

New Strategy Center, Romania, and Center for American Seapower, Hudson Institute, USA, are pleased to invite you on 18 January to the debate: “Why the Black Sea Matters. A debate about security challenges in the wider Black Sea region”.

The debate sessions will be moderated by Mr. Iulian Fota, member of the Scientific Council of New Strategy Center, and Mr. Jonathan Eyal, Associate Director, Strategic Research Partnerships, and International Director, at the Royal United Services Institute.

The event is organized with the support of the Romanian Embassy to the UK and it is hosted by the Romanian Cultural Institute, 1 Belgrave Square, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 8PH, UK.

***‘Why the Black Sea Matters.
A debate about security challenges in the wider Black Sea region’***

Schedule:

Part I

14.30 – 14.40 Open remarks: H.E. Dan Mihalache, Ambassador of Romania to The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Mr. Seth Cropsey, director of the Center for American Seapower, Hudson Institute, USA, Mr. ambassador Sergiu Celac, member of the Scientific Council of the New Strategy Center, Romania

14.40 – 14.45 “Why the Black Sea Matters”, Mr. Iulian Fota, member of the Scientific Council of New Strategy Center [*Moderator introduction*]

14.45 – 15.00 “The Black Sea – a key priority for the Romanian foreign policy”, H.E. Dan Mihalache, Ambassador of Romania to The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

15.00 – 15.15 “Old new issues of the region. From the past to the frozen conflicts”, Mr. Dan Dungaciu, member of the Scientific Council of the New Strategy Center, director of the Romanian Institute for Political Studies and International Affairs of the Romanian Academy

15.15 – 15.30 “The US and the challenges on security in the Black Sea area”, Mr. Seth Cropsey, director of the Center for American Seapower, Hudson Institute, USA, former deputy Undersecretary of the U.S. Navy in the administrations of Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush

15.30 – 16.00 Open debate

16.00 – 16.20 Coffee break

Part II

16.20 – 16.30 “A safer Black Sea”, Mr. Jonathan Eyal, Associate Director, Strategic Research Partnerships, and International Director, at the Royal United Services Institute [*Moderator introduction*]

16.30 – 16.45 “Militarization of the Black Sea. Black Swans on the Black Sea area”, Mr. Iulian Fota, former national security adviser to the Romanian President, director of the Romanian National Intelligence College, member of the Scientific Council of the New Strategy Center

16.45 – 17.00 “The re-emergence of traditional maritime security threats in the Black Sea”, Mrs. Deborah Sanders, Senior Lecturer at the Defence Studies Department at King’s College London

17.00 – 17.15 “The information war and inversion of influence”, Mrs. Mihaela Nicola, strategic communication consultant, member of the Scientific Council of the New Strategy Center

17.15 – 17.30 “The Black Sea security in 2017 – a Romanian perspective”, Mr. ambassador Sergiu Celac, former minister of Foreign Affairs and former Romanian ambassador to UK, member of the Scientific Council of the New Strategy Center

17.30 – 18.00 Open debate

18.00 - 18.15 Conclusions and closure of the event

The event is organized under Chatham House rules.