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"THE UNRESOLVED CONFLICTS IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS: IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN INTEGRATION"

BSIS, University of Kent, Brussels, 8 December 2011

CONSOLIDATED AGENDA

Thursday,8 December 2011

09.15-09.45 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

09:45-10:30 INTRODUCTORY SESSION

Welcome by Dr. Marat Terterov, Director and Founder, The European Geopolitical Forum

HE Avet Adonts, Ambassador of Armenia to the EU (confirmed)

HE Emin Eyyubov, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to the EU (confirmed)

Prof. Ioan Mircea Pascu, PhD, MEP Romania, European Parliament (confirmed)

10:30-12:15 SESSION ONE: "ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS FOR RESOLUTION OF THE FROZEN CONFLICTS IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS"

- Why the current/persisting deadlock in peacefully resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh (NK) conflict? What
 are the pros and cons of a potential outburst of a new crisis? How likely is the outburst of a new crisis in
 and around NK?
- What should the conflicting parties do in order to find a peaceful solution on NK? Why did the OSCE fail to find a solution to the NK conflict thus far? Is the Minsk Group still the appropriate framework for the pursuit of conflict resolution in NK?
- What risks are there of a broader regional contagion? What, if any, potential links exist between conflicts in NK, Abkhazia and South Ossetia? What are the prospects for peaceful resolution of conflicts in Abkhazia and South Ossetia?
- How could Turkey strengthen its contribution to conflict resolution in the South Caucasus?
- What could the EU do to strengthen its role in preserving peace and enhancing stability in the South Caucasus?
- Are the US and NATO doing enough on conflict resolution in the South Caucasus?

Moderator: Dr. Marat Terterov

Speakers: Mr. Giro Manoyan, Armenia (confirmed)

Dr. Elnur Soltanov, Azerbaijan (confirmed) Dr. Nika Chitadze, Georgia (confirmed)

Discussant: Mr. George Vlad Niculescu, CEEAS Bucharest/European Geopolitical Forum

(confirmed)

Discussion/Debate

12:15-12:45 Lunch Break

12:45-14:45 SESSION TWO: "THE SOUTH CAUCASUS STATES: IMPLICATIONS OF THE UNRESOLVED CONFLICTS FOR EUROPEAN AND/OR EURASIAN INTEGRATION

- What immediate consequences on European and Eurasian integration may the unresolved conflicts in the South Caucasus have: geopolitical fragmentation and turmoil; hindering free trade and socioeconomic reforms; energy security related concerns; undermining of regional cooperation; conventional arms races; growing vulnerability to terrorism, organized crime, illegal immigration?
- What medium and longer term consequences might there be: questioning the ability of current regional security structures and arrangements to deal with security risks and challenges; a regional powers bilateral arrangement providing security guarantees to the South Caucasus; delays in democratic reforms?
- How might the Wider Black Sea, Central Asia, and the Middle East be affected by the unresolved conflicts in the South Caucasus?

Moderator: Dr. Marat Terterov

Speakers: Dr. Oktay F. Tanrisever, Turkey (confirmed)

Dr. Natalia Mirimanova, International Alert, Brussels (confirmed)

Russian speaker (TBC)

Discussants: Mr. Jos Boonstra, Head EUCAM Program, FRIDE, Madrid

Dr. Antje Herrberg, CEO MediatEUr, Brussels (TBC)

Discussion/Debate

14.45 End of Seminar