The 2nd Kadir Has University International Relations Conference

on

The Post-Soviet Space after 25 years of Independence: Understanding Political and Systemic Dynamics and Risks

Istanbul, 13-14 October 2016
Cibali Auditorium
Conference Program

Thursday, 13 October 2016

14:00-14:30 Welcome Remarks
Mustafa Aydın, Rector, Kadir Has University, Istanbul

14.30-16.00 Panel I: The state of affairs in the post-Soviet Space: A Centrifugal development or a Centripetal drive?
Political developments, post-Soviet conflicts, emergence of new tensions and confrontations. Reorganization under new cooperation schemes. The role of Russia: Does the empire strike back?

Fiona Hill, Director, Center on the United States and Europe, Brookings Institution, Washington, DC

Mustafa Aydın, Rector, Kadir Has University, Istanbul

Ayca Ergun, Vice-Chair of Center for Black Sea and Central Asia (KORA), Middle East Technical University, Ankara

Sanford G. Henry, Partner, Global Resources Partnership, London

Dimitrios Triantaphyllou, Chair, Department of International Relations, Kadir Has University, Istanbul (Moderator)
16.00-16.30 Coffee Break, Networking

16.30-18.00 Panel II: Energy in the post-Soviet geography: a new instrument of confrontation or collaboration?

Soviet Union’s successors and Turkey: a story of partners in energy and geopolitics. Developments to achieve energy supply and demand security. Pipeline competition. Multiple projects. Diversification of supply, fuels, or redesigning of routes? What are the essential elements for energy security and the implications for geopolitical spheres of influence?

Matthew Bryza, Director, International Centre for Defense Studies, Tallinn, Estonia; former US Ambassador to Azerbaijan

David Merkel, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center, Atlantic Council, Washington DC

Mehmet Öğütçü, Chairman, Global Resources Partnership, London

Mitat Çelikpala, Dean, Graduate School of Social Sciences, Kadir Has University, Istanbul

Kemal Kirisci, TÜSİAD Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution, Washington DC (Moderator)

19.00 Dinner

Friday, 14 October 2016

09.30-11.00 Panel III: Security or Insecurity; is a new Cold War brewing?

Russia’s assertiveness in the Black Sea region, in the Caucasus and in the Middle East. NATO’s forward defense system after the Warsaw Summit. Why do the existing schemes such as NATO-Russia Council dysfunction? What is needed for the new Euro Atlantic-European-Eurasian security architecture?

Ambassador Tacan İldem, Assistant Secretary General, Public Diplomacy Division, NATO, Brussels

Ünal Çeviköz, Ambassador (Ret.), Chairman, Ankara Policy Centre, Ankara
Bruce **Jones**, Vice President and Director, Foreign Policy Program, Brookings Institution, Washington, DC

Pavel K. **Baev**, Research Professor, Peace research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Oslo

Ahmet K. **Han**, Associate Professor, Department of International Relations, Kadir Has University, Istanbul *(Moderator)*

11.00-11.30  Coffee Break, Networking

11.30-13.00  **Panel IV: Regional Perspectives**

What do Russia’s neighbors think about the emerging post-Soviet geography? Are their interests taken into consideration? How do they see the evolution of relations between their respective countries and Russia? Does the West offer viable alternatives and security guarantees?

Abzal **Saparbekuly**, Deputy Secretary General, Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (Turkic Council), Istanbul

Eka **Tkeshelashvili**, President, Georgian Institute for Strategic Studies (GISS), Tbilisi

Fariz **Ismailzade**, Vice Rector, ADA University, Baku

Sergii **Glebov**, Senior Research Fellow, Center for International Studies, Odesa Mechnikov National University, Odesa

Mitat **Çelikpala**, Dean, Graduate School of Social Sciences, Kadir Has University, Istanbul *(Moderator)*

13:00 – 13:30  Conference wrap up – highlighting of key points by panel moderators