

# THE EUROPEAN GEOPOLITICAL FORUM

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*What the South Caucasus Region Could Be:*

**Exploring the Role of Economic Initiatives as Peace Building  
Tools in the Nagorno-Karabakh Context**

*Expert Roundtable and Post-Conflict Scenario Building  
Workshop*

*~ Berlin, Germany ~  
July 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014*

*Common Heritage, Shared Future?*





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## *What the South Caucasus Region Could Be:*

### **Exploring the Role of Economic Initiatives as Peace Building Tools in the Nagorno-Karabakh Context**

#### **EGF South Caucasus Dialogue: Second Stakeholder Consultation Round**

**Berlin, Germany, 7 - 8 July 2014**  
*(The Regent Berlin, Salon Gontard,  
Charlottenstrasse 49, 10117 Berlin-Mitte)*

#### **Background to the Second Stakeholder Consultation Round**

The first consultation round with stakeholders, held in Brussels on 27 March 2014, revealed a possibility for a new approach to pursuing the strategic aims of EGF's current research on the Karabakh context. The Brussels consultation round alluded to the **creation of a platform for exchange of information** between Armenian and Azerbaijani experts on energy, transport, trade issues, the rehabilitation of the territories affected by the conflict and the return of IDPs to their homeland. Such exchanges could lead to development of post-conflict scenarios, based on a roadmap leading towards an economically integrated South Caucasus, underpinned by a number of very broad and uncontroversial principles. These include the right of all people to live in an environment of peace and security; a shift in government strategy from preparing for war to building enduring peace and fostering economic development; good neighborly relations as a basis for peace building; the right of all people to strive for economic prosperity; and the right of all IDPs and refugees to return to their homes and/or lands and live there in peace and security.



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## Second Stakeholder Consultation Round with Post-Conflict Scenario Building Workshop

### Agenda for the Day

#### *Sunday 6 July 2014*

##### **Before 19.00**

Arrival of participants in Berlin

##### **19.30 – 22.00**

Welcome dinner for all out of town participants at the ‘**Borchardt Restaurant**’ <http://www.borchardt-restaurant.de/>

#### *Monday 7 July 2014*

##### **09.45 – 10.15**

Welcome and registration of participants (coffee and tea available)  
Salon Gontard, the Regent Berlin, Charlottenstrasse 49, 10117 Berlin-Mitte

##### **10.15 – 10.45**

##### ***Introductory remarks and reflections on the first consultation round in Brussels***

- Dr Marat Terterov, *Director, European Geopolitical Forum, Brussels*
- Ambassador Douglas Townsend, *Senior Advisor, International Tax and Investment Centre, Washington DC, former-Australian Ambassador to Kazakhstan and Hungary*

##### **10.45 – 13.00**

##### ***Session I: Post-conflict regional cooperation in the South Caucasus: A strategic plan for regional development?***

Our ongoing research suggests that economic drivers are unlikely to be a panacea for conflict resolution in the Nagorno-Karabakh (NK) context. However, it likewise shows that expert discussion on economic issues may be highly useful in ‘preparing the ground’ for some level of flexibility in the current rigidity which grips the parties regarding NK. Starting a public debate amongst NK stakeholders on the advantages/disadvantages of choosing peace and regional economic development over the current state of hostility may ease some of the tension in the NK context. This view appears to be broadly supported within international peace building circles relevant to NK. The aim of this session is to explore, together, the scope of a “*strategic plan for regional development*”, or a “*blueprint for economic development in the South Caucasus*” as a key trigger for such a public debate. Could ‘elements of cooperation’ lead to

<sup>1</sup>Under the Chatham House rule



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something far bigger and grander if a strategic plan for regional development could be articulated by experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan and international circles working together?

## **Moderator**

Dr Marat Terterov, *Director, European Geopolitical Forum, Brussels*

## **Discussion openers**

- Dr Natalia Mirimanova, *Senior Adviser to the Eurasia Program, International Alert; Eurasia Peace Initiative, Director, Brussels*
- Dr Vusal Gasimli, *Economist, Centre for Strategic Studies, Baku*
- Richard Giragosian, *Founding Director, Regional Studies Centre, Yerevan*
- Tibor Váradi, *Directorate for Russia, Eastern Partnership, Central Asia, Regional Cooperation and OSCE, European External Action Service, Brussels*

## **Initial responses**

- Anna Hess, *Senior Program Officer, Mediation Support Project, Centre for Security Studies, Geneva*
- George Niculescu, *Head of Research, European Geopolitical Forum*

## **Discussion**

**13.00 – 14.00**

Lunch

**14.00 – 16.00**

***Session II: Considerations of business and investment: reintegrating post-conflict Karabakh within the regional South Caucasus economic framework***

Our research has highlighted that business people in both Armenia and Azerbaijan do not consider cooperation with one another as a viable option at the present time. However, the need to involve the business community in the discussion on post-conflict regional economic scenarios was a recurring message from the Brussels consultation round. Some voices from the region call for Karabakh to become the modern day *Alsace-Lorraine* of the South Caucasus, implied to mean a thriving zone of regional significance, where important historical cultures intersect and economies thrive. Others, in the same spirit, call on the region to become a “free economic space”, where abundant investment from Azerbaijan will one day be welcome. At the purely commercial level, such investment may eventually come in the form of joint projects between Armenians, their Azerbaijani neighbours, as well as international partners, replacing the many missed opportunities forced on the region as a result of conflict and tension.

The aim of this session is to examine the role that business could play in the regional economic development in a post-conflict scenario in the NK context. Would Armenian and Azerbaijani businesses be willing to invest in this region of the Caucasus? Could region-wide investment projects ‘sweep up’ NK as part of a future regional economic boom? Are we too fixated on security questions relating to Karabakh and missing immense opportunity by seemingly ignoring scope for economic cooperation? Could Armenians and Azerbaijanis, possibly from Diaspora communities, as well as Turkish, Russian and other investors see incen-



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tives in the development of joint commercial projects in the region? Can we work together towards a blueprint for regional economic development, at least in the form of a strategic policy documents for decision makers and foreign investors? What is the opinion of business leaders about the overall ‘prospects for NK’, were an appropriate political climate to emerge?

## **Moderator:**

Ambassador Douglas Townsend, *Senior Advisor, International Tax and Investment Centre, Washington DC, former-Australian Ambassador to Kazakhstan and Hungary*

## **Discussion openers**

- Christian Cleutinx, *Former Director General of Euratom Supply Agency - European Commission; Global Energy Associate, Brussels Energy Club, Brussels*
- Ambassador David Shahnazaryan, *Senior Analyst, the Regional Studies Center (RSC)*
- Fuad Muradov, *Chairman of the “Great Silk Way” International Youth Union*

## **Initial responses**

- Dr Oktay Tanrisever, *Associate Dean, Middle East Technical University, Ankara*
- Vahagn Ghazaryan, *Trade Expert, IBF International Consulting S.A. Germany (Yerevan office)*
- Vugar Seidov, *Special representative, Azerbaijan State Telegraph Agency (AzerTAG) in Germany and Belgium, Budapest*
- Armen Grigoryan, *Research Fellow, Central European University, Budapest*

## **Discussion**

**16.00 – 16.15**

Coffee break

**16.15 – 18.00**

### ***Session III: Post-conflict scenario building workshop and group simulation***

The aim of this workshop is to simulate a negotiation process in order to reflect a possible real life situation which may occur in the NK context at a future date, and to draw lessons learned during a feedback session.

## **Scenario**

In April 2019 a peace agreement based on the (current) Madrid Principles has been reached between the Republics of Salandia and Oronia. In May 2019, the presidents of Salandia and Oronia, working under the auspices of the Minsk Group, have established a bi-national Task Force mandated with drawing up a road-map for implementation of the economic considerations of the Peace Agreement. The Task Force is charged with agreeing upon projects, timetables, and other contentious issues for implementation of these economic priorities. Furthermore, the Task Force is invited to propose additional economic projects that can act as confidence building measures by addressing the restoration of war-torn energy, transport and socio-economic infrastructure in NK and the territories around it by establishing, where possible, ‘economic projects of common interest’.



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## **Participants' goals**

Your task will be to simulate negotiations of the above mentioned Task Force. You will need to employ your respective areas of expertise in order to creatively negotiate within the above scenario that a Peace Agreement over NK has been reached and that a road map for its implementation is now high priority. Your objective is to 'thrash out' negotiations on economic considerations of the road map to ensure its smooth and timely implementation, taking into account the interests of your countries and the key components of the Peace Agreement. The end goal is to agree upon an "official" Road Map document which can be supported by both parties. You will also be asked to make press statements during a mock press conference. More detailed instructions will be provided in due course.

## **18.30 – 20.30**

Berlin sightseeing walking tour with local guide (English speaking), departing from the Regent Hotel

## **20.30 – 22.30**

Group dinner for all out of town participants

Venue: traditional German/Bavarian pub-restaurant '*Augustiner*'

<http://www.augustiner-braeu-berlin.de/>

## ***Tuesday 8 July 2014***

### **10.00 – 13.00**

***Session IV: Post-conflict scenario building workshop and group simulation (continued)***

**10.00 – 12.00:** Negotiations continued

**12.00 – 12.30:** Press conference and statements on the outcome of negotiations

**12.30 – 13.00:** Feedback on the Post-Conflict Scenario Building Workshop and Concluding Remarks

### **13.00 – 14.30**

Working lunch and networking opportunities

### **15.00**

End of the consultation round and workshop, departure of participants

NOTE: Discussion openers: initial interventions/presentations should be around 15 minutes in length each. Initial responses should be around 10 minutes each. These interventions will be followed by open discussion inclusive of all/any participants in the roundtable. We envisage participation of around 25-30 persons. The event is intended for expert level participants. Any diplomats present may participate in the sessions only in the capacity of 'observers'. All discussions will take place under the Chatham House Rule (ie., no media citations) and conducted in the 'gentlemanly spirit of honest exchange of ideas'. Any rash statements intended as political messages will be disqualified from the discussion.



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## Biographies



### **IBRAHIM AHMADOV**

Mr Ahmadov finished his PhD in 2012 at the University of Cologne (to be published). He is involved in numerous academic initiatives, such as the Arnoldshain Conference on the "Nagorno Karabakh peace process" at the *Peace Research Institute Frankfurt*, and the Mannheim Center for European Social Research's Seminar "The Mountainous Karabakh conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan: internal and external conditions of the conflict solution".

Since early 2012 he has worked at the *Azerbaijan Student Network* in Berlin, first as a staff member and then as Chief Executive. He speaks Azerbaijani as his mother tongue, is fluent in German, English and Russian, has very good Turkish, and average Arabic.



### **CHRISTIAN CLEUTINX**

Mr Christian Cleutinx, a Belgian, is an international expert in energy security, diplomacy and international dialogues between 'east and west'. He has over 30 years of experience as an international civil servant and practitioner in geopolitics, international relations and energy with a special emphasis on Russia and the United States. Up until 1 April 2011, he was the Director General of the Euratom Supply Agency at the European Commission. At the present time he advises and lectures on energy policy and geopolitics at universities, think tanks and international institutions. Earlier in his career, following academic studies in Belgium and the United States, he joined the European Commission in 1975 and has occupied several positions in the field of energy policy. Between 1982 and 1986 he was in charge of industrial policy, anti-trust, transport, environment and energy at the Delegation of the European Commission in Washington DC. From 2000 to 2009, after having been an initiator of the EU-Russia Energy Dialogue, he coordinated the Dialogue process, while being in charge of fossil fuels policy.



### **DR VUSAL GASIMLI**

Assoc. Prof. Dr Vusal Gasimli works as a Head of Department in the Center for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. He was president of "ANS-PRESS" Publishing House from 2005-2007 and EU expert in 2009-2010. He graduated from Azerbaijan State Economic University and received his Master degree in Economics in 1997. He received an MA in Journalism from the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (based on the study program of Louisiana State University) in 2004. He received a PhD in Economics at the Scientific-Research Institute in Baku in 2009.

Being a results-driven researcher with a strong background in macro-economics, he focuses his studies on economic development, competitiveness, modernization and agriculture. In recent years, he has hosted and participated in more than 20 academic research projects, published about 500 articles, and wrote or co-authored 10 books. A recent book entitled "Resource-rich countries: Modernization and Diversification" was printed by the German Academic Publishing House in 2013. Dr Vusal Gasimli was given the award of Astana Economic Forum for outstanding research achievements in 2012. He worked as a guest scholar in the Korea Institute for International Policy in 2013. He has delivered lectures at prestigious universities such as Washington, California, Hanyan, Milan Catholic, Warsaw, Hankook, and Cairo, among others. He speaks Azerbaijani, English, Russian, Turkish and has an elementary knowledge of Spanish. More information on Dr Gasimli can be found at <http://sam.az/en/about/staff/>.



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## VAHAGN GHAZARYAN

Mr Vahagn Ghazaryan has over 19 years experience in the fields of trade policy formulation, trade related legislation drafting, and developing economic research and analysis. He has considerable experience in dealing with policy development in a state's official capacity while heading a department of WTO and EU affairs in the Ministry of Economic Development of RA. Being involved in the processes of RA trade policy formulation and regional trade facilitation and implementation of multilateral trade rules, he was a key participant of Armenia's accession to the WTO and implementation of post-accession commitments. He was responsible for the revision and drafting of RA trade-related legislation to ensure their compliance with WTO rules and regulations. He took part in different bilateral and multilateral negotiation teams, such as: RA-Iran FTA, RA-EU PCA and ENP AP preparation, RA-NATO IPAP, among other teams on trade, economic, and political dialogue related issues.

One of the main directions of his expertise is exploring the ongoing trade policy developments in the RA, and working in close cooperation with different (governmental and nongovernmental) agencies delivering reports, suggestions and provisional drafts. As an expert and a former state official he is well aware of the overall economic and public developments in the region; and has a thorough knowledge of the ongoing global and regional trade related integration processes.

## RICHARD GIRAGOSIAN

Richard Giragosian is the Founding Director of the Regional Studies Center (RSC), an independent "think tank" located in Yerevan, Armenia ([www.regional-studies.org](http://www.regional-studies.org)) and serves as Visiting Professor at Yerevan State University's Centre for European Studies (CES). He is also a contributing analyst for *Oxford Analytica*, a UK-based global analysis and advisory firm. Giragosian has also served as a guest lecturer for the U.S. Army Special Forces, and has participated in various research projects for the U.S. Departments of Defense and State. For nine years, Giragosian served as a Professional Staff Member of the Joint Economic Committee (JEC) of the U.S. Congress and was also a contributing analyst for the London-based Jane's Information Group.



## ARMEN GRIGORYAN

Mr Armen Grigoryan is a political scientist based in Armenia. He completed a Masters diploma from the Central European University in 2006. His research interests include post-communist transition, EU relations with Eastern Partnership countries, transatlantic relations, energy security, and conflict transformation. He is the author of several book chapters, journal articles and policy papers. He also analyses investment-related political risks in Armenia for Exclusive Analysis Ltd. (London). Previously, he did an internship at the European Parliament (2007), received two research grants from the National Scholarship Programme of the Slovak Republic (stayed at the University of Prešov in 2009 and at Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica in 2013), was an Open Society Institute Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative visiting fellow (2010-2011), International Visegrad Fund research fellow (2011), Think Visegrad research fellow (2013), and peer reviewer for Global Integrity (2011).



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## **ANNA HESS**

In her capacity as a senior program officer in mediation support, Anna Hess has been working on inclusivity issues in peace processes with a regional focus on Northeast Asia, South Asia, and South Caucasus. Through applied research and trainings, Anna Hess has been focusing her activities, among others, on women's involvement in negotiations and multitrack peace mediation in South Asia, Track Two academic initiatives in North Korea and conflict settlement processes in the South Caucasus.

Anna Hess has advanced degrees in security studies from Columbia University in New York City, in political science from the American University in Yerevan, as well as certificates in peace mediation and conflict resolution from Erasmus University in Rotterdam and Inmedio/Berghof Foundation in Berlin.

Prior to joining the Mediation Support Project (MSP) at the CSS, Anna Hess worked as a training manager at the International Relations and Security Network (ISN) and a management consultant at the GAP International Inc., Philadelphia.



## **ASHOT MARGARYAN**

Ashot Margaryan specialises in Russian, Post-Soviet Politics and Middle East politics. He serves as the executive director of the Eurasian Research & Analysis (ERA) Institute (Yerevan branch) and contributes to several online newspapers. He holds an MA degree in Politics, Security & Integration from the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London. Ashot is currently an independent researcher working in Nagorno-Karabakh and is a frequent participant in seminars/discussions on international affairs throughout wider Europe.



## **BEN MCPHERSON**

Ben McPherson was born in New Hampshire, in the United States, and currently lives in Brussels, Belgium. He obtained bachelor's degrees in History and Genocides Studies in the U.S., and holds a Master's Degree in Conflict and Security from the University of Kent. He has extensive energy work experience, including work at the Energy Charter Secretariat in Brussels as well as in environmental regulation and natural gas pipeline inspection all over the United States. In addition to content management and editorial work for EGF, Mr McPherson also writes on energy and security with an interest in the Middle East and the South Caucasus.

## **Dr NATALIA MIRIMANOVA**

Natalia Mirimanova is a conflict resolution scholar-practitioner and has over twenty years of work experience throughout Russia, the South Caucasus and Central Asia, in Moldova, Ukraine, Western Balkans and Eastern Europe. She taught several university courses and ran training programs on conflict analysis and resolution. Natalia carried out numerous research projects. She authored and co-edited several books, articles and training manuals on conflict transformation, democracy building in transitional societies and mass media. She also produced and co-authored documentary films on conflicts in Cyprus, Bosnia and Northern Ireland as well as news reports. These projects and programs were carried out under the aegis of the UN, OSCE, EEAS, Internews, International Alert, Conciliation Resources, Aga Khan Foundation, National Democratic Institute and other international, national and local organizations.

Natalia received her Ph.D. from the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University, USA.



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## FUAD MURADOV

Fuad Muradov was born in the city of Baku, on July 22, 1979. He has graduated from the Industrial Heat Engineering Department of the Azerbaijan State Oil Academy. He holds a Master's degree on Environment and Oil Industry from Joint Master Program of the Azerbaijan State Oil Academy, University of Nice (France) and University of Genoa (Italy) in the framework of the EU Tempus Program. He holds a Ph.D in chemistry and he is the author of 10 scientific works and monographs. He speaks English, French and Russian.

Since 2001, he has been the manager of the "ACEP" Azerbaijan Center of Environmental Projects. Since 2002, he has been the chair of the budget control commission of the European Youth Forum, and since 2004, the Chairman of the National Council of the Youth Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan (NAYORA).

On November 6, 2005 he was elected Member of Parliament (Milli Mejlis) from Sabail Constituency No 29; since 2005:

- Member of the Standing Commission of the Milli Mejlis on Human Rights;
- Head of the working group on interparliamentary relations between Azerbaijan and Malaysia;
- Member of the working groups on interparliamentary relations between Azerbaijan-Belgium, Azerbaijan-UK, Azerbaijan-India, Azerbaijan-Kuwait and Azerbaijan-Uzbekistan.

Since 2006, Fuad Muradov is the Member of the Initiative Group for South Caucasus Parliament, since 2008 the Member of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption Global Task Force within the GOPAC (The Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption's).2006.

In 2010 he was re-elected to the Parliament of Azerbaijan from Sabail Constituency No 29; since 2010:

- Member of the of the Standing Commission of the Milli Mejlis on Natural Resources, Energy and Environmental Issues
- Deputy head of the EU-Azerbaijan parliamentary cooperation committee
- Head of the working group on interparliamentary relations between Azerbaijan and Lithuania
- Member of the working groups on interparliamentary relations between Azerbaijan-France, Azerbaijan-UK, Azerbaijan-Germany, Azerbaijan-USA, Azerbaijan-Belgium, Azerbaijan-India, Azerbaijan-Kuwait.

Since 2011, he has been the Co-chairman of the Energy Security Committee of the EURONEST Parliamentary Assembly; member of the "New leaders for tomorrow" community of Crans Montana Forum, and member of the working group on development of the draft State Program on Azerbaijani Youth in 2011-2015. Since June 28th, 2012 Fuad Muradov has been the Chairman of the "Great Silk Way" International Youth Union.

He is married and has 2 children.



## GEORGE VLAD NICULESCU

Mr George Vlad Niculescu is originally from Bucharest, Romania, and is currently acting as Head of Research at the European Geopolitical Forum. He holds a postgraduate diploma in European integration and international relations from the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (NSPSPA) Bucharest, and has completed Advanced Studies at the College of Strategic Studies and Defence Economics of the George Marshall Centre in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, and the Royal College of Defence Studies in London. He has also completed training with Welcomeurope on how to prepare and manage European funded projects, as well as on how to manage the budget of an European project. Between 2004-2010, he worked as NATO staff

officer focusing on partnerships and cooperation, mostly with the countries from the Greater Black Sea Area, in areas like: security sector reform, combating terrorism, and cyber defence. Prior to that, he held various positions with a focus on de-



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fence policy and international cooperation in the Ministry of Defence of Romania (1994-2004). He has also academic experience as assistant professor and/or visiting lecturer at the NSPSPA, "Dimitrie Cantemir" University, NATO Studies Centre, and the PFP Training Centre from Bucharest (1997-2004). He is also affiliated with the Centre for East European and Asian Studies, Bucharest (Romania), as Director of Programs in Brussels, for whom he published articles on <http://www.cseea.ro>, and has been involved in various international research projects, including, that was funded by the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation.



## **OFELYA SARGSYAN**

Ofelya Sargsyan, from Yerevan, Armenia, studied English philology for her B.A. degree and pursued her first Master's Degree in Political Science and International Relations at the American University of Armenia. Since the end of 2011, she has been living in Germany where she studied for her second Master's in European Studies at the University of Flensburg. After having worked for the press service of the Central Council of Armenians in Germany (Zentralrat der Armenier), she is now Junior Editor of the "European Union Foreign Affairs Journal" (EUFAJ) and political analyst with LIBERTAS - Europäisches Institut GmbH, in Baden-Württemberg, Germany. She is author of several articles on South Caucasus issues, Eurasian Union and Eastern Partnership and of the book "Pleading for Armenia's Accession to the European Union" (2014).



## **DAVID SHAHAZARYAN**

David Shahnazaryan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, is a Senior Analyst with the Regional Studies Center (RSC). He is also the Founder and Chairman of the Center for Legal and Political Studies "Concord," and is a former two-term deputy in the Armenian parliament (from 1991-1995 and 1995-1999), as well as a founding member of the Board of the "Armenian National Movement" Party.

Mr Shahnazaryan has also held several senior-level posts in the Armenian government, serving as the Ambassador of the President of Armenia on Special Missions and Special Representative of the President of Armenia from 1992-1995, and as the Armenian Minister of National Security from 1994-1995.



## **Dr OKTAY F. TANRISEVER**

Dr Tanrisever is a Professor of International Relations at the Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey. He is also the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Economic and Administrative Sciences and the Chairperson of the Area Studies PhD Program at the same university. After graduating from the BSc and MSc programs in International Relations of the Middle East Technical University, he received his PhD degree from the University of London. His research interests include the foreign policies of Turkey and Russia, security and peace-building in the Black Sea, the Caucasus and Asia, international politics of energy, water and environment as well as theories of international relations. His recent publications include "EU's Eastern Partners and the

Vilnius Summit: Opportunities Seized and Missed", Turkish Policy Quarterly (TPQ), Vol.12, No.4, 2014, pp. 99-107, Afghanistan and Central Asia: NATO's Role in Regional Security since 9/11, ed. Oktay F. Tanrisever, Amsterdam: IOS Press, 2013, (Co-authored with Prof. Gregory Gleason) "A Bridge to Central Asia", per Concordiam: Journal of Security and Defense Issues, Vol.4, No.3, 2013, pp.10-15., and Turkey and Russia in the Black Sea Region: Dynamics of Cooperation and Conflict, EDAM Black Sea Discussion Papers, No.1, 2012, pp.1-26.



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## **Dr MARAT TERTEROV**

Dr Marat Terterov is the Principal Director of the Brussels-based European Geopolitical Forum, a think tank and research group focused on foreign policy and international security affairs. Dr Terterov is also a Research Fellow at the Energy Charter Secretariat Knowledge Centre in Brussels, responsible for the design and delivery of a range of training programmes for the younger generation of energy leaders, as well as the drafting of strategy papers analysing the onward evolution of the Energy Charter Process. Furthermore, he is the Executive Director and co-founder of the Brussels Energy Club, a newly established information exchange platform for senior energy professionals. Dr Terterov received his education in Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom, and holds a PhD in Middle Eastern studies from St. Antony's College, Oxford University (obtained in 2002). During the period 2010-13 inclusive he was a visiting lecturer at the University of Kent in Brussels, where he taught a academic module on 'conflict, Islam and the state' to Masters and PhD students. Prior to that he was for many years the Editor-in-Chief of a series of business and investment publications on the Middle East and former-Soviet Union in association with the London-based publishing house, Kogan Page. He was also a researcher at the Gulf Research Centre in Dubai, the UAE, and a consultant to USAID in Cairo, advising the Egyptian government on economic reform. He has written widely on the countries of the former USSR and Middle East from the perspective of their geopolitics, domestic security and international relations. His commentaries and rather frank opinions are visible widely in the international media and in frequent public meetings between experts. He speaks English and Russian fluently, while also being conversational in Egyptian Arabic and having very basic knowledge of French.



## **Ambassador DOUGLAS TOWNSEND**

Ambassador Townsend is currently Senior Adviser at the International Tax and Investment Centre. He is Secretary of the Caspian Minerals Tax Committee and Project Director, Kazakhstan Minerals Tax Academy and Azerbaijan Minerals Tax Academy. He is Honorary Consul for Kazakhstan in Wales, Member, UK/KAZ IGC Trade & Investment WG, and Member, Chatham House Caucasus & Central Asia Experts' Group. He is Director of the British-Kazakh Society and Member of the Anglo-Azerbaijani Society.

Previously, Ambassador Townsend was Australian Ambassador (Kazakhstan, Hungary, Switzerland, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal), Australian Investment Commissioner Europe, and Australian Disarmament Negotiator. He also served in Australian Diplomatic Missions in Austria, Ireland, Pakistan, and Vietnam.



## **TIBOR VÁRADI**

Tibor Váradi is an economist, who served in the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Hungary from 1991-1996 on relations with African countries and on the implementation of the EU Association Agreement. Later he moved to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary between 1996-2008, working as executive secretary of the accession negotiations of Hungary. He was also at the Hungarian Mission to the EU in Brussels and head of department of the EU Economic policy department, before joining the European Commission and becoming the deputy head of the EU delegation in Turkey between 2008-2012. Currently he is the desk officer for political relations with Azerbaijan at the European External Action Service.



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## Participants

Emil AGAZADE  
Ibrahim AHMADOV  
Andranik ASLANYAN  
Christian CLEUTINX  
Vusal GASIMLI  
Vahagn GHAZARYAN  
Richard GIRAGOSIAN  
Armen GRIGORYAN  
Togrul MALIKOV  
Ashot MARGARYAN  
Ben MCPHERSON  
Natalia MIRIMANOVA  
Asim MOLLAZADE  
Anna Catharina MULLER  
Fuad MURADOV  
George Vlad NICULESCU  
Alexander RAHR  
Rovshan RZAYEV

Vugar SAIDOV  
Ofelya SARGSYAN  
Anna Hess SARGSYAN  
David SHAHNAZARDYAN  
Oktay TANRISEVER  
Marat TERTEROV  
Amb. Douglas TOWNSEND  
Tibor VARADI  
Wendt-Dieter Freiherr von GEMMINGEN

Public Affairs Consultant - Baku  
Azerbaijan Student Network  
Free University of Berlin  
Euratom Supply Agency - European Commission (former)  
SAM - Strateji Arasdirmalar Merkezi  
IBF International Consulting S.A. Germany (Yerevan office)  
Regional Studies Center (RSC)  
Matej Bel University  
Azerbaijan Mission to NATO  
Eurasian Research and Analysis Institute (Yerevan)  
EGF  
International Alert  
Party of Democratic Reform  
TEAS - The European Azerbaijan Society  
Chairman of the "Great Silk Way" International Youth Union  
EGF  
Wintershall  
Management Board of the Public Union "The Azerbaijani Community of Nagorno Karabakh"  
Azerbaijan State Telegraph Agency (AzerTAG)  
European Union Foreign Affairs Journal (EUFAJ)  
Mediation Support Project, Centre for Security Studies, Geneva  
Regional Studies Center (RSC)  
Middle East Technical University / EGF  
EGF  
International Tax and Investment Center  
EEAS - European External Action Service  
TEAS - The European Azerbaijan Society



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## Notes



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ALMATY · ASTANA · BAGHDAD · BAKU · BANGKOK · DUBAI



KIEV · LONDON · MANILA · MOSCOW · WASHINGTON

## Welcome to ITIC

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The International Tax and Investment Center (ITIC) serves as a clearinghouse for information on best practices in taxation and investment policy, and as a training center to transfer such know how to improve the investment climates of transition and developing countries, thereby spurring formation and development of business and economic prosperity.

Organized in 1993, ITIC is an independent nonprofit research and education foundation with offices in Azerbaijan, Iraq, Kazakhstan, the Philippines, Russia, Thailand, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and United States.

## About Us

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ITIC spreads knowledge of taxation and investment to nations around the world and serves as a neutral forum for discussion and resolution of problems in tax and investment policy – a place where governments can go for technically sound, objective, field-tested advice. ITIC builds bridges from the West to the East and from the private to the public sector. We help nations with statutory language and accounting expertise, but also with a more important objective: adopting policies that encourage the formation of legal, taxpaying businesses. Through the four regional tax forums, «hands-on» working sessions, and special relationships with tax officials, lawmakers, academic experts, industry experts and professionals, ITIC brings together stakeholders in the tax systems of its focus countries to address a range of issues and problems.