

Security Challenges in the Balkans Region

17 June 2022

6th edition

Timișoara



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

This event is held under the Patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania.

09.30 – 10.00 Official opening: Prof. Marilen Gabriel Pirtea, PhD., Rector of West University of Timișoara, **Mr. Ionel Nițu**, President of New Strategy Center, **Mr. Dominic Fritz**, Mayor of Timișoara

10.00– 10.10 Key-note address:

- ▶ **H.E. Nicolae Ciucă**, Prime Minister, Romania (video message)

10.10 – 11.30 Panel I. Challenges of the South East Europe in the Context of the War in Ukraine and Post-Pandemic Crisis

Chair: Ambassador (ret.) Gheorghe Magheru, Member of the Scientific Council of the New Strategy Center, Romania

- ▶ **Mr. Ovidiu Raetchi**, President, Euro-Atlantic Center for Resilience, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania
- ▶ **Sir Stuart Peach**, Prime Minister's Special Envoy to the Western Balkans, UK (via VTC)
- ▶ **Ambassador Alain Le Roy**, former Secretary General of the European External Action Service (EEAS), France (via VTC)
- ▶ **Mrs. Christiane Hullmann**, Head of Division, Western Balkans, Federal Foreign Office, Germany, Germany (via VTC)

11.10 – 11.30 Open discussion

11.30 - 11:50 Break

11.50 – 13.15 Panel II. Countering Classic and Hybrid Threats in the Balkans area. Steps for a Resilient Region

Chair: Major General (Ret.) Leonardo Dinu, Member of the Scientific Council of New Strategy Center

- ▶ **General (Ret.) Sir James Everard**, former Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR), Honorary Chairman of the International Consultative Board of New Strategy Center, UK
- ▶ **Major General John Mead**, Deputy Chief of Staff – Plans, NATO Allied Joint Forces Command Naples, UK
- ▶ **Major General Ciprian Marin** Commander, 2nd Infantry Division “Getica”, Romania
- ▶ **Mr. Srecko Latal**, Regional Coordinator of the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (IBRD), Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ▶ **Mr. Bojan Elek**, Deputy Director, Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, Serbia

12.50– 13.15 Open discussion

13.15 - 14:40 Break

14:40 - 15:00 Special Session. Turkish-Russian Relations and their Impact on the Region. Presentation of a New Strategy Center Study

Chair: **Amb. Doru Costea**, PhD., Member of the Scientific Council of New Strategy Center

- ▶ **Mr. Horia Ciurtin**, Expert, New Strategy Center
- ▶ **General (Ret.) Sir James Everard**, former Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR), Honorary Chairman of the International Consultative Board of New Strategy Center, UK

15.00-16.15 Panel III. Building Resilience Through Education: The Case for the Balkans

Chair: **Prof. Silviu Rogobete**, PhD., West University of Timisoara, Romania

- ▶ **Prof. Mário Lino Barata Raposo**, PhD., Rector of Universidade de Beira Interior, Portugal (via VTC)
 - ▶ **Assoc. Prof. Florin Drăgan**, PhD., Rector of the Politehnica University Timișoara, Romania
 - ▶ **Prof. Ernesto Exposito**, PhD., Vice-Rector of International Relations, University of Pau, France (via VTC)
 - ▶ **Prof. Romiță Iucu**, PhD., Vice-Rector, University of Bucharest, Romania
 - ▶ **Assoc. Prof. Sanja Knežević**, PhD., Head of the Department of Croatian Studies, University of Zadar, Croatia
- 15.55– 16.15 Open discussion

16.15 – 16.30 Break

16:30– 17:55 Panel IV. Mitigating Risks and Consequences of Severe Crises. How to Ensure a Safer Region through Economic Opportunities?

Chair: **Prof. Cosmin Enache**, PhD., Vice-Rector, West University of Timisoara, Romania

- ▶ **Mr. Mihai Precup**, PhD., Secretary of State, Ministry of Finance, Romania (via VTC)
 - ▶ **Mr. Laurențiu Pachiu**, Vice Chairman, Energy Policy Group, Romania
 - ▶ **Lieutenant General (ret.) Florian Coldea**, Professor, National Intelligence Academy, Visiting Professor, West University of Timișoara, Romania
 - ▶ **Mr. Titus-Constantin Bălan**, PhD., Cybersecurity Solution Manager and Head of R&D Transversal Programs, Atos, Romania
- 17.15– 17.45 Open discussion

17.55-18.00 Concluding remarks: Prof. Cosmin Enache, PhD., Vice-Rector, West University of Timișoara, Romania

Note - Simultaneous translation into English and Romanian is available.

**VTC – video conferencing*