

## 2018 TBILISI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

### AGENDA

*All times reflect Tbilisi local time.*

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:00 – 10:15

##### **Workshop: Georgia's Media Landscape**

Invitation-only, off-the-record private discussion with international partners focused on freedom of the press, editorial lines, impact of private ownership, and Russian interference.

Facilitator:

- Ian Kelly, former Ambassador of the United States to Georgia

Remarks:

- Eka Gigauri, Transparency International
- Keti Khutsishvili, Open Society Foundation

10:30 – 10:45

##### **Introductory Video and Welcome by Kurt Volker, McCain Institute for International Leadership, and on behalf of Georgia's Economic Policy Research Center**

10:45 – 11:15

##### **Session I – Conversation with Mamuka Bakhtadze, Prime Minister of Georgia, and Edward Luce, Financial Times**

11:15 – 12:15

##### **Session II – Debate: Whither Georgia?**

Moderator:

- Daniel Twining, International Republican Institute

Panelists:

- Giorgi Bokeria, European Georgia
- Irakli Kobakhidze, Speaker of the House, Parliament of Georgia
- Justin McKenzie Smith, British Ambassador to Georgia
- Salome Samadashvili, United National Movement

12:15 – 13:00

Networking Lunch

13:30 – 14:00

**Session III – The Global Security Context: A Conversation**

Moderator:

- Colleen Graffy, Pepperdine University School of Law

Panelists:

- Andrea Thompson, U.S. Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security
- Levan Izoria, Minister of Defence of Georgia

14:15 – 15:15

**Session IV – Panel: The Future of European Security, the EU, and NATO**

Moderator:

- Riina Kaljurand, Lennart Meri Conference

Panelists:

- Ben Hodges, CEPA, and former Commanding General, United States Army Europe
- Tacan Ildem, Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy, NATO
- Žygimantas Pavilionis, Member of Seimas, Chair of Transatlantic/Democracy Caucus, Foreign Affairs Committee, Lithuania
- David Zalkaliani, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

15:15 – 15:45

**Session V – Conversation: State of European Security**

- Linas Linkevičius, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lithuania

In Conversation with:

- David Kramer, Florida International University

15:45 – 16:15

Coffee Break

16:15 – 16:45

**Session VI – From Vilnius to Tbilisi to Kiev to Moscow: A Conversation with John Tefft**

- John Tefft, Former U.S. Ambassador to Russia, Ukraine, Georgia and Lithuania

In Conversation with:

- Damon Wilson, Atlantic Council

16:45 – 17:45

**Session VII – Panel: Democracy Faces a Triple Threat: Authoritarianism, Globalization & Nationalism**

Moderator:

- Damir Marusic, American Interest

Panelists:

- Benjamin Haddad, Hudson Institute
- Pierre Lellouche, former Secretary of State for Foreign Trade of France
- Zsuzsanna Szelényi, Liberal Member of the Hungarian Parliament
- Christopher Walker, National Endowment for Democracy

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**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

8:30 – 9:00

Registration & Coffee

9:00 – 9:15

**Session VIII – Video and Tribute to Senator John McCain**

David Kramer, Batu Kutelia, Randy Scheunemann, Daniel Twining, and Kurt Volker

9:15 – 9:45

**Session IX – Conversation with Giorgi Margvelashvili, President of Georgia, and Ia Meurmishvili, Voice of America**

9:45 – 10:45

**Session X – Conversation on the Future of Georgian Democracy**

- David Kramer, Florida International University
- Kurt Volker, McCain Institute for International Leadership
- Damon Wilson, Atlantic Council

10:45 – 11:15

Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:15

**Session XI – Panel: The East-West Corridor**

Moderator:

- Matthew Bryza, Atlantic Council

Panelists:

- Edward Chow, Center for Strategic and International Studies

- Riina Kionka, Chief Foreign Policy Advisor to the President of the European Council
- David Merkel, Summit International Advisors
- Vasil (David) Sikharulidze, Atlantic Council of Georgia

12:15 – 13:00  
Networking Lunch

13:00 – 13:30  
**Session XII – Conversation: Georgia and the West**

- A. Wess Mitchell, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs

In Conversation with:

- Batu Kutelia, Atlantic Council of Georgia

13:30 – 14:30  
**Session XIII – Panel: Weaponizing Information**

Moderator:

- Robin Shepherd, Halifax International Security Forum

Panelists:

- Jamie Fly, German Marshall Fund of the United States
- James Kirchick, Brookings Institution
- Merle Maigre, CybExer Technologies
- Natalie Nougayrède, The Guardian

14:30 – 15:30  
**Session XIV – Panel: Putin’s Russia: Where Does It Go From Here?**

*Introductory video*

Moderator:

- Donald Jensen, Center for European Policy Analysis

Panelists:

- Mikhail Kasyanov, President of People’s Freedom Party
- Vladimir Kara-Murza, Open Russia
- David Kramer, Florida International University
- James Nixey, Chatham House
- Lilia Shevtsova, Chatham House

15:30 – 16:00  
Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:00

**Session XV – Panel: Oligarchy and Democracy**

Moderator:

- Kurt Volker, McCain Institute for International Leadership

Panelists:

- Charles Davidson, American Interest, Hudson Institute
- Sergii Leshenko, Member of Parliament of Ukraine
- Maria Logan, Open Russia
- Edward Lucas, Center for European Policy Analysis
- Igor Munteanu, Institute for Development and Social Initiatives

17:00 – 18:00

**Session XVI – Panel: Is Trump Foreign Policy Better Than It Seems?**

Moderator:

- Ali Aslan, TV Presenter and Journalist

Panelists:

- Michal Baranowski, German Marshal Fund of the United States
- Ian Bond, Centre for European Reform
- Alina Polyakova, Brookings Institution
- Randy Scheunemann, Orion Strategies

18:00 – 18:30

**Session XVII – Conversation with Estonian President Kersti Kaljulaid**

- Kersti Kaljulaid, President of Estonia

In Conversation with:

- Kurt Volker, McCain Institute for International Leadership

18:30

**Closing Remarks**