



SEPTEMBER 9-10, 2019

TBILISI, GEORGIA

ROOMS HOTEL TBILISI

TBILISI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE - 5th ANNIVERSARY

ABOUT THE TBILISI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Hosted in the heart of the Caucasus by the McCain Institute for International Leadership at Arizona State University and the Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC), the Tbilisi International Conference has earned a reputation as a can't-miss event for leaders across Georgia, the United States and Europe.

Since 2015, each September, the conference brings together regional experts on security issues, along with Georgian policymakers, civil society activists, and the business community – with a view toward keeping Georgia high on the transatlantic agenda, and on track in its democratic progress and transatlantic aspirations.

Senator John McCain described the West as “a new, and different, and better kind of world order,” one based not on territory or nationalism but on universal values, rule of law, and respect for national sovereignty and independence. But over the past several years, the foundation of the West has come under attack – both from inside and out. This year marks a pivotal moment in history: thirty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, a moment in time when it seemed freedom and Western values had triumphed. Today, at a critical juncture in history, our leaders must set the course for the next 30 years of unity, peace and democracy, overcoming recent trends of backsliding, corruption and authoritarianism.

The 2019 Tbilisi International Conference – “Now What?” will take place September 9-10, 2019 at the Rooms Hotel Tbilisi.

ABOUT THE MCCAIN INSTITUTE



Founded in 2012 as part of Arizona State University, the McCain Institute is located in the heart of Washington. Inspired by the leadership of Senator John McCain and his family's legacy of public service, the McCain Institute is a nonpartisan do-tank dedicated to advancing character-driven leadership in the United States and abroad.

The McCain Institute advances character-driven global leadership and civic engagement based on security, economic opportunity, freedom and human dignity.

The McCain Institute's five core programs include:

- Next Generation Leaders
- International Rule of Law & Security
- Combatting Human Trafficking
- Human Rights & Democracy
- Counterterrorism & National Security

ABOUT THE ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH CENTER



The Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC) is a leading economic think tank in Georgia, striving to improve economic policy environment through evidence-based policy advice and guidance, capacity-building of key public institutions, and monitoring of government actions and policy commitments. EPRC's researchers and their analytical outputs serve as reliable sources of information on the state of Georgia's economy for the national community of practitioners, various international organizations, students and the academia. EPRC's policy products are widely cited in local and international printed and online media.

In order to achieve sustainable economic development and prosperity, it is key to focus on development of a predictable investment climate through strengthening of rule of law, ensuring safety and security, and educating groups and population at large. EPRC has positioned itself as a civil society leader working on the issues of Georgia's Euro-Atlantic integration and providing impartial analysis of its current and projected socio-economic outcomes. Multiple analytical pieces, delivered by EPRC in partnership with the national and international actors have earned the organization a reputation as a reliable source of information on a wide range of issues at the heart of the Europeanization discourse.





KURT VOLKER

Executive Director
The McCain Institute for International Leadership
Arizona State University

Ambassador Kurt Volker is a leading expert in U.S. foreign and national security policy with some 30 years of experience in a variety of government, academic, and private sector capacities. Ambassador Volker serves as executive director of the McCain Institute for International Leadership at Arizona State University based in Washington, D.C. He is also a non-resident senior fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, a senior advisor at the Atlantic Council, and a Trustee of IAU College in Aix- en-Provence, France. He is a consultant to international business, a member of the Board of Directors of Capital Guardian Funds Trust, and had previously served as managing director—International for BGR Group. He has taught Transatlantic Relations at The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs. In July, 2017, Ambassador Volker was also appointed U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations.



DAVID J. KRAMER

Senior Fellow at Florida International University

David J. Kramer joined Florida International University's Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs as a Senior Fellow in the Vaclav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy in May 2017; he is also Director for European and Eurasian Studies. Before moving to Miami, Kramer worked in Washington, DC for 24 years, most recently with the McCain Institute for International Leadership as Senior Director for Human Rights and Democracy; he remains an Affiliated Senior Fellow with the McCain Institute. Previously, he served for four years as President of Freedom House. Prior to that, he was a Senior Transatlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

Kramer served eight years in the U.S. Department of State during the administration of President George W. Bush, including as Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs (responsible for Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus affairs as well as regional non- proliferation issues); Professional Staff Member in the Secretary's Office of Policy Planning; and Senior Advisor to the Undersecretary for Global Affairs. He also was Executive Director of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy in Washington. He is author of the recent book, *Back to Containment: Dealing with Putin's Regime*.



NINO EVGENIDZE

Executive Director Economic Policy
Research Center

Nino Evgenidze serves as an Executive Director at the Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC). She is a co-founder of Tbilisi International Conference together with McCain Institute for International Leadership and Leadership Academy for Development with Stanford University Center for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law. Nino is also a co-founder of the Democracy Frontline Center.

Nino was a visiting scholar at the Johns Hopkins University at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and a Stanford University Fellow in CDDRL Program. She has a Master's Degree in Economics from the London School of Economics (LSE). Nino is a PhD in Literature from Tbilisi State University. She also holds an MBA from Maastricht University and a Master's Degree in Public Policy Management from Vienna University.

She worked as an anchor of daily morning economic show at Radio Free Europe - Radio Liberty (RFE/RL). Nino has extensive experience working both in governmental and non-governmental sectors - she was an advisor at the Center for Economic Reforms of the State Chancellery of Georgia (President Administration), Head of Public Outreach Department of the Anti-corruption Policy Coordination Council of Georgia. Nino is a Chairwoman of the board of the first Child Hospice in Georgia.



NATALIA ARNO

Free Russia Foundation, President

Ms. Natalia Arno is a prominent fighter for the advancement of democracy, human rights and freedom in her native country of Russia.

Originally from a Siberian region of Buryatia— where Natalia grew up and attended college, graduating from the Buryat State University with Masters in Linguistics in 1998 (Diploma Cum Laude). In 1998 -1999 she worked as Professor of English and German at Buryat State University. Natalia moved to Moscow in 1999 for her post-graduate study at the Institute of Russian Language of the Russian Academy of Science and in 2000-2003 she worked as a Linguistics Professor at the Modern Humanitarian University in Moscow.

From 2004 to 2014, Ms. Arno worked for the International Republican Institute's Moscow office, where she planned and executed countrywide programs in the fields of education, grassroots organizing, party building, civil society development, and youth leadership and media training. In 2008 she became the IRI Country Director for Russia, overseeing dozens of programs.

In 2012, IRI, along with dozens of other Western democracy-building organizations were banned in Russia. For her work in support of human rights and civil society in Russia, Ms. Arno was given an ultimatum by Putin's security services— to leave her homeland in 48 hours or face 20 years in prison on treason charges.

Ms. Arno resolved to continue her fight and, in 2014, she created Free Russia Foundation to serve as a vehicle to defend others facing similar state-sponsored harassment for their beliefs on conditions inside Russia. In exile, she quickly discovered that Putin's regime had forced out hundreds of thousands of talented, educated Russians who share her vision for a free and democratic Russia that values human rights and restores Russia's former path as a constructive global citizen. Free Russia Foundation has served as a voice for those fighting to change the Putin regime and as a resource to Western governments struggling to combat an increasingly aggressive adversary.



MICHAŁ BARANOWSKI

German Marshall Fund

Michał Baranowski is the director of German Marshall Fund's (GMF) Warsaw office, where he focuses on transatlantic relations, U.S. foreign policy, and the relations between the United States and Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). Prior to helping launch the Warsaw office, he served at GMF's headquarters in Washington, DC, where he developed GMF's programming in Poland and CEE. Before that posting, Baranowski worked in GMF's Brussels office, where he focused on EU and U.S. policy toward Ukraine and Georgia, and where he also established the Young Transatlantic Network.

He has published in *Gazeta Wyborcza*, *Rzeczpospolita*, the *Warsaw Business Journal*, the *Kyiv Post*, and GMF's *Transatlantic Take* series. He is a member of the advisory council of the Institute for Western Affairs in Poznań, Poland. He holds a Master's of European Public Affairs from Maastricht University, and has studied at Mercer University in the United States and the University of Oxford.



JEAN-CHRISTOPHE BELLIARD

European External Action Service

Jean-Christophe Belliard has been Deputy Secretary General for Political Affairs of the European External Action Service since 2016. He studied at the Paris Institute of Political Studies and the National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilisations, Paris.

In 1984 Belliard joined the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was posted as Second Secretary in Khartoum, Sudan from 1985-87, before returning to Paris to work for the Sudan Desk in the Africa Directorate from 1988-91. From 1991-94 he was First Secretary, then Second Counsellor, in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, where he represented France at the Arusha peace talks on Rwanda and during Operation Turquoise.

In 1995, Belliard moved to Washington DC to serve as Press Director and Spokesperson at the French embassy. From 1997-2001 he was Consul General in Cape Town, South Africa, after which he returned to Paris as Deputy Director for Africa, 2001-04. During this time he also lectured at the Paris Institute of Political Studies.

From 2004-08 he was Javier Solana's personal envoy for Africa at the EU emissary for Zimbabwe, Brussels, after which he was appointed French Ambassador to Ethiopia and Permanent Representative to the African Union, 2009-12, and then French Ambassador to Madagascar, 2012. Most recently he was Director for Africa and the Indian Ocean at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2012-16, before being appointed Deputy Secretary General of the European External Action Service in September 2016.

He has been awarded officier de l'ordre national du mérite and a chevalier de l'ordre de la légion d'honneur.



BROCK BIERMAN

USAID's Bureau for Europe and Eurasia

Brock Bierman was sworn in on January 8, 2018 as Assistant Administrator for USAID's Bureau for Europe and Eurasia. Mr. Bierman brings considerable experience to the Bureau from previous leadership positions with the Rhode Island House of Representatives, USAID, FEMA, Department of the Interior, and the private sector, as well as extensive knowledge of the region. Prior to his current appointment with USAID, Bierman spent more than twenty years in the private sector as a successful entrepreneur, launching two small businesses from the ground up.

Throughout his career in public service, Bierman has demonstrated a commitment to expanding transformative development across Eastern Europe and Eurasia. From 2002-2007, he served as Chief of Staff in USAID's Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, where he helped implement strategic priorities for the Bureau and provided oversight of conflict mitigation, democracy, health, and trade initiatives within the region. Bierman also managed all aspects of the Bureau's public outreach activities. Following his post at USAID, Bierman was designated Small State and Rural Advocate by President George W. Bush while also holding the position of Director of the Community Preparedness Division at the Federal Emergency Management Agency from 2007-2008. While at FEMA, Bierman led a program to recruit, train, and monitor nearly one million emergency management volunteers on a \$20 million budget. From 2008-2009, he served as Senior Advisor to the Secretary in the Department of the Interior, where he helped support a successful transition to the new administration.

A recognized leader, Bierman also served three terms in the Rhode Island House of Representatives, where he cultivated strong bipartisan support, received public recognition for extraordinary ethical integrity and accountability, and delivered responsive constituent services. Bierman remains a dedicated community leader, with an extensive history of service to various boards and commissions.

A native of Rhode Island, Bierman received a bachelor's degree in journalism from Bowling Green State University in Ohio.



GEORGE (GIGA) BOKERIA

Deputy Leader of the Parliamentary
Minority of Georgia

George (Giga) Bokeria, MP, Deputy Leader of the Parliamentary Minority of Georgia, Chairman of the Political Council of the Party European Georgia-Movement for Liberty. Mr. Bokeria is a prominent Georgian politician, who was elected to the Parliament of Georgia in 2016 and has served at multiple high ranking positions: In 2010-2013 Mr. Bokeria served as a Secretary of the National Security Council; in 2008-2010 he served as a Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and in 2005-2008 he held a position of the Vice-President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE). In 2004-2008 he was elected as a Member of Parliament and was a Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Legal Issues, and Member of Committee on Defense and Security.

In 1996, he co-founded the Liberty Institute - the most vocal institution at the time that became most referenced public policy advocacy foundation. Mr. Bokeria led human rights programs and became a senior legal advisor. The Liberty Institute played a significant role in the Rose Revolution while Mr. Bokeria was one of its leaders and future architect of democratic transition of the country.

Mr. Bokeria studied at Leicester University (UK) and Tbilisi State University.



GEN. PHILIP M. BREEDLOVE

Gen. Philip M. Breedlove, USAF, Ret., is a proven strategic planner, motivational leader and talented communicator. He is a highly decorated retired general of the U.S. Air Force where he reached the highest levels of military leadership as one of six geographic combatant commanders and the Supreme Allied Commander of NATO.

During 39 years of service, General Breedlove served in a variety of demanding command and staff positions, leading large-scale, diverse, global operations across two theaters of combat and earning a reputation as an inspirational leader focused on his people, their families and mission accomplishment. Leading a diverse political-military alliance, he was able to build consensus and form teams to accomplish complex tasks spanning multiple continents.

As the Supreme Allied Commander Europe and the Commander of U.S. European Command, he answered directly to NATO's governing body, the North Atlantic Council, and to the President of the United States and Secretary of Defense. He led the most comprehensive and strategic structural and policy security changes in the alliance's 70- year history. His diplomatic skills reassured allies, deterred potential aggressors and maintained alliance unity during the most dynamic and challenging period since its inception. He led the forces of 28 nations and multiple partners in ensuring the security of an alliance that accounts for more than half the world's gross domestic product.

General Breedlove served in a variety of assignments leading up to those leadership positions, including commanding a squadron, a group, three fighter wings and a numbered Air Force in service across three different continents. His extensive command and control experience in wartime, contingency planning, and humanitarian relief actions include operations in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

He earned his Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Master of Science in aerospace technology from Arizona State University.

Additionally, he completed a Masters of International Security Affairs from the National War College, a Fellowship in International Security Affairs, Seminar XXI from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and completed Leadership at the Peak at the Center for Creative Leadership, Colorado Springs.

General Breedlove currently serves on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board, as a Distinguished Professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech, as a Senior Advisor to Culpeper National Security Solutions and on the Board of Directors of the Atlantic Council. Retired from the Air Force in 2016.



MATHEW BRYZA

Atlantic Council

Ambassador Matthew Bryza is a non-executive director of Turcas, a diversified energy company and one of Turkey's largest corporations. He is also member of the Board of Lamor Ab, the world's leading oil spill response company, and CEO of Lamor Turkey in Istanbul. Bryza additionally serves on the Board of Nobel Upstream, an oil and gas exploration and production company based in the UK.

Ambassador Bryza is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council and a Board member of the Jamestown Foundation, both of which are think-tanks in Washington, DC. He also served as Director of the International Center for Defence and Security in Tallinn, Estonia, during 2012-2015.

Bryza was a U.S. diplomat for 23 years. His final assignment was as Ambassador to Azerbaijan from February 2011 to January 2012. During 2005 to 2009, he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasia, with responsibility for Eurasian energy security, the South Caucasus, Turkey, Greece, and Cyprus. He simultaneously served as the U.S. Co-Chair of the OSCE's Minsk Group mediating the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (between Armenia and Azerbaijan), and as U.S. mediator of the Cyprus Question and the South Ossetia and Abkhazia conflicts (in Georgia).

During 2001 to 2005, Ambassador Bryza served in the White House as Director for European and Eurasian Affairs on the National Security Council Staff, covering the same areas as mentioned above, along with Islamist extremism.

Earlier assignments at the State Department included Deputy Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State on Caspian Energy; Advisor on Economic Reform in the South Caucasus and Central Asia; Russia Desk Officer; and Political Officer at the U.S. Missions to Russia (1995-97) and Poland (1989-91).

Matthew Bryza holds a bachelor's degree (with distinction) from Stanford University and a master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, both in international relations.

His articles on foreign affairs have been published in the Financial Times, the Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Chicago Tribune, and Bloomberg. His interviews have appeared repeatedly on CNN International, the BBC, Al Jazeera, and a range of networks in Turkey, Russia, Poland, the Baltic States, and the South Caucasus.

Ambassador Bryza personally received Estonia's Order of Terra Mariana (Fourth Class) from President Toomas Hendrik Ilves and Georgia's Order of St. George from President Mikheil Saakashvili.



MICHAEL CARPENTER

Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global
Engagement

Dr. Michael Carpenter is a nonresident senior fellow with the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center. He is also a senior director of the Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Carpenter is a former deputy assistant secretary of defense with responsibility for Russia, Ukraine, Eurasia, the Balkans, and Conventional Arms Control. Prior to joining the Department of Defense, Dr. Carpenter served in the White House as a foreign policy adviser to Vice President Joe Biden and as director for Russia at the National Security Council. Previously, he was a career foreign service officer with the State Department, where he worked in a number of different positions, including deputy director of the Office of Russian Affairs, speechwriter to the under secretary of political affairs, and adviser on the South Caucasus. Dr. Carpenter also served abroad in the US Embassies in Poland, Slovenia, and Barbados.

During his career at the State Department Dr. Carpenter received four Superior Honor Awards and three Meritorious Honor Awards. He holds an MA and PhD in political science from the University of California at Berkeley and a BA in international relations from Stanford University. Dr. Carpenter was a Fulbright scholar at the Polish Academy of Sciences and has received fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, MacArthur Foundation, and IREX Foundation for his academic research.



LAURA COOPER

U.S. Department of Defense

Laura Cooper is a career member of the Senior Executive Service. She has responsibility for policy concerning Russia, Ukraine, Eurasia (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, and Moldova), and Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia) as well as Conventional Arms Control.

Ms. Cooper previously served as a Principal Director in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Global Security Affairs, with responsibility for policies on: mission assurance, defense continuity of operations, critical infrastructure protection, homeland counterterrorism, global antiterrorism policy, and the Council of Governors.

Prior assignments in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy include: Director of the Strategy office, where she helped manage the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review; Acting Director for South Asia; and Afghanistan Team Chief, Stability Operations Office.

Prior to joining the Department of Defense in 2001, Ms. Cooper was a policy planning officer at the State Department in the Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism. She has also served as a Junior Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Ms. Cooper has a Master of Science in Foreign Service degree from Georgetown University, a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy degree from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at National Defense University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Northwestern University.



CHARLES DAVIDSON

The American Interest

Charles Davidson is an Executive Director of the Kleptocracy Initiative at Hudson Institute. Davidson is also Publisher & CEO of The American Interest LLC. He co-founded The American Interest magazine with Francis Fukuyama in 2005, along with partners Josef Joffe and Walter Russell Mead. Davidson co-founded the think tank Global Financial Integrity in 2006 and is its former Board Chair. He also produced the documentary We're Not Broke that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2012.

Charles Davidson is a graduate of Bowdoin College and Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.



EVELYN N. FARKAS

German Marshall Fund

Dr. Evelyn N. Farkas has three decades of experience working on national security and foreign policy in the U.S. executive, legislative branch, private sector and for international organizations overseas. She is currently a Senior Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, National Security Contributor for NBC/MSNBC and President, Farkas Global Strategies, LLC, and Founding Partner, Scarlet Oak Advisors.

She served from 2012 to 2015 as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia/Ukraine/Eurasia, Balkans, Caucasus and conventional arms control. From 2010 to 2012 she was Senior Advisor to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe and Special Advisor to the Secretary of Defense for the NATO Summit. Prior to that, she was Executive Director of the Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism and senior fellow at the American Security Project. From 2001 to 2008, she served as a Professional Staff Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee responsible for Asia Pacific, Western Hemisphere, Special Operations Command, and policy issues including combatting terrorism, and export control.

From 1997-2001 Farkas was a professor of international relations at the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College. She served 1996-97 in Bosnia with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). She has published numerous journal articles and opinion pieces and *Fractured States and U.S. Foreign Policy: Iraq, Ethiopia, and Bosnia in the 1990s* (Palgrave/St. Martin's Press). She speaks Hungarian and German, has studied French, Spanish, Serbo-Croatian, Russian and Hindi.

Dr. Farkas obtained her MA and Ph.D. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and of the Board of Trustees of Franklin & Marshall College.



JAMIE FLY

RFE/RL President and Chief Executive Officer

Jamie Fly was appointed RFE/RL President and Chief Executive Officer by the RFE/RL Board of Directors on July 10, 2019, effective August 1, 2019.

Prior to his appointment, Fly served as a senior fellow, co-director of the Alliance for Security Democracy, and director of the Future of Geopolitics and Asia programs at The German Marshall Fund of the United States. He served as counselor for Foreign and National Security Affairs to Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) from 2013-17, serving as his foreign policy advisor during his presidential campaign. Prior to joining Senator Rubio's staff in February 2013, he served as the executive director of the Foreign Policy Initiative (FPI) from its founding in early 2009. Prior to joining FPI, Fly served in the Bush administration at the National Security Council (2008-09) and in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (2005-08). His articles and reviews have been published in a wide variety of outlets in the United States and Europe. For his work in the Department of Defense, he was awarded the Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service. Fly received a B.A. in international studies and political science from American University and an M.A. in German and European studies from Georgetown University.



DANIEL FRIED

Atlantic Council

In the course of his forty-year Foreign Service career, Ambassador Fried played a key role in designing and implementing American policy in Europe after the fall of the Soviet Union. As special assistant and NSC senior director for Presidents Clinton and Bush, ambassador to Poland, and assistant secretary of state for Europe (2005-09), Ambassador Fried crafted the policy of NATO enlargement to Central European nations and, in parallel, NATO-Russia relations, thus advancing the goal of Europe whole, free, and at peace. During those years, the West's community of democracy and security grew in Europe. Ambassador Fried helped lead the West's response to Moscow's aggression against Ukraine starting in 2014: as State Department coordinator for sanctions policy, he crafted US sanctions against Russia, the largest US sanctions program to date, and negotiated the imposition of similar sanctions by Europe, Canada, Japan, and Australia.

Ambassador Fried became one of the US government's foremost experts on Central and Eastern Europe and Russia. While a student, he lived in Moscow, majored in Soviet studies and history at Cornell University (BA magna cum laude 1975), and received an MA from Columbia's Russian Institute and School of International Affairs in 1977. He joined the US Foreign Service later that year, serving overseas in Leningrad (human rights, Baltic affairs, and consular officer), and Belgrade (political officer), and in the Office of Soviet Affairs in the State Department.

As Polish desk officer in the late 1980s, Fried was one of the first in Washington to recognize the impending collapse of Communism in Poland, and helped develop the immediate response of the George H.W. Bush Administration to these developments. As political counselor at the US Embassy in Warsaw (1990-93), Fried witnessed Poland's difficult but ultimately successful free market, democratic transformation, working with successive Polish governments.

Ambassador Fried also served as the State Department's first special envoy for the closure of Guantanamo (GTMO) Detainee Facility. He established procedures for the transfer of individual detainees and negotiated the transfers of seventy detainees to twenty countries, with improved security outcomes. Dan Fried has been married to Olga Karpiw since 1979; they have two children (Hannah and Sophie), and are the besotted grandparents of Ava Helen Fried Hanley.



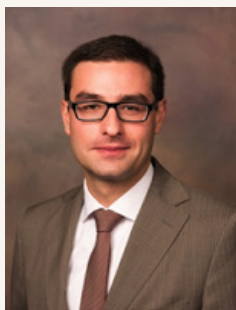
COLLEEN GRAFFY

Pepperdine University

Professor Graffy served in the second Bush Administration as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy for Europe and Eurasia at the U.S. State Department. In that capacity, she travelled to over 40 countries and worked with U.S. Embassies and a team in Washington D.C. to communicate U.S. policy, values and culture. Professor Graffy was the first high-level U.S. government official to actively advance “Public Diplomacy 2.0” using Twitter and other social media platforms to further U.S. communications.

Professor Graffy was called to the Bar of England and Wales as a Barrister of the Middle Temple and received her LLM in international law through King’s College, University of London. Professor Graffy has been based in London as Director of Pepperdine Law School’s London Program and is currently at Pepperdine’s main campus in Malibu, California teaching international law.

Professor Graffy has written on legal issues in the United States and Britain and is a frequent commentator for radio and television on transatlantic political, legal, and cultural issues. Her teaching includes: Public International Law, International Environmental Law, and International Law and the Use of Force. She is on the Advisory Board of the McCain Leadership Institute and the British American Project.



SHOTA GVINERIA

Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC)

Since September 2017 he joined the Economic Policy Research Center leading the security policy direction. Before, since 2001 Shota Gvineria has been working on various positions in Georgia's public sector. Among other positions Shota Gvineria served as the Deputy Secretary at the National Security Council of Georgia. Earlier, he covered NATO integration and security policy related issues as Ambassador at Large in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia. In his previous capacity, he held the position of the Foreign Policy Advisor to the Minister of Defence of Georgia until August 2016.

From May 2010 till June 2014 he served as an Ambassador of Georgia to the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Alongside with strengthening political, economic and cultural relations between Georgia and the Netherlands, Ambassador was also representing his country in international organizations based in The Hague. In 2010, Mr. Gvineria was promoted to the position of a Director of European Affairs Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia. Prior to that mission, in 2008 – 2009, he served as a Head of NATO Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia. In the period of April 2006 – October 2008, Mr. Gvineria was posted as a Counselor to the Georgian Mission to NATO.

In 2015 Mr. Gvineria obtained his Master's degree in Strategic Security Studies at Washington's National Defense University. He also earned his Master's in International Relations from Diplomatic School of Madrid in 2005. Earlier he completed his Master's in Public Administration at Georgian Technical University.



JOHN HERBST

Atlantic Council

John E. Herbst is director of the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center. Ambassador Herbst served for thirty-one years as a foreign service officer in the US Department of State, retiring at the rank of career-minister. He was US ambassador to Ukraine from 2003 to 2006, when he worked to enhance US-Ukrainian relations, help ensure the conduct of a fair Ukrainian presidential election, and prevent violence during the Orange Revolution. Prior to that, he was ambassador to Uzbekistan (2000-03), where he played a critical role in the establishment of an American base to help conduct Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He also promoted improved US-Uzbek relations, in part by encouraging the government in Tashkent to improve its human rights record.

In his last four years at the State Department, he served as the coordinator for reconstruction and stabilization, leading the US government's civilian capacity in societies in transition from conflict or civil strife, and to provide support to countries at risk of instability. He oversaw the establishment of the Civilian Response Corps of the United States, the US civilian rapid response force for reconstruction and stabilization operations overseas.

Ambassador Herbst previously served as US consul general in Jerusalem; principal deputy to the Ambassador-at-Large for the Newly Independent States; the Director of the office of independent states and commonwealth affairs; Director of regional affairs in the Near East Bureau; and at the Embassies in Tel Aviv, Moscow, and Saudi Arabia.

He most recently served as director of the center for complex operations at National Defense University. He has received the Presidential Distinguished Service Award, the Secretary of State's Career Achievement Award, and the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award.

Ambassador Herbst has written book chapters, articles, and op-eds on stability operations in Central Asia, Ukraine, and Russia. His writings have appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Atlantic, the National Interest, and Foreign Policy. He has been a frequent guest discussing the Ukraine crisis on television and radio.

Ambassador Herbst earned a bachelor of science in foreign service from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, Phi Beta Kappa, and a master of law and diplomacy, with distinction, from the Fletcher School at Tufts University. He also attended the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies Bologna Center.



LTG (RET) BEN HODGES

Pershing Chair in Strategic Studies, CEPA

A native of Quincy, Florida, Lieutenant General (Retired) Frederick Benjamin “Ben” Hodges graduated from the United States Military Academy in May 1980 and was commissioned in the Infantry.

After his first assignment as an Infantry Lieutenant in Germany, he commanded Infantry units at the Company, Battalion and Brigade levels as the 101st Airborne Division and in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. He also served in an operational assignment as Director of Operations, Regional Command South, in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Lieutenant General (Retired) Hodges has also served in a variety of Joint and Army Staff positions to include Tactic Instructor at the Infantry School; Chief of Plans, 2nd Infantry Division in Korea; Aide-de-Camp to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe; Army Congressional Liaison Officer; Task Force Senior Observer-Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, LA; Coalition/Joint – 3 (CJ3) of Multi-National Corps-Iraq in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM; Chief of Staff, XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg; and Director of the Pakistan Afghanistan Coordination Cell on the Joint Staff, Chief of Legislative Liaison for the United States Army, and Commander, NATO Allied Land Command. His last Military assignment was as Commander, United States Army Europe from 2014 to 2017.

Lieutenant General (Retired) Hodges holds the Pershing Chair in Strategic Studies at the Center for European Policy Analysis.



DARIA KALENIUK

Anti-Corruption Action Center

Daria is co-founder and executive director of the Anti-Corruption Action Center, a powerful national organization that has shaped Ukraine's anti-corruption legislation and efforts. Daria's organization ensured that Ukraine's newly elected parliament designed strong anti-corruption legislation, including the laws on the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine, the special anti-corruption prosecutor's office, open property registers and electronic asset declarations. Daria has also founded critical resources to track money laundering and corruption internationally. Kaleniuk holds a master's degree in financial services law from Chicago-Kent College of Law. She was a Fullbright program student in 2010-2011.



ANNA KUCHENBECKER

European Council on Foreign Relations

Anna Kuchenbecker is the senior director at the European Council on Foreign Relations where she oversees ECFR's strategic partnerships. Anna came to ECFR from the Aspen Institute Germany, where she served as the institute's deputy director. Prior to that, she spent more than thirteen years in Washington, DC, holding various executive positions in the nonprofit sector and higher education. She was a Senior Partnership Adviser at the Institute for Inclusive Security, a foundation promoting the participation of women in peace processes. Moreover, she worked for Washington's local NPR station, the Brookings Institution, George Washington Law School, American University's Career Center, and Bucerius Law School, establishing its Washington Office.

Anna started her career as an assistant professor with the history department of Hamburg University, where she worked until she moved to the US in early 2002. She holds a Ph.D in History and a Master of Arts in History and Slavic Languages. In addition, she is a deputy chair at Women in International Security Germany and a trustee of Berlin's English speaking radio station, KCRW Berlin. She also serves as global ambassador for SameSky, a nonprofit organization empowering women genocide survivors in Rwanda.



KETI KHUTSISHVILI

Executive Director, Open Society Georgia
Foundation (OSGF)

Keti Khutsishvili became the Executive Director of OSGF in late 2008. Holding MA in Asian Studies, in the early 90's she worked at the Institute of Oriental Studies in Georgia. From the mid- '90s, she started to work for international aid organizations. The longest assignment (1994-2001) was with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, first as a local consultant and later as international program officer. Prior to joining the Soros network, she worked in 2002-2007 as Country Director of the Eurasia Foundation Georgia office.



THOMAS KLEINE-BROCKHOFF

German Marshall Fund

Thomas Kleine-Brockhoff is vice president at the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) where he oversees the organization's activities in Germany. Prior to joining GMF, he served as an advisor to Joachim Gauck, the president of Germany. From 2013-17, he oversaw policy planning and speechwriting for the president.

Before joining the President's staff in Berlin, Kleine-Brockhoff spent 12 years in Washington, DC, including a prior six-year stint at GMF where he led work about the implications of the European financial crisis. A member of GMF's senior management team since 2007, Kleine-Brockhoff was responsible for strategic projects and, until 2011, oversaw GMF policy programs and globalization projects.

Before arriving at GMF, Kleine-Brockhoff served as the Washington bureau chief of DIE ZEIT, Germany's intellectual weekly.



BATU KUTELIA

Vice President of the Atlantic Council of Georgia

Ambassador Kutelia is the Vice President of the Atlantic Council of Georgia and the Next Generation Leader fellow at the McCain Institute for International Leadership. He served as the Deputy Secretary of the National Security Council of Georgia, since January 2011 till November 2013. From 2008 until 2011 he was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States of America, Canada and Mexico.

In his previous capacities he has been First Deputy Minister of Defense (2007-2008), Deputy Minister of Defense and Foreign Affairs (2006-2007) and Deputy Minister of State Security (2004).

From 2005-2006 he functioned as the Head of the Intelligence Service of Georgia. Before this he was the Head of the Foreign Intelligence Department of the Ministry of State Security of Georgia and Director of the Political Security Department of the National Security Council in 2004, also numerous pol.-mil. positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Before turning into his diplomatic and political career Mr. Kutelia studied physics and holds a PhD in physics. However, he also holds a Master's in Public Affairs Administration. Mr. Kutelia is fluent in English, Russian and Georgian languages.



MIROSLAV LAJČÁK

Minister of Foreign and European
Affairs of the Slovak Republic

Mr Miroslav Lajčák has dedicated his professional life to diplomacy, representing both the Slovak Republic and the international community. Most recently, Mr. Lajčák served as President of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly, where he advocated for dialogue, strengthening multilateralism and serving the needs of all people. Mr. Lajčák is currently in his fourth mandate as Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, a position he first held from 2009 to 2010. From 2012 to 2016, he served as Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of Slovakia. He was reappointed as Foreign Minister in 2016 and 2018 respectively. From 2010 to 2012, Mr. Lajčák helped shape the newly formed diplomatic service of the European Union, the European External Action Service, as its Managing Director for Europe and Central Asia. From 2007 to 2009, Mr. Lajčák served as High Representative of the International Community and Special Representative of the European Union in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A key figure in the mediation of the post-conflict crises in the Western Balkans, Mr. Lajčák negotiated, organized and supervised the referendum on the independence of Montenegro in 2006 on behalf of the European Union. Mr. Lajčák had also held various posts within the Slovak Foreign Service since his joining in 1988, including as Slovak Ambassador to Japan, Executive Assistant to the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Balkans, Head of cabinet of the Foreign Minister and Prime Minister and Slovak Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania.

Mr. Lajčák is a graduate of the Moscow State Institute for International Relations and has a law degree from the Comenius University in Bratislava.



LINAS LINKEVIČIUS

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Lithuania

Linas Linkevičius serves as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Lithuania since December 2012. Before that he was Lithuania's Ambassador to Belarus. Linkevičius was twice appointed as minister of national defence (1993-96 and 2000-2004) and served twice as Lithuanian ambassador to NATO (2005-2011 and 1997-2000). He was first elected to the Parliament of Lithuania in 1992.



MARIA LOGAN

Open Russia

Maria Logan, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia, received her Master's degree in international law from American University and her M.B.A. from Georgetown University. From 2001 to 2008, Maria was part of the litigation practice group at the international law firm Greenberg Traurig in Washington, DC. In 2008, she joined the worldwide campaign for Mr. Khodorkovsky's release. From 2008 to 2013 she coordinated, among other things, the efforts of many international human rights organizations in support of Mr. Khodorkovsky and represented the case before the governmental institutions worldwide. Since Khodorkovsky's release from prison and his launch of the Open Russia movement in September of 2014, Maria has spearheaded the international programme activities of Open Russia, including projects in the media production area. In 2015 as one of the media experts and professionals invited by the European Endowment of Democracy Maria took part in the feasibility study on Russian Language Media Initiatives in the Eastern Partnership and Beyond. Open Russia seeks to provide a platform for Russian citizens living both inside and outside of Russia who are committed to Euro-Atlantic values based on a strong, dynamic, and forward-looking state with effective democratic institutions and the rule of law.



FREDRIK LÖJDQUIST

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Ambassador Fredrik Löjdquist currently serves as special envoy for countering hybrid threats at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Stockholm and is also Sweden's senior representative to the OSCE Structured Dialogue. 2012-2017 he served as Sweden's Ambassador to the OSCE in Vienna, before that he has been dealing with Russia, Eastern Europe and security policy in various positions within the Swedish Government Offices since 1994, incl. as Ambassador and special envoy for the EU Presidency of Sweden 2009 to Georgia.



EDWARD LUCAS

Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA)

Edward Lucas is a Senior Vice President at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA). He was formerly a senior editor at The Economist. Lucas has covered Central and Eastern European affairs since 1986, writing, broadcasting, and speaking on the politics, economics, and security of the region. A graduate of the London School of Economics and long-serving foreign correspondent in Berlin, Vienna, Moscow, and the Baltic states, he is an internationally recognized expert on espionage, subversion, the use and abuse of history, energy security and information warfare. He is the author of four books: The New Cold War (2008, newly revised and republished); Deception (2011); The Snowden Operation (2014), and Cyberphobia (2015). His website is edwardlucas.com and he tweets as [@edwardlucas](https://twitter.com/edwardlucas).



DAMIR MARUSIC

The American Interest

Damir Marusic is Executive Editor at The American Interest, a magazine started by Francis Fukuyama, Eliot Cohen, Josef Joffe and Zbigniew Brzezinski in 2005, and based in Washington DC. The magazine's role is to provide in-depth analysis of issues—both foreign and domestic—to a global audience: “explaining the world to America, and America to the world.” His monthly column has recently focused on the rise of populist-style politics across the West, the role of Russia in Europe, and the return of instability to the Western Balkans.



CINDY HENSLEY MCCAIN

Humanitarian, Business Leader and
Chairperson, The McCain Institute

Cindy McCain, wife to the late Senator John McCain for almost 40 years, has a view of America and the world unlike any other. As a passionate humanitarian leader, she has been a relentless defender of women, an advocate of early childhood education and a steadfast activist in the fight against human trafficking. Mrs. McCain fondly shares the lessons she learned at her husband's side and celebrates the legacy of his leadership, the values which he so valiantly fought for, and the hope for a better America in which they both believed was so very possible. As someone who has been privy to the most important decisions in the world of politics and global affairs, Mrs. McCain is keenly aware of the challenges that face our country today and inspires audiences to a life of service unto others.

Cindy Hensley McCain has dedicated her life to improving the lives of those less fortunate both in the United States and around the world. As the Chairman of the Board of the McCain Institute for International Leadership at Arizona State University, she oversees the organization's focus on advancing character-driven global leadership based on security, economic opportunity, freedom and human dignity. Cindy also chairs the Institute's Human Trafficking Advisory Council. She cares deeply about this issue and is committed to ending human trafficking and supporting victims in Arizona, the United States and around the world. Through her work with the McCain Institute, several partnerships have been formed with anti-trafficking organizations working on solving various aspects of the problem. She also serves as co-chair of the Arizona Governor's Council on human trafficking. In addition to her work at the McCain Institute, she serves on the Board of Directors of Project C.U.R.E and the Advisory Boards of Too Small To Fail and Warriors and Quiet Waters. Cindy holds an undergraduate degree in Education and a Master's in Special Education from USC and is a member of the USC Rossier School of Education Board of Councilors. Cindy is the Chairman of her family's business, Hensley Beverage Company, which is one of the largest Anheuser-Busch distributors in the nation. Cindy is the wife of the late U.S. Senator John McCain. Together, they have four children.



DAVID SALVO

Alliance for Securing Democracy

David Salvo is the deputy director of the Alliance for Securing Democracy (ASD) and a senior fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF). Salvo is the principal author of the ASD Policy Blueprint for Countering Authoritarian Interference in Democracies. He has appeared on media including NPR, CNN, Fox Business, ABC News, and VOA. Prior to joining GMF, Salvo was a Foreign Service Officer at the State Department, serving most recently as the deputy secretary of state's policy advisor for Europe, Eurasia, and international security issues. Salvo also advised senior-level State Department negotiators on the protracted conflicts in the South Caucasus, worked on U.S. policies toward NATO and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and served overseas in Russia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. He speaks Russian and Serbo-Croatian and has a basic knowledge of French. Salvo received his master's degree from Georgetown University's Center for Eurasian, Russian, and East European Studies and a bachelor's degree in government and Russian from Georgetown. He is an avid music lover and plays in several DC-area bands, including a tribute to the nationally renowned rock band Phish.



JUSTIN MCKENZIE SMITH

British Ambassador to Georgia

Mr Justin McKenzie Smith took up the appointment of Her Majesty's Ambassador to Georgia in August 2016. Previous to this, Justin was Deputy Head of Mission and Director for Trade and Investment at the British Embassy in Mexico City from 2011- 2015.

Justin was Deputy Director responsible for the UK's relations with Russia, the South Caucasus and Central Asia in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office from 2008-2011. From 2004-2008, Justin was the Spokesperson for the UK Mission to the United Nations in New York and a member of the UK's Security Council team. He also served in the British Embassy in Moscow in the second half of the 1990s.

In London, Justin has also worked on European Union, human rights and press issues. Justin McKenzie Smith joined Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service in 1994 and is a graduate of Oxford and Edinburgh Universities.



DAVID MERKEL

Atlantic Council

David A. Merkel is a senior fellow at the Atlantic Council. He is also the managing director of Summit International Advisors, LLC. His expertise includes US foreign policy, the geopolitics of energy, the Belt Road Initiative, Europe, Russia, the Caucasus and Central Asia. He is based in Washington, DC.

Mr. Merkel has served as deputy assistant secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; director for South and Central Asian affairs at the National Security Council; director for European and Eurasian affairs at the National Security Council in the White House and deputy assistant secretary for International Affairs at the US Treasury Department. He also served as international counselor to the Chairman of the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC); and senior professional staff on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

He is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Nazarbayev University in Astana, Kazakhstan and the Josef Korbel School of International Studies Social Science Foundation at the University of Denver as well as a visiting faculty member in the geopolitics of energy at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy.

He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS London), and the Swedish Institute of International Affairs.

Mr. Merkel has been an international election observer and worked on democracy programs for the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the International Republican Institute and the National Democratic Institute in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America.



IA MEURMISHVILI

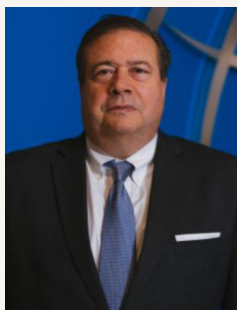
Voice of America

Ia Meurmishvili is a journalist, senior editor, and the anchor of “Washington Today,” a weekly news magazine produced by the Voice of America’s Georgian Service. In this capacity, she has presented American foreign policy, values and culture to audiences in Georgia since 2009. She also covers major American foreign and national security issues as they relate to U.S.-Russian and U.S.-Georgian relations.

In addition to her work for the Georgian Service, Ms. Meurmishvili has contributed to the investigative, fact-checking publication “poligraph.info” aimed at debunking fake news and propaganda.

Ms. Meurmishvili regularly appears on a variety of Georgian television news and analysis programs to present information and commentary about the United States for a Georgian audience. She has lectured on these topics at universities in Georgia, and has appeared as a subject matter expert in various fora to discuss U.S. politics, American foreign policy, disinformation campaigns, and freedom of speech.

Prior to joining the Voice of America, Ms. Meurmishvili held a variety of positions in the public, private and non-profit sectors in the United States, including positions at the Eurasia Foundation, Finmeccanica, and the office of U.S. Representative Allyson Schwartz.



STEPHEN B. NIX

International Republican Institute

Stephen Nix joined IRI in October 2000, as regional program director for Eurasia. In that position, he oversees programs in Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine.

Nix joined IRI after serving for two years as senior democracy specialist at the U.S. Agency for International Development. Nix is a specialist in political party development, and judicial and legal reform in the former Soviet Union.

Nix resided in Kyiv, Ukraine, for more than three years. During that time, he served as outside legal counsel for the Committee on Legal Reform in the Ukrainian Parliament. He also assisted in the drafting of crucial reform legislation in Ukraine, including the constitution of Ukraine, the presidential and parliamentary election laws, and the law on the constitutional court of Ukraine. Nix also served as a member of the Parliamentary Special Committee on the Law on the Election of Deputies in Ukraine. He has lectured in a number of law schools throughout Ukraine on such topics as election law and judicial reform.

Nix served as legal counsel to the International Foundation for Electoral Systems in Ukraine and Russia, and has written extensively on legal and political reforms in the region. Among his publications is *The Compendium of Election Laws of Central and Eastern Europe* (1994).

Nix received his juris doctorate from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1989. He worked in the litigation section of the law firm of Baker & Hostetler in Washington, DC from 1989 to 1994, where he specialized in election law and international law. Prior to entering the practice of law, Nix served as Midwest field director for the National Republican Congressional Committee and was the campaign manager for the Republican candidate in Indiana's Second Congressional District.

Nix served on the litigation team for the 2008 John McCain for President Campaign and was posted to Columbus, Ohio.



JAMES NIXEY

Chatham House

His principal expertise concerns the relationships between Russia and the other post-Soviet states. He has published papers and articles in books and journals, and commented extensively in the national and global media.

He has also organised hundreds of private expert roundtables on Russian and Eurasian affairs while at Chatham House. Publications include 'The Long Goodbye: Waning Russian Influence in The South Caucasus and Central Asia', 'Russia's Geopolitical Compass: Losing Direction' in, 'Putin Again: Implications for Russia and the West', and 'The South Caucasus: Drama on Three Stages' in 'A Question of Leadership: America's Role in a Changed World'.

As the principal fundraiser for his research programme, he has raised money for projects from dozens of corporate sector companies, governments and grant-giving institutions.

James holds degrees in modern languages and international relations and has previous experience in journalism (as a reporter in Moscow in the late 1990s) and the banking sector, for Goldman Sachs.



ŽYGIMANTAS PAVILIONIS

Member of Lithuanian Parliament

Ambassador Žygimantas Pavilionis has served as Ambassador-at-Large for Europe's East (European Neighborhood) at the Lithuanian MFA since August 2015. He is also a Lithuanian career diplomat. As for his earlier posts, Pavilionis served as Deputy Chief Negotiator of Lithuania for the EU accession and led the European Union Department from 2002-2004, served as a Political Director and Deputy Foreign Minister from 2005-2009. More recently, he served as Chief Coordinator for Lithuania's presidency of the Community of Democracies (2009-2010) and as the Lithuanian Ambassador to the US and Mexico (2010-2015).



JERZY POMIANOWSKI

European Endowment for Democracy

Jerzy Pomianowski has worked in international affairs for almost 30 years as Deputy Foreign Minister of Poland, Director of OECD-UNDP's Partnership for Democratic Governance and Poland's Ambassador to Japan.

In 2013, he led the establishment of the European Endowment for Democracy (EED) and has since served as its Executive Director.

Pomianowski began his career as a civil servant in 1990, just after the fall of communism, first in the Ministry of Education, and then in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He oversaw the launch of Poland Aid (2006-2008) and served as Director General of the Polish Foreign Service (2005-2006).

Before 1989, Pomianowski was an active member of the democratic opposition in Poland. He was Chief-Editor of the Independent Publishing House at the Warsaw University, his Alma Mater. In his free time, he serves as president of the Polish Aikido Federation.



VLADYSLAV RASHKOVAN

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Vladyslav is an Alternative Executive Director in International Monetary Fund (IMF), representing at the IMF Executive Board Ukraine 15 European countries.

Before joining IMF Vladyslav served as a Deputy Governor, Member of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU), being responsible for the developing and implementing the strategy of the Ukrainian banking sector reforms and turnaround transformation project within the National Bank of Ukraine. Before joining the Central Bank in 2014, Vladyslav spent 8 years in the UniCredit Group, since 2010 occupying the position of the CFO and Deputy CEO of UniCredit Bank Ukraine. Prior to joining UniCredit, since 2000 Vladyslav was working as a researcher and strategic consultant in M&A area.

In his non-profit activities Vladyslav was a member of the National reform council in Ukraine (2014-2016), served as a Co-chair of the Banking and Financial Committee of American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine (2010-2013) and a was a Board member of the Kyiv School of Economics (2012-2014).

Vladyslav graduated from the banking faculty of the Odessa State Economics University in 2000 and later was a researcher in University of Genova (Italy) and Institute of the World Economics of the Hungarian Academy of Science (Hungary).

Vladyslav has an extensive expertise in strategic management, managing complex turnaround transformation projects in the financial and public sectors.



ANDERS FOGH RASMUSSEN

Founder and Chairman, Rasmussen Global and
Alliance of Democracies Foundation, fmr.
NATO Secretary General

Anders Fogh Rasmussen has been at the center of European and global politics for three decades as a leading Danish parliamentarian, Minister for Taxation (1987-1992), Minister for Economic Affairs (1990-1992), Prime Minister of Denmark (2001-2009) and Secretary General of NATO (2009-2014). In 2014, Anders Fogh Rasmussen established Rasmussen Global, which provides geopolitical and strategic consulting services.

His tenure as Secretary General of NATO marked a fundamental transformation of the Alliance. He developed a new Strategic Concept, which sets the Alliance's core priorities for the future. In the midst of the most serious economic crisis in recent time, he launched "Smart Defence" to help nations make more efficient use of their resources through more multinational cooperation.

In response to Russia's aggression against Ukraine, he initiated a NATO "Readiness Action Plan".



PHILIP T. REEKER

U.S. Department of State

Ambassador Philip T. Reeker is the Acting Assistant Secretary of European and Eurasian Affairs since March 18.

Prior to his appointment, Ambassador Reeker assumed his duties as the USEUCOM Civilian Deputy and POLAD November 2017 and will continue to serve in this position until May 31, 2019. Prior to that he served as the United States Consul General in Milan, covering northern Italy beginning in September 2014. From July 2011 through 2013, Ambassador Reeker served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs focused on the Balkans, Central Europe, and Holocaust Issues.

He was U.S. Ambassador to Macedonia from 2008 to 2011, and Deputy State Department Spokesman/Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, under Secretaries of State Albright and Powell (2000-2004). Previous assignments also include: Minister Counselor for Public Affairs under Ambassador Ryan Crocker at the U.S. Embassy in Iraq (2007-2008); Deputy Chief of Mission in Budapest (2004-2007); and Director of Press Relations at the State Department (1999-2000). He was Spokesman for the Special Envoy for Kosovo, Ambassador Christopher Hill. Ambassador Reeker joined the Foreign Service in 1992, and served earlier tours in Budapest, Hungary and Skopje, Macedonia.

Ambassador Reeker is the 2013 Recipient of the Robert C. Frasure Memorial Award for “his commitment to peace and the alleviation of human suffering caused by war or civil injustice” in the Balkans; the National Albanian American Council presented Ambassador Reeker with its “Hands of Hope Award” the same year. He received the Edward R. Murrow Award for Excellence in Public Diplomacy in 2003, and several State Department Superior Honor Awards.

Ambassador Reeker is a graduate of Yale University (1986), and received an MBA from the Thunderbird School of International Management in Arizona (1991). Born in Pennsylvania, Ambassador Reeker grew up in several U.S. cities and spent his high school years in Brisbane, Australia. His foreign languages are: Hungarian, Macedonian, Italian, and German.



SALOME SAMADASHVILI

United National Movement

Ambassador Salome Samadashvili is the member of the Parliament of Georgia, from the United National Movement Party and the Deputy Chair of the UNM parliamentary group. She serves on the Legal Committee and is a deputy Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. In 2005-2013 she was the Chief of Georgia's Mission to the European Union and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Kingdom of Belgium and Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. In 2014 she was a visiting fellow at the Wilfried Martens Center for European Studies in Brussels and in 2015 an interim resident governance director for NDI Libya, based in Malta. Ambassador Samadashvili has been awarded a Presidential Decoration of Splendor for her outstanding service to Georgia. She holds a BA degree in Political Sciences from Allegheny College, Pennsylvania, USA, as well as LL.M with Merit in Comparative Constitutional Law from the Central European University in Budapest and Masters in Public Policy from the School of Governance, American University, Washington DC. In addition to her native Georgian she is fluent in English, Russian and French. She is the author of numerous publications, including the policy papers on the European global strategy- 'Good or Bad Neighbors- Europe's Main Security Challenge,' 'Muzzling the Bear-Strategic Defense for Russia's Undeclared Information War on Europe' and 'Lifeline for Freedom: Eastern Partnership, 2.0.'



MARIETJE SCHAAKE

European Parliament

Marietje Schaake served as a representative of the Dutch Democratic Party (D66) and the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) in European Parliament until July 2019. She was first elected in 2009. A notably active Member from the Netherlands according to Vote-Watch, she is furthermore regarded by Politico and the Wall Street Journal as one of the most technology-savvy members. A Young Global Leader with the World Economic Forum, she also co-chairs the Future Council on Agile Governance.

Schaake led the ALDE team on the International Trade committee and served as ALDE spokesperson on transatlantic and digital trade. In the committee of Foreign Affairs, she focused on North Africa and the Middle East, defence cooperation and human rights. As Chair of the Foreign Affairs Budget Working Group she oversaw billions of Euro's in foreign policy spending. Moreover, she served as Vice-President of the US Delegation and on the Iran Delegation and the Delegation for the Arab Peninsula.

A member of the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace, and founder of the European Parliament Intergroup on the European Digital Agenda, Schaake develops solutions to strengthen the rule of law online.



RANDY SCHEUNEMANN

Halifax International Security Forum
International Republican Institute (IRI)

Randy Scheunemann is Strategic Counselor to Halifax International Security Forum. Over more than three decades, he has advised senior US and international political leaders on strategy, policy and governance in public and private sector positions. In his final book, *The Restless Wave*, John McCain thanked Scheunemann for being his “consigliere.” Scheunemann also serves as Vice Chairman of the International Republican Institute, an organization devoted to advancing democracy worldwide. In the last year, he has traveled to Ukraine, Nigeria and Timor-Leste for IRI. He lives in Montana.



ROBIN SHEPHERD

Halifax International Security Forum

Robin Shepherd is Vice President of Halifax International Security Forum. A British citizen, Robin has been a senior journalist and think tank analyst for many years. Among the highlights of his career, he has been the head of the Europe Programme at Chatham House, Moscow Bureau Chief for the Times of London, and the author of two previous books, *A State Beyond the Pale: Europe's Problem with Israel*; and *Czechoslovakia: The Velvet Revolution and Beyond*.



ARCHIL TALAKVADZE

Chairman of Parliament of Georgia

Archil Talakvadze (born January 16, 1983) is a Georgian politician serving as the Chairman of Parliament of Georgia.

A member of the Georgian Dream Party, Talakvadze was elected to the Parliament in 2016 through the majoritarian vote from the Western District, Ozurgeti and was a Majority leader until June 25th, 2019 when he was elected as the Chairman of Parliament of Georgia.

During the 2012 and 2016 election cycles, Talakvadze served two different positions in the Government - the Vice-Minister of Corrections (Justice) and the Vice-Minister of Interior.

Talakvadze is known as a reformist, visionary leader. Behind the Speaker Kobakhidze, he worked on constitutional reform and amendments (2018) changing the governance model and strengthening the institutional democracy of Georgia. Talakvadze led adoption of the new Road Safety Legislation resulting in the 14% decrease of traffic accidents and casualty in a year.

Talakvadze led majority owned initiatives on poverty reduction, tax reform, environment and emissions control.

Talakvadze endorsed Kakha Kaladze in the 2017 elections and served as the campaign manager for his race for Mayor of Tbilisi.

Talakvadze worked on a bipartisan resolution with the opposition condemning the human rights violations taking place on Russian occupied territories of Georgia.

Talakvadze is married, with two children.



JOHN F. TEFFT

Ambassador John F. Tefft served as the United States Ambassador to Russia (2014- 2017), Ukraine (2009-2013), Georgia (2005-2009), and Lithuania (2000-2003). Now retired since 2017 after a 45-year career as a United States Foreign Service Officer, Tefft also served earlier in Moscow as Deputy Chief of Mission (1996-1999), Rome (1986-1989), Budapest (1979-1982), and Jerusalem (1972-1974). He was the International Affairs Advisor of the U.S. National War College and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs responsible for Eastern Europe. Tefft originally retired from the Foreign Service in 2013 and worked as the Executive Director of the RAND Corporation's US-Russian Business Leaders' Forum until he was recalled to duty to serve as the U.S. Ambassador to Russia in 2014. He is the recipient of the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award, and the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award. He is married to Mariella Cellitti Tefft since 1971 and has two daughters and two granddaughters.



NICOLAS TENZER

Center for Studies and Research on Political
Decision (CERAP)

Graduated from École normale supérieure, Sciences-Po Paris and École nationale d'administration (ENA), he has a Master degree in History. Former adviser to the French Minister of Economy and Finance, he was investigator at the Accounting Court and Head of Department in Strategic Planning Commission (Prime Minister's Office). He served as head of a special mission on international issues for the French government. He is the co-founder, former chairman and CEO, and now honorary chairman of Initiative for the Development of French Expertise Abroad in Europe and Worldwide (IDEFIE). He has been member of the board, CFO, and then executive president of Aspen Institute France (2010-2015). He wrote three official reports for the French government: The New Challenges for the Public Service: How to Address Them?; A New Organization for European and International Policies in France; and International Expertise: The New Heart of Diplomacy and Development Policy in the 21 st Century: Tools for a French Strategy of Influence.

Chairman of the Center for Studies and Research on Political Decision (CERAP) and the editor of the review *Le Banquet*, he is guest professor at Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA, Sciences-Po), ENA Paris, and France's Institute for Advanced Studies on National Defence. He has been visiting professor at foreign universities (U.S., Canada, Serbia, South Korea, Poland, etc.) and guest speaker at many international conferences on security and international issues. He is the author of 22 books, including *Political Philosophy*; *The World in 2030. The Rule and the Disorder*; and *France Needs Others*, and lastly *Resisting Despair in Confrontational Times* (with R. Jahanbegloo, Har-Anand Publications, 2019). Most of his recent pieces deal with European and security issues, Russia, Middle-East and US foreign policy. He regularly appears in leading newspapers worldwide and TV and radio talk-shows.



PETER VAN PRAAGH

Halifax International Security Forum

Peter Van Praagh is the founder and President of Halifax International Security Forum. Peter has served as Senior Director for Foreign Policy at the Washington, DC-based German Marshall Fund of the United States, as Deputy Vice President of Programs at the National Endowment for Democracy in Washington, DC, and as Chief of Party for the National Democratic Institute both in the former Soviet Union and in Turkey. In 2006-07, Peter served as Senior Policy Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada. Peter is a graduate of University College, the University of Toronto and the London School of Economics. He is married to Lena Van Praagh and has three children, Yasha, Sophia Joy, and Elizabeth.



BRIAN WHITMORE

Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA)

Brian Whitmore is a Senior Fellow and Director of the Russia Program at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA), in Washington D.C.

He is also the author of The Power Vertical Blog and host of The Power Vertical Podcast, both of which focus on Russian affairs.

Prior to joining CEPA, he was Senior Russia Analyst for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. Prior to joining RFE, Whitmore worked as a foreign correspondent for The Boston Globe in Moscow and in Prague.

He has worked as a graduate lecturer in the Department of Government and International Studies at the University of South Carolina, and as a visiting lecturer in the History Faculty at Mechnikov National University in Odessa, Ukraine and the International Relations Faculty at St. Petersburg State University in Russia.

Whitmore's work has appeared in The Washington Post, The Atlantic, The New Republic, Foreign Policy, Newsweek, and elsewhere. He has appeared as an expert commentator on CNN, the BBC World Service, NPR and various other media.

Whitmore has an MA in Political Science from Villanova University and BA in Politics from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia.



CLINT WILLIAMSON

McCain Institute for International Leadership

Ambassador Clint Williamson is the senior director for International Rule of Law, Governance and Security at the McCain Institute for International Leadership at Arizona State University and a professor of practice at the Sandra Day O'Connor Law School at Arizona State University. He served as U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues from June 2006 to September 2009. Prior to this appointment, he served as Senior Director for Relief, Stabilization, and Development and as Director for Stability Operations at the National Security Council between January 2003 and June 2006. Ambassador Williamson has also served in a variety of senior roles with the United Nations and the European Union. Most recently, from October 2011 to August 2014, he served as the Chief Prosecutor of the EU Special Investigative Task Force in Brussels. From 2009 to 2011, Ambassador Williamson was a Special Expert to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In earlier postings, he worked in the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations as Director of the Department of Justice in the UN Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and as a Trial Attorney at the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia (ICTY). At the outset of his professional career, Ambassador Williamson served as a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division and as an assistant district attorney in New Orleans. He holds a bachelor's degree from Louisiana Tech University and a law degree from Tulane University.



DAMON M. WILSON

Atlantic Council

Damon M. Wilson is executive vice president of the Atlantic Council, where he is responsible for programs and strategy. His work is committed to advancing a Europe whole, free, and at peace; to strengthening the NATO Alliance; and to fostering a transatlantic partnership capable of tackling global challenges and promoting its common values. From 2007 to 2009, Mr. Wilson served as special assistant to the president and senior director for European affairs at the National Security Council. He managed interagency policy on NATO, the European Union, Georgia, Ukraine, the Balkans, Eurasian energy security, and Turkey, and planned numerous Presidential visits to Europe, including US-European Union and NATO summits. Mr. Wilson has also served at the US Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq as the executive secretary and chief of staff; at the National Security Council as the director for Central, Eastern, and Northern European affairs; and as deputy director in the Private Office of NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson. Prior to serving in Brussels, Mr. Wilson worked in the US Department of State in various positions dealing with European security and China and served in Rwanda with Save the Children. He is a graduate of Duke University, studied at the University of Grenoble in France, and completed his graduate studies at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School for Public and International Affairs. Mr. Wilson also worked with the Unaccompanied Children in Exile refugee program in Croatia and Turkey, and has been decorated by the presidents of Estonia, Bulgaria, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, and Poland for his efforts to advance transatlantic relations.



ANDREW WOOD

Chatham House

SIR ANDREW WOOD GCMG served as a member of the British diplomatic service in: Moscow 1964-6, 1979-82 and 1995-2000 (the last as Ambassador); Washington DC, 1967-70 and 1989-92 (as Deputy Head of Mission); and Belgrade, 1975-9 and 1985-89 (as Ambassador).

Sir Andrew has acted on behalf of a number of Western companies since leaving the diplomatic service in 2000 in connection with their business interests in Russia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan. He has been an Associate Fellow of Chatham House since 2008. He was one of the contributors to the Chatham House report on The Russia Challenge, launched on 5 June 2015, has published articles for The American Interest, and was co-author with Lilia Shevtsova of Change or Decay – Russia's Dilemma and the West's Response (Carnegie, November 2011). He has also regularly commented on Russia related questions for British radio and TV stations.



FATMA CEREN YAZGAN

AMBASSADOR OF the REPUBLIC OF
TURKEY TO GEORGIA

Joined Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey in 1993.

Ambassador Yazgan worked at the Directorates of Cultural Affairs, European Affairs, America, Security and Intelligence in the Ministry as well as in Turkish Embassies in Muscat, Kiev and Moscow, as well as in the Turkey's Permanent Representation to the OSCE.

She served as Deputy Director General of Security and Intelligence between 2012-2017. Ambassador Yazgan presented her credentials as Ambassador of Republic of Turkey to Georgia on 15 December 2017.

Ambassador Yazgan is a graduate of Boğaziçi University, Department of Political Science and International Relations. She has a MLitt degree from St Andrews University on Terrorism and Political Violence. She is fluent in English and Russian.



SVITLANA ZALISHCHUK

Ukrainian Politician

She was serving as a member of Ukrainian Parliament in 2014-2019 and was chairing the Sub-Committee on European and Euro-Atlantic Relations. Also Svitlana was a member of the Ukrainian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Svitlana's current activities include foreign affairs and security issues. Additionally, as an MP she was active in the sphere of anticorruption, human rights, and gender equality. Svitlana was the first MP in Ukraine who publicly joined the LGBT pride movement in 2015.

Svitlana was an active leader of the EuroMaidan movement that started in 2013. In particular, her organization, Centre UA, coordinated the biggest Facebook page (Euromaidan) in Ukrainian history, which played a critical role in the Revolution of Dignity.

Svitlana worked for 5 years as Executive Director of Kiev-based non-governmental organization Centre UA and was a founder of national civic movements, including CHESNO, Stop Censorship, Reanimation Package of Reforms.

In 2005-2006, Svitlana was a head of the Department of Information in the Administration of the President of Ukraine.

Svitlana graduated from Institute of Journalism, National Taras Shevchenko University. In 2011, she was a fellow of the Stanford Draper Hill Summer Fellowship in 2011.



DAVID ZALKALIANI

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

21 June 2018 - Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia.

David Zalkaliani was born on 27 February 1968 in Tbilisi.

1992 – Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, specialty International Law

1992-1995 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, Department of International Organizations, Division of European Community; Third Secretary; Second Secretary; First Secretary; Deputy Head of the Division;

1995-1996 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, Department of International Organizations, Division of European Organizations; Deputy Head of the Division;

1996-2000 – Embassy of Georgia to Austria; Representation of Georgia to International Organizations in Vienna; First Secretary; Counsellor;

2000-2001 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia; First European Department; Counsellor;

2001-2002 - Embassy of Georgia to Austria; Representation of Georgia to International Organizations in Vienna; Counsellor;

March – September 2002 – Permanent Representation of Georgia to OSCE and International Organizations in Vienna; Deputy Permanent Representative;

2002-2004 - Embassy of Georgia to the United States, Mexico, and Canada; Senior Counsellor;

2004-2007 – Embassy of Georgia to the Republics of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary;

January – December 2007 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, Department of Global Relations; Director;

December 2007 – January 2008 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia; Ambassador at Large;

January 2008 – September 2009 - Embassy of Georgia to the Republics of Belarus, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary;

29 October 2012 – 5 November 2014 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia; First Deputy Minister;

2015 – 8 January 2016 – Executive Director of the Levan Mikeladze Foundation

8 January 2016 – First Deputy Foreign Minister.



VALDIS ZATLERS

President of the Republic of Latvia
2007-2011

Mr. Valdis Zatlers was elected as a President of Latvia in 2007 for one term until 2011.

During late 80 s and early 90 s he was an active member of the Popular Front of Latvia – a political organization that led to regaining the independence of Latvia. He also served as a member of its council. Mr. Zatlers also took part in the meeting of the three national movements of the Baltic states that later gathered people for the history changing act – The Baltic Way.

His educational background includes graduating Riga Institute of Medicine in 1979 as well as professional orthopedic training at Yale and Syracuse Universities in 1991. After completing his medical studies, Mr. Zatlers became traumatologist-orthopedist (1979- 1985). Mr. Zatlers was also employed as a doctor in Chernobyl following the failure of the nuclear power plant in 1986.

Later the career in medicine led to him to a wider opportunities and leadership roles, including serving as Head of the Traumatology Department (1985-94) at 2nd Hospital of Riga, Director and Chairman of the Board of the State Hospital of Traumatology and Orthopedics (1994-2007), and President of the Association of Traumatologists and Orthopedists in Latvia (2003-2008), that was followed by taking a position as President of Latvia in 2007.

After the presidency Mr. Zatlers formed a political party and ministered as deputy in Saeima (Parliament of Latvia) where he served on and chaired National Security Committee. His active years ended in 2014.

After retiring, Mr. Zatlers began working on his first book *Kas Es Esmu* (Latvian for Who am I) that was first published in March, 2015 and has been printed in two languages – Latvian and Russian.

Awards: Commander of the Order of the Three Stars; the Order of Viesturs, First Class; and the Cross of Recognition, First Class. In 1993, Mr. Zatlers received the prize from the International Arthroscopy Association for the largest contribution to the development of arthroscopy in emerging countries.

He remains an active character in both local and international areas until now.



SALOME ZOURABICHVILI

President of Georgia

Born on 18 March 1952 in Paris, France.

Speaks fluently Georgian, French, and English and converses in basic Italian.

Education

Institute of Political Studies (1969-1972 – Paris, France).

Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs (1972-1973 – New York, U.S.A.)

Diplomatic and Political Career

In 1974-2004, she worked in the diplomatic service for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France in several embassies (Italy, United States, and Chad) and with French representations to international organizations (UN, NATO, Western European Union, OSCE).

In 2003, she was appointed as Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of France to Georgia.

In 2004-2005, she served as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia. On 11 March 2006, after leaving the post, she founded a political party “The Way of Georgia”.

In 2006-2015, she was an Associate Professor of International Relations at the Institute of Political Studies in Paris, France.

From 2010 to December 2015, she led the United Nations Security Council monitoring group on sanctions against Iran.

In 2016, she won in Parliamentary elections of Georgia, as an independent Deputy.

In 2018, she was elected as the 5th President of Georgia.

