

Security Challenges in the Balkans Region

15 October 2019

Complex Senator, Calea Lugojului Nr.7, Timișoara



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

This conference is held under the Patronage of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

08.30 - 09.30 Registration

09.30 – 09.45 Official opening: **Mr. Marilen Pirtea**, Rector of West University of Timișoara, Romania; **Ambassador Sergiu Celac**, Honorary Chairman of the New Strategy Center; **Mr. Nicolae Robu**, Mayor of Timișoara; **Mr. Călin Dobra**, Chairman of the Timiș County Council, **Mrs. Eva Georgeta Andreăș**, Prefect of the Timiș County

09.45 – 11.45 The Balkans: A Strategic assessment

Chair: **Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Mircea Mîndrescu**, member of the Scientific Council, New Strategy Center, Romania

- ▶ **General Nicolae Ciucă**, Chief of Defense Staff, Romania (confirmed)
- ▶ **Lt. Gen. (Ret) Ben Hodges**, Pershing Chair in Strategic Studies, Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA), former commander United States Army Europe, USA (confirmed)

10.30 – 11.45 Open discussion

11.45-12.00 Coffee break

12.00 – 13.30 Security Challenges for the Balkans Region and the European Stability

Chair: **Mr. Dan Dungaciu**, Member of the Scientific Council of the New Strategy Center

- ▶ **Mr. Victor Micula**, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mrs. Zdravka Bušić**, State Secretary for Political Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia (confirmed)

13.00 – 13.30 Open discussion

13.30-14:45 Lunch

14:45 – 16.30 Fake News and Hybrid Warfare. The weaponization of Information.

Timișoara

Chair: **Dr. Laurențiu Ștefan**, Research Associate at Universitatea de Vest, Timișoara, Romania

- ▶ **H.E. Emil Hurezeanu**, Ambassador of Romania to Germany, Romania (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mr. Cristian Diaconescu**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mrs. Alina Bârgăoanu**, Dean, Faculty of communication and public relations, National School of Political Science and Public Administration (SNSPA), Romania (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mrs. Cătălina Dodu**, Country Manager and Global Cyber Security Services Presales Director, ATOS (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mr. Tal Pavel**, Head of Cyber Studies - Tel Aviv Academic College and associate expert at New Strategy Center, Israel (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mr. Ion Ioniță**, Senior Editor, Adevărul Newspaper, Romania (confirmed)

16.00 – 16.30 Open discussion

16.30 – 16.45 Coffee break

16.45 – 18.35 The Balkans Region: Old & New Challenges

Chair: **Ambassador Simona Miculescu**, Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of the UN Office in Belgrade

- ▶ **Mr. Gordon Barrass**, Visiting Professor, London School of Economics IDEAS, UK (confirmed)
- ▶ **Ms. Jelena Milic**, Director, Center for Euro-Atlantic Studies, Serbia (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mr. Greg Melcher**, Chief Operations Officer, Center for the Study of New Generation Warfare, USA (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mr. Rade Rajkovcevski**, Faculty of Security, University of Bitola, Republic of North Macedonia (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mr. Roger Petersen**, professor, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA (confirmed)
- ▶ **Mr. Marco Di Liddo**, Senior Analyst, Centro Studi Internazionali, Italy (confirmed)

17.50 – 18.20 Open discussion

18.35 – 18.45 Conclusions: Ambassador Sergiu Celac, Honorary Chairman of the New Strategy Center

19.30 –Romanian Evening