



NATO Foundation
Defense College



BALKAN AND BLACK SEA PERSPECTIVES

2023

7 DECEMBER

*High-Level Conference organised by the **NATO Defense College Foundation**
in co-operation with the **NATO Public Diplomacy Division**,
the **NATO Defense College**,
Philip Morris Italy, Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo, and MBDA Italy*



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STRATEGIC BALKANS MONTHLY JOURNAL

The NDCF *Strategic Balkans* Monthly Journal is a unique product, with an international distribution, that aims to create a monthly context about the situation in the Balkans, from which the reader will be able to draw a clear picture of the events in the area.

It features a selected collection of the most important articles reported by the international press about and from the region, along with commentaries and analyses by regional experts. It also includes a thematic focus on EU and NATO, as well as on economics.

To read the latest November edition, and browse through all the past ones, visit the dedicated page on our website: <https://www.natofoundation.org/strategic-balkans-monthly-journal/>

STRATEGIC BALKANS

The *Strategic Balkans* project is one of the most relevant that the NDCF implements since 12 years, and it goes hand in hand with the attention the Foundation pays to the strategic Black Sea region.

Launched in 2014, restyled in 2017, the project aims to bring together partner organisations focusing on the Western Balkans and South Eastern Europe in order to discuss in-depth the central role of this region for NATO and the EU.

To know more, visit the dedicated page on our website:

<https://www.natofoundation.org/strategic-balkans/>



BALKAN AND BLACK SEA PERSPECTIVES 2023

Structuring strategic resilience

High-Level Conference

The NATO Defense College Foundation

in cooperation with the NATO Public Diplomacy Division, the NATO Defense College, Philip Morris Italy, Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo, and MBDA Italy

Rome | Thursday, the 7th of December 2023

Venue: *Sala Verdi, Hotel Quirinale, Via Nazionale 7*

14,20 – 14,30 *Welcome Remarks*

- **Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo**, President, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome
- **Marc Ozawa**, Senior Researcher, Research Division, NATO Defense College, Rome

14,30 – 14,40 *Opening Remarks*

- **Nicola de Santis**, Head, Engagements Section, Public Diplomacy Division, NATO HQ, Brussels

14,40 – 15,50

SESSION I PREVENTION AND CONSOLIDATION

The tasks that NATO has to accomplish in the region are connected but differentiated according to specific political and strategic conditions. In the Balkans, NATO's work consists in crisis management and prevention, along with other relevant institutions like the EU, the OSCE and the UN. The Black Sea instead needs a classic deterrence and dialogue approach. Taking stock of recent experiences, the session charts possible courses of action. What synergies can be obtained within the Alliance and with other international actors?

Chair: **Alexandra von Nahmen**, Chief, Brussels Bureau, Deutsche Welle, Brussels

- **Tacan Ildem**, Chairman, Centre for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM), Istanbul
- **Olav Reinertsen**, Ambassador of Norway to Bosnia and Herzegovina; and NATO Contact Point Embassy in BiH, Sarajevo
- **Laris Gaiser**, former Political Advisor, Kosovo Force (KFOR), NATO, Ljubljana
- **Alina Inayeh**, Senior Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States, Bucharest

Q&A Session

15,50 – 16,10 *Coffee-Break*

16,10 – 17,20

SESSION II
TOWARDS A VIABLE CYBER AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The war of aggression in Ukraine has witnessed a very intense confrontation both in the cyber-sphere and the illegal economy dimension, where malign actors partner with organised crime across the borders. We have to fight back against regular cyber-attacks and disinformation campaigns. What are the necessary means and agreements to restore a safe IT and business environment? The objective is to maximise the economic viability of Ukraine while undercutting illegal profits favouring hostile actors.

Chair: **Gabriele Carrer**, Journalist, Formiche, Rome

- **Galina Yanchenko**, Member, Committee on Economic Development, Parliament, Kiev *
- **Marko Banović**, Analyst, Digital Forensic Center, Podgorica
- **Oksana Shvets**, Chief Policy Officer, American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine, Kiev

Q&A Session

17,20 – 17,40 *Coffee-Break*

17,40 – 18,50

SESSION III
RESTORING REGIONAL RESILIENCE

The end of the hostilities notwithstanding, the whole region needs a multifaceted resilience recovery approach that has to be prepared and carried out according to the political and economic developments. How is the gradual inclusion of the region in the Euro-Atlantic community progressing, and with what perspectives?

Chair: **Solomon Passy**, former Foreign Minister and Signatory to NATO and EU Accession Treaties of Bulgaria; and President, Atlantic Club, Sofia

- **Zoran Jolevski**, Vice Rector for International Cooperation, European University; and former Minister of Defence, Republic of North Macedonia, Skopje
- **Victoria Nemerenco**, Coordinator of the Europeanization, Foreign and Security Policy Program, Institute for European Policies and Reforms, Chişinău
- **Alba Çela**, Executive Director, Albanian Institute for International Studies, Tirana

Q&A Session

18,50 – 19,00 *Concluding Remarks*

- **Giulio Tremonti**, President, Foreign Affairs Committee, Chamber of Deputies, Rome *

** Virtual*

PARTNERS



NATO Public Diplomacy Division



NATO Defense College



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Philip Morris Italy



MBDA Italy

THE NATO DEFENSE COLLEGE FOUNDATION

The NATO Defense College Foundation, the only existing think-tank bearing the name of the Alliance, was established in Rome in 2011. It grew out from a common intuition of the President Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo and the NATO Defense College top decision makers, who understood the value of a non-profit NGO that could work beyond usual and institutional outreach, training, communication and scientific research activities.

The principles stated in the preamble to the Washington Treaty of 1949 are our heritage.

Our mission is to promote the culture of stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area and in NATO Partner nations.

Our aim is to meet the highest standards in contributing to public debate and future deliberations on strategic, security and geopolitical issues.

Therefore, the NDCF strives at considering relevant issues not just in a descriptive or prescriptive way, but by catching the sense of events and the essential vectors of future developments.

In a claim: Charting ahead.

CONTACTS

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