



**B | T | D** The Balkan Trust  
for Democracy  
A PROJECT OF THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND



## Balkan Networks and Stability

### Connecting co-operative and human security

*Conference organised by*

*the NATO Defense College Foundation in cooperation with the NATO Defense College, the Central European Initiative and the Balkan Trust for Democracy*

**ROME, 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

Venue: *Centro Congressi Roma Eventi -Piazza di Spagna, Via Alibert, 5/a, Rome*

### *Draft Agenda*

#### FIRST DAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017

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

15,00              Welcome remarks

- **Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo**, President, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome \*
- **František Mičánek**, Dean, NATO Defense College, Rome \*

## SESSION 1 BALKAN POLITICS ON THE RAZOR'S EDGE

*After the migrations' shock, the Balkan region has been substantially left to its own in facing enduring challenges: strategic tensions, organized crime, terrorism, potential disintegration and political polarisation. What will be the internal evolution of the countries in the area? How can the region re-network to increase democratic resilience, regional co-ordination and interaction with international institutions like UN, NATO, EU and OSCE?*

Chair: **Miro Kovač**, Chairman, Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Croatia \*

- ❑ **Yannis-Alexis Zepos**, former Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Athens \*
- ❑ **Ivan Vejvoda**, Permanent Fellow, Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna \*
- ❑ **Angelina Eichhorst**, Director for Western Europe, Western Balkans and Turkey, European External Action Service, Brussels \*
- ❑ **Savo Kentera**, President, Atlantic Council of Montenegro, Podgorica \*

General discussion

16,45-17,15 Coffee/Tea break

17,15-18,45

## SESSION 2 THE REGION AND ITS NEAR ACTORS

*The illegal annexation of Crimea by Russia has added further strain on the Balkans, putting them in the unenviable position of a contested zone of influence. What is the real extent of Moscow's activities and how can the region's member states keep a reasonable and sovereign course of integration? Other important external actors?*

Chair: **Benoit d'Aboville**, Vice President, Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, Paris \*

- ❑ **Ahmet Evin**, founding Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Sabanci University, Istanbul \*
- ❑ **Jelena Milic**, Director, Center for Euro-Atlantic Studies, Belgrade \*
- ❑ **Yordan Bozhilov**, President of Sofia Security Forum, Sofia \*

- **Istvan Gyarmati**, President, International Centre for Democratic Transition, Budapest \*

General Discussion

## SECOND DAY 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017

10,00-11,30

### SESSION 3 SECURITY VERSUS ILLEGAL NETWORKS AND TRAFFICKING

*In 1991 the Yugoslav dissolution wars showed to policy makers that security was no more an affair of states and soldiers, but also of militias, criminal networks, small arms proliferation, illegal trafficking and terrorist groups. How can NATO co-operative security and EU collaboration, after the Aegean precedent, be meaningfully developed in the region? Important elements for the revision of the Strategic Concept of NATO?*

Chair: **Sorin Ducaru**, Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Challenges, NATO HQ, Brussels \*

- **Louise Shelley**, Director, Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center Fairfax, Arlington \*
- **Gordana Delic**, Director, Balkan Trust for Democracy, Belgrade \*
- **Paul Radu**, Executive Director, Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project, Bucharest \*
- **Florian Qehaja**, Executive Director, Kosovar Centre for Security Studies, Pristina \*

General Discussion

11,30-12,00 Coffee/Tea break

SESSION 4  
THE PATH TO INTEGRATION

*The EU has a regularly updated its negotiations with Bosnia and Heržegovina, Kosovo, FYROM, Montenegro and Serbia in view of an increased integration. At the same time NATO countries are completing the ratification process for Montenegro, while continuing talks with other countries. How can an overall integration dynamic be pursued and carried on with Euro-sceptic electorates and a deterioration of the conditions in the area?*

Chair: **Zoran Jolevski**, Minister of Defence, Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Skopje \*

- **Goran Svilanovic**, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council, Sarajevo \*
- **Arian Starova**, President, Atlantic Council, Tirana \*
- **Brooke Smith-Windsor**, Deputy Head Research Division, NATO Defense College, Rome \*
- **Dimitrij Rupel**, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ljubljana \*

General discussion

*Special intervention*

**Maciej Popowski**, Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- **Vincenzo Amendola**, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy \*

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