicy.com and maintains an occasional blog at www.prospectsforpeace.com. He is a regular Middle East commentator on TV and radio, including with *BBC*, *CNN*, *PBS*, and *Al Jazeera*.



Linas Linkevičius is currently Adviser to the Prime Minister of Lithuania. Former Lithuanian Minister of National Defence, he has also been the Lithuanian Permanent Representative on the North Atlantic Council as well as Ambassador, Head of Mission to NATO and WEU.



Robert Malley is Program Director for Middle East and North Africa at the International Crisis Group where he directs analysts based in Amman, Cairo, Beirut, Tel Aviv and Baghdad. Together they report on the political, social and economic factors affecting the risk of conflict and make policy recommendations to address these threats. Prior to his current position, Mr Malley performed numerous functions within the U.S. government, including Special Assistant to President Clinton for Arab-Israeli Affairs (1998-2001), Executive Assistant to Samuel R. Berger, National Security Advisor (1996-1998), Director for Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs at the National Security Council (1994-1996).



Jānis Mažeiks is Director-General for Economic and Bilateral Relations at the Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he is responsible for coordination and representation of Latvia's economic and development policies and bilateral relations (Asia, Africa, Americas, and EU neighbourhoods). Prior to this appointment he held numerous positions within the government and at international organisations, including the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Latvia to the United Nations in Geneva and to the WTO, Foreign Policy Adviser to the State President of the Republic of Latvia as well as Head of Russia division. He has been educated in Latvia and Italy.



Mansouria Mokhefi is the head of the Maghreb/Middle East programme at the French Institute for International Relations. She holds a masters from New York University and a doctorate from Sciences Po Paris, where she graduated in international relations. Prior to joining Ifri, Mansouria Mokhefi taught Middle Eastern History and international relations at Vassar College, New York and North African politics at l'Institut des Langues et Civilisations orientales (INALCO). She still teaches at New York University in Paris.



Thierry de Montbrial is president of the French Institute of International Relations (Ifri) which he founded in 1979. He is Professor Emeritus at the *Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers*. He is a member of the *Académie des Sciences morales et Politiques* of the *Institut de France* and a member of a number of foreign Academies of Sciences. He has been a columnist with *Le Monde* since 2002. He serves on the board or advisory board of a number of international institutions. He was the first Chairman of the Foundation for Strategic Research (1993-2001). Entrusted with the creation of the Policy Planning Staff (*Centre d'Analyse et de Prévision*) at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thierry de Montbrial was its first director (1973-1979). He chaired the Department of Economics at the *Ecole Polytechnique* from 1974 to 1992. He has authored numerous books on international affairs.



Petr Nečas became Prime Minister of the Czech Republic after the General Election in 2010 and leads the Civic Democratic Party (ODS). Mr. Nečas was sworn in by the President of the Czech Republic in July 2010. Prior to becoming the Prime Minister, he served as the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and as Deputy Prime Minister after having been First Deputy Minister of Defence. A Member of Parliament since 1992, he has held a number of positions on committees dealing with NATO, defence issues and European Union. His positions include Chairman of the Defence and Security Committee, Deputy Chairman on the Joint Committee of the European Parliament and the Czech Parliament and Deputy Chairman on the European Affairs Committee. Before becoming an MP in the Czech Republic, Mr. Nečas worked as a production engineer and researcher. He was educated at the Faculty of Science of the University of J.E. Purkyně in Brno, where he received a post-graduate degree in Natural Sciences in 1988.



Robin Niblett is Director of Chatham House (the Royal Institute of International Affairs). Before joining Chatham House, from 2001 to 2006, Dr Niblett was the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Washington-based Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS). Dr Niblett's principal interests are European integration and transatlantic relations. During his last two years at CSIS, he also served as Director of the CSIS Europe Program and its Initiative for a Renewed Transatlantic Partnership. Most recently he is the author of the Chatham House Report, *Ready to Lead? Rethinking America's Role in a Changed World* (2009) and editor of the book *America and a Changed World: A Question of Leadership* (2010). Dr Niblett is a frequent panellist at conferences on transatlantic relations. He has testified on a number of occasions to the U.S. Senate and House Committees on European Affairs.



Marina Ottaway works on issues of political transformation in the Middle East and Gulf security. A long-time analyst of the formation and transformation of political systems, she has also written on political reconstruction in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Balkans, and African countries. Before joining the Endowment, Ottaway carried out research in Africa and in the Middle East for many years and taught at the University of Addis Ababa, the University of Zambia, the American University in Cairo, and the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. Her extensive research experience is reflected in her publications, which include nine authored books and six edited ones. Her most recent publications include *Getting to Pluralism*, co-authored with Amr Hamzawy and *Yemen on the Brink*, co-edited with Christopher Boucek. She is also the author of *Iraq: Elections 2010*, an online guide to Iraqi politics.



Patryk Pawlak has been a Research Fellow at the EU Institute for Security Studies since January 2011. His main areas of research include EU-US relations and US domestic and foreign policies. Prior to joining the EUISS, he was a visiting scholar at numerous research institutions, including the Center for Transatlantic Relations (Washington, D.C.), Center for Peace and Security Studies at Georgetown University (Washington, D.C.) and the Centre for European Policy Studies (Brussels). He has published articles in numerous peer-reviewed journals and contributed to several collective research and publication projects. Dr. Pawlak holds a Ph.D in political science from the European University Institute in Florence and a masters from the College of Europe.



Jerzy Pomianowski is Under-Secretary of State at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prior to this he has worked for UNESCO (in Sri Lanka) and the OECD in Paris. He was Poland's Ambassador to Japan. In July of this year, he was named Deputy Foreign Minister of Poland.



Fabrice Pothier is the head of policy planning in the private office of the Secretary General of NATO, where he oversees the review of current and future strategic policy issues facing the alliance. Prior to his NATO appointment, Pothier was founding director of Carnegie Europe, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace's pan-European foreign policy centre based in Brussels. Pothier has also been head of policy analysis and co-founder of the International Council on Security and Development (ICOS), which was initiated by the Network of European Foundations. He was also International Research Manager at the London-based strategic consultancy Europe Japan Centre, owned by Japanese energy group Osaka Gas.



Gideon Rachman is chief foreign affairs commentator for the *Financial Times*. His book 'Zero-Sum Future' was published by Simon and Schuster in February, 2011. He writes a weekly column on foreign affairs, as well as an FT blog. In 2010, he was named foreign commentator of the year in Britain's annual 'Comment Awards'. Before joining the FT in 2006, he worked for *The Economist* for 15 years in a range of jobs, including as a foreign correspondent in Brussels, Bangkok and Washington. Mr. Rachman read history at Cambridge University and has been a visiting fellow at the Woodrow Wilson school at Princeton University.



Henning Riecke joined the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) in 2000 and is currently in charge of organising three of the Council's regular study groups. These are 'Strategic Issues', 'Policy on Europe' and, together with Claudia Schmucker, 'Future Global Questions'. He coordinates periodic conferences, such as the Dutch-German Roundtable or the Trilateral with French and British experts. Riecke participated in expert groups and task forces organised by the German Ministry of Defence, the European Space Agency, the Social Democratic Party and several private sponsors. Riecke also teaches at the Free University of Berlin. Before joining the research institute in November 2000, he was a Thyssen Post-Doc Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, with a project on US small arms and light weapons policy. Between 1994 and 1999, he held several positions at the Center for Transatlantic Foreign and Security Policy Studies, Free University of Berlin. Riecke holds a Political Science Doctorate and a Diploma from the Free University of Berlin. Riecke has published a number of articles on European security policy, especially on developments in NATO and EU, on WMD proliferation and force transformation.



Kori Schake is a fellow at the Hoover Institution and an associate professor of international security studies at the U.S. Military Academy. She has held positions in the Department of Defense, the Department of State, the National Security Council, and as senior policy advisor on the 2008 McCain-Palin campaign. She blogs for the Shadow Government site on Foreign Policy. Her forthcoming book 'War By Other Means' will be published by Hoover Press.



Claire Spencer is Head of the Middle East and North Africa Programme at Chatham House. After completing a BSc. (Hons) in Politics at Bristol University, she went on to do her Ph.D at the School of Oriental & African Studies of the University of London where she also obtained a diploma in Arabic. Fellow of Royal Society of Arts, Dr. Spencer is widely published and has been a commentator giving interviews to the *BBC*, *CNN*, *Al Jazeera* and others.



William Taylor was appointed the U.S. Special Coordinator for Middle East Transition in 2011. Prior to that he was Senior Vice President at the United States Institute of Peace. A graduate of West Point and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, he has served in posts in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Middle East and the former Soviet Union. Most recently, Bill Taylor was U.S. ambassador to Ukraine from 2006 to 2009. Prior to that assignment, he was the U.S. government's representative to the Mideast Quartet, which facilitated the Israeli disengagement from Gaza and parts of the West Bank. He served in Baghdad as director of the Iraq Reconstruction Management Office from 2004 to 2005 and in Kabul as coordinator of international and U.S. assistance to Afghanistan from 2002 to 2003. Ambassador Taylor was also a coordinator of U.S. assistance to the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.



João Vale de Almeida is the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United States. Prior to his appointment in Washington, he served as the Director General for External Relations at the European Commission, the European Union's executive body. As the most senior official under the authority of the High Representative/European Commission Vice-President Baroness Ashton, he helped formulate and execute the EU's foreign policy and played a key role in preparing for the new European External Action Service (EEAS) introduced by the Treaty of Lisbon. From 2004 to 2009, Mr. Vale de Almeida was the Head of Cabinet (Chief of staff and main adviser) for European Commission President José Manuel Barroso. He accompanied President Barroso in all European Council (EU Summit) meetings and ensured coordination with the private offices of Heads of State and Governments in all 27 Member States of the EU. He also acted as President Barroso's permanent Personal Representative for G8 and G20 Summits and as his Personal Representative for the negotiations on the Treaty of Lisbon. Earlier in his career, Mr. Vale de Almeida worked closely, in different capacities, with former Commission Presidents Jacques Delors, Jacques Santer and Romano Prodi. He holds a degree in history from the University of Lisbon and, before joining the European Commission, he spent seven years as a journalist having studied journalism and management in the United States, France, Japan, and the United Kingdom.



Álvaro de Vasconcelos has been Director of the EU Institute for Security Studies since May 2007. Prior to this, he headed the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (IEEI) in Lisbon, of which he is a co-founder, from 1981 to 2007, from where he launched several networks including the Euro-Latin American Forum and EuroMeSCo. As well as being a regular columnist in the Portuguese and international press, he is author and editor of many books, articles and reports, notably in the areas of the EU common foreign and security policy and on the world order. He is editor of 'What ambitions for European defence in 2020?', published by the EUISS in July 2009, and co-editor (with Marcin Zaborowski) of 'The Obama Moment: European and American perspectives' (October 2009).



Pierre Vimont is the Executive Secretary-General of the European External Action Service. Prior to that position he was Ambassador of France to the United States. Mr. Vimont was chief of staff to the minister of foreign affairs, and was previously ambassador and permanent representative of France to the European Union. His first posting in the French Foreign Service was to London where he was first secretary. He then spent the next four years with the Press and Information Office at the Quai d'Orsay. From 1985 to 1986 he was seconded to the Institute for East-West Security in New York. Returning to Europe, he served with the Permanent Representation of France to the European Communities in Brussels, and was subsequently chief of staff to the minister delegate for European affairs from 1990 to 1993. He went on to serve as director for development and scientific, technical and educational cooperation and then for cultural, scientific and technical relations. He was deputy director general of the entire Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations Department from 1996 to 1997 and then director of European Cooperation from 1997 to 1999. Mr. Vimont holds a degree in law and is a graduate of the Institute of Political Studies and the National School of Administration (ENA).



Bogusław Winid was appointed as the Polish Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Western European Union on 5 September 2007. He began his professional career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1991 in the Department of North and South America. Between August 1992 and September 1997 he served as First Secretary and later Counsellor at the Polish Embassy in Washington, D.C. In October 1997, he returned to Warsaw and was appointed Deputy Director of the Department of North and South America. In September 1998 he was promoted to the position of the Director of this Department. On 25 August 2001, he was appointed as Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Poland in Washington, D.C. In August 2006, after returning from Washington, he was awarded the position of the Undersecretary of State for International Relations at the Ministry of National Defence of Poland. Bogusław Winid graduated from the History Institute of Warsaw University having written his M.A. thesis on the Crimean War. In the period 1988-1989 he studied at Indiana University, Bloomington and in 1991 at the Hoover Institute in Stanford. In 1991 he received his Ph.D from Warsaw University. His Doctoral thesis analysed Polish-American relations from 1919-1939 and was published by the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences.



Richard Youngs is director general of FRIDE. He is also assistant professor at the University of Warwick in the UK. Prior to joining FRIDE, he was EU Marie Curie research fellow at the Norwegian Institute for International Relations, Oslo (2001-2004), and senior research fellow at the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (1995-1998). He has a Ph.D and an M.A. in International Studies from the University of Warwick and a B.A. in Social and Political Science from the University

of Cambridge. His research focuses mainly on democracy promotion and democratisation, European foreign policy, energy security, and the MENA region. He has written several books on different elements of European external policy and published over forty articles and working papers, while writing regularly in national and international media. His latest work is 'Europe's Decline and Fall: the struggle against global irrelevance' (Profile Books, 2010).



Marcin Zaborowski is the Director of the Polish Institute for International Affairs (PISM) since July 2010. Prior to that Dr. Zaborowski directed the transatlantic programme at the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) in Paris. He was formerly Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Birmingham and Aston University in the UK from 2001 to 2005, and was Coordinator and Director of the Transatlantic Programme at the Centre for International Relations

in Warsaw from 2002 to 2004. Dr. Zaborowski holds a Ph.D in European Politics from the University of Birmingham. Dr. Zaborowski is author and co-author of many publications and articles.



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