AMIRAH-FERNANDEZ, Haizam, Senior Analyst, Real Instituto Elcano, Spain

Mr Amirah-Fernández is Senior Analyst at the Elcano Royal Institute and Associate and Professor at the Instituto de Empresa (IE). He has lectured at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Georgetown University, Saint Louis University, Universidad San Pablo-CEU, and the Universitat de Barcelona. He has also worked for the United Nations in New York and for Human Rights Watch in Washington DC. Mr Amirah-Fernández is a frequent commentator in the Spanish and international media. His research areas are: international relations, political Islam, and transitions to democracy in the Arab world, where he has lived for over sixteen years.


ARBATOVA, Nadia, Head of Department on European Political Studies, Institute for World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russia

Dr. Arbatova is Head of Department on European Political Studies at the Institute for World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russian Academy of Sciences. She is also Director of the Foundation for European Integration (NGO) and Member of Council on Foreign and Defense Policy. Her expertise lies in: European Integration, European Security, Russian foreign policy, terrorism and conflict prevention.


BALCER, Adam, Project Manager Eurasia, WiseEuropa, Poland

Adam Balcer is a political scientist, expert in the area of the Black Sea region and the Polish foreign policy. He works also as a National Researcher at the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) and at the European Academy Krzyżowa. In addition, he is a lecturer at the Centre of East European Studies (SEW) at the Warsaw University and Diplomatic Academy. He worked at the Department of Central Europe of Balkan section (2001—2009) and he was Project Leader of the “Turkey after the launch of EU accession negotiations – foreign policy and internal affairs” project at the Centre for Eastern Studies (2005—2009). Until 2013 he was director of the project for “Enlargement and Neighbourhood” at demosEUROPA—Centre for European Strategy. In addition, he was member of the Advisory Group to the Committee of Foreign Relations at the Polish Parliament (2010—2012) and adviser at the Presidential Expert Programme (2013—2014).

He is author of numerous articles and reports on the Balkans, Turkey and the CIS countries.
BARTOVIC, Vladimír, Director, Europeum, Czech Republic

Mr Bartovic is director of EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy. In 2014 he has been appointed external advisor on EU policies to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. He is also a member of the Programme Council of the Czech-Polish Forum. In 2015 he has been elected member of the Board of Directors of PASOS (Policy Association for an Open Society). From 2011 to 2012 he served as a director of Strategic Planning and Analysis at the Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic. He has been lecturing on topical EU issues at the Institute of Public Administration and the Czech National Bank. He co-operated with OSCE election missions in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Kosovo.

Selected publications: "Why are think tanks more important now than ever before: think tanks in a post-factual world", "Keeping Europeans Together: Assessing the State of EU Cohesion".

BASSOU, Abdelhak, Senior fellow, OCP Policy Center, Maroc

Mr Bassou occupied several offices within the Directorate General of the Moroccan National Security where he was Borders’ Division Chief from 1978 to 1993. He was the former Director of the Royal Institute of Police in 1998. He also served as the Chief of Regional Security and was also Head of the Central General Intelligence from 2006 to 2009. Moreover, he contributed to the output of several international organizations endeavors including the Council of Arab Interior Ministers from 1986 to 1992, where he represented the Directorate General of National Security in several meetings. His areas of expertise are: Security Studies and Strategies, Defense.

BRAHIMI, Lakhdar, former UN Special Envoy to Syria and former Algerian Minister of FA, Algeria

Mr. Brahimi is an Algerian and United Nations diplomat. He served as Foreign Minister of his country in 1991—93. He mediated the Taief Agreement which ended the 15 years long Civil War in Lebanon. He led United Nations Peace Operations in a number of countries, in particular: South Africa, Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria. He chaired the Independent Commission on UN Peace Operations in 2000 which produced the landmark report known as The Brahimi Report. He is a member of the Governing Board of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and of the Board of Trustees of the International Crisis Group (ICG). He is also a member of The Elders and the Global Leadership Forum (GLF).

BECCARO, Andrea, Research Fellow, ENP Chair, College of Europe, Belgium

Dr. Beccaro is ENP Chair and Research Fellow at the College of Europe. He was lecturer at Scuola di Applicazione of the Italian Army and at the Security Studies at Post Conflict Operations Study Centre in Turin. In 2015, he was a DAAD Fellow at Freie Universität Berlin. His work focuses on irregular warfare, including its history, evolution, and contemporary case studies, as well as war theory, modern terrorism, urban warfare, and on current security and geopolitical situation of the southern European neighborhood.

BERTONCINI, Yves, Director, Jacques Delors Institute (JDI), France

Mr Bertoncini is director of the JDI in Paris and his expertise lies particularly in European politics and institutions and democracy, citizenship and mobility. He is also administrator at the European Commission, where he has worked at the Directorates-General of “Education, Training, Youth” and “Regional Policy”. Previously, he worked in the office of the French Prime Minister researching on Europe at the Centre d’Analyse Stratégique (2006–2009), and advising the General Secretariat of European Affairs (2010–2011). He is President of the Mouvement Européen-France since December 2016. In the academic field, he is lecturer at the College of Europe in Bruges, the Paris Institute of Political Studies and the École Nationale d'Administration.

Selected publications: “Terrorist threat and refugee crisis: French and German answers” JDI; “Towards strategic migration and refugee policies in Europe” JDI

BORG, Ian, Parliamentary Secretary for the EU Presidency 2017, Malta

Dr. Ian Borg is Parliamentary Secretary for the 2017 European Presidency and European Union Funding. His responsibilities following his appointment in March 2013 include the national preparations for Malta’s Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2017, as well as the strengthening of the European Union funds absorption process to achieve a more efficient and transparent practice. Prior to his election, Dr. Borg served as Mayor of Ħad-Dingli from 2005. In 2009, he was also elected as an Executive Member of the Local Councils Association, while also serving in the North Regional Committee and in the Users’ Committee of the Malta Environment and Planning Authority. Moreover, since 2010, he is also a member of the Maltese delegation to the Committee of the Regions as part of the European Socialists Party.

BOSERUP, Rasmus Alenius, Senior Researcher, Foreign Policy, Dansk institut for internationale studier (DIIS), Denmark

Mr Boserup is an expert on current Arab affairs. His research focuses on contentious politics and authoritarianism in the Arab World. His key specialization is society, politics, and history in Egypt and Algeria.


COHEN-HADRIA, Emmanuel, Head of the Euro-Mediterranean Policies Department, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IeMed), Spain

Mr Cohen-Hadria worked over the last 8 years for the European Commission and the European External Action Service. He was posted in the Western Balkans from 2006 to 2011. Since 2012, he has been working in the office of the Deputy Secretary General for political affairs of the European External Action Service, where he was in charge of Mediterranean issues. He has been a lecturer at Sciences Po Paris and at the Blanquerna-Universitat Ramon Llull and at the Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals (IBEI) in Barcelona.

CHAUFFOUR, Jean-Pierre, Lead Country Economist for Morocco and MENA Regional Trade Coordinator, The World Bank, Morocco

Mr Chauffour joined the World Bank in 2007, and since then he has been Advisor in the International Trade Department and Lead Economist in the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network. Previously, he worked for 15 years at the IMF, where he was chief in the African Department and Head of Office and Representative to the WTO and the UN in Geneva. His main centers of interest are economic development, macroeconomic management, and economic freedom.

Selected publications: "The Power of Freedom: Uniting Human Rights and Development" (Cato Institute, 2009); "Preferential Trade Agreement Policies for Development: a Handbook" (World Bank, 2011); "From Political to Economic Awakening in the Arab World: the Path of Economic Integration" (World Bank, 2013)

DRISS, Ahmed, Director, Centre des Études Méditerranéennes et Internationales (CEMI), Tunisia

Mr Driss is director of the CEMI since 2005. He is also a lecturer of Law and Political Sciences at the University Tunis El Manar. Since 1986, he is member of the Association des Études Internationales, belonging to its steering committee from 2005 to 2008. In addition and since 2000, he is at the board of directors of the Académie internationale de droit constitutionnel.


FABRY, Elvire, Senior Research Fellow, Jacques Delors Institute (JDI), France

Ms Fabry is Senior Research Fellow at the Jacques Delors Institute since 2009, in charge of the UE’s external action policies. Her main fields of expertise are related to trade policy, security and defense and neighbourhood policies. Prior to this specialization, she worked on EU and globalization projects. From 2005 until 2009 she was director of the European programme at the Fondation pour l’Innovation Politique. Then, she joined the JDI in 2009. She is member of the editorial board of the journal Futuribles, and she belongs to the policy advisory committee of the European Movement in France. Furthermore, she is also co-founder and member of the advising committee of Proeuropea.

Selected publications: "European identity in the context of globalization" JDI 2017, "What European security and defence policy do we need? JDI 2015; “Desperately looking for more EU-Turkey geo-political and geo-economic cooperation” JDI 2013, "The EU’s neighbourhood as an opportunity?" JDI 2012
FRANCO, Marc, Senior Associate Fellow, Egmont, Belgium

Mr Franco was Adviser for EBRD in Egypt (2012) and previously Ambassador, Head of the European Union Delegation to Egypt (2009—2012) and Head of the European Commission's Delegation to Russia (2004—2009). In his career at the European Commission, he held various positions including Deputy Director-General of the DG EuropeAid (2001—2004) and Director for the Cohesion Fund and Structural Pre-Accession Instrument in the DG for Regional Development (1998—2010). In the period 1990—1998 he was Head of Unit in the Department dealing with Enlargement.

Selected Publication: "European External Action Service. Assessment four years after entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty" Studia Diplomatica 2013

GONZALEZ ENRIQUEZ, Carmen, Senior Analyst, Real Instituto Elcano, Spain

Ms González Enríquez heads the migrations and public opinion areas at the Real Instituto Elcano. She is also a Full Professor at the Department of Political Science at the UNED. In recent years she has taken part in several research projects on migration funded by the European Commission, including ITHACA (Integration, Transnational Mobility and Human, Social and Economic Capital Transfers), METOIKOS (Circular Migration Patterns in Southern and Central Eastern Europe: Challenges and Opportunities for Migrants and Policy Makers), CLANDESTINO (Undocumented Migration: Counting the Uncountable) and POLITIS (Active Civic Participation of Third Country Immigrants),


GREVI, Giovanni, Senior Fellow, European Policy Centre (EPC), Belgium

Mr Grevi has been working and publishing extensively on EU foreign and security policy, strategic affairs, global governance, foresight and EU politics. Before joining the EPC in June 2016, he was the director of the Foundation for International Relations and External Dialogue (FRIDE). Previously, he served as a senior research fellow at the EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) from 2005 to 2010.

Selected publications: "European Security and Defence policy – The First Ten Years' on the experience and lessons of CSDP missions” 2009; "Challenges for European Foreign Policy dealing with renewing EU’s external action (2013), the EU’s extended neighbourhood (2014) and how key powers deal with instability and disorder (2015)"

GUIGOU, Jean-Louis, President, Institut de prospective économique du monde méditerranéen (Ipemed), France

Mr Guigou is a university professor and former delegate to DATAR (Spatial Planning and Regional Action Agency) (1997—2002). Since 2006, he has been Delegate-general of IPEMED (Economic Foresight Institute for the Mediterranean Region), whose objective is to use economics to move the two sides of the Mediterranean closer. In 2002 the French Minister for foreign affairs gave him the task of identifying and promoting scientists working in the Mediterranean. He then created the Economic Foresight Institute for the Mediterranean Region (IPEMED).
HAVLIK, Peter, Senior Economist, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (WIIW), Austria

Mr Havlik is Senior Economist and former Deputy Director at the WIIW and Guest research scholar at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). His main research areas cover economic transition in Central and Eastern Europe, foreign trade, competitiveness, EU integration, EU-Russian relations and analysis and forecasts of macroeconomic developments.


KAUSCH, Kristina, Senior Resident Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), Belgium

Ms Kausch joined the GMF in 2016. Her research focuses on Europe’s relations with the Middle East and North Africa, political transformations in the Arab world, and geopolitical trends in the Middle East. Prior to joining GMF, she worked at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and she was head of the Middle East programme at FRIDE. Moreover, she publishes regularly in journals such as International Affairs, Mediterranean Politics, the International Spectator, Política Exterior, The Guardian, El País, Politico, Middle East Eye, and Süddeutsche Zeitung.

Selected publications: "3 countries the EU should invest more in to stop further regional chaos: Tunisia, Morocco and Jordan" Middle East Eye, 2016; "Democracy and Geopolitics in the Middle East” (FRIDE, 2015); "Islamist Radicalisation: The Challenge for Euro-Mediterranean Relations” (with M. Emerson and R. Youngs, CEPS, 2009).

KOEHLER, Michael, Director Neighbourhood South, DG NEAR, European Commission

In addition to his positions at the EC, Dr Koehler is also Professor at the College of Europe and lecturer at the University of Bonn. As official of the EC, he previously worked at the DG External Relations, in the “Middle East and South Mediterranean” Unit, being also Deputy Head of Unit in the Directorate CFSP—Policy Coordination, Deputy Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Joe Borg and Head of Unit for international relations and law of the sea, DG MARE. Dr Koehler was also Representative of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Morocco and Tunisia and he served in the Policy Planning Division of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. He is a prolific author of articles in international Islamic studies and foreign policy reviews on aspects of the political, economic and cultural development of the Muslim World, on the Arab League, regional integration in the Maghreb, cooperation in the Mediterranean and development cooperation.
KOURTELIS, Christos, Assistant Professor of International Relations, Antalya International University, Turkey

Mr Kourtelis’ research interests cover the European Neighbourhood Policy, Political economy of Euro-Mediterranean relations, EU aid towards the Arab Mediterranean countries, and Regional integration of MENA countries. He is used to deliver seminars and lectures due to his teaching experiences in King’s College London, Maastricht University, Birkbeck College, University of Westminster, the London College UCK and Antalya International University.


LETTA, Enrico, President, Jacques Delors Institute (JDI), France

Mr Letta is President of the Jacques Delors Institute and Dean of the Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) at Sciences Po. He is the former Prime Minister of Italy. Prior to that, Mr Letta served as Minister for EU Affairs (1998—1999), as Minister for Industry, Commerce and Crafts (2000—2001) and as Undersecretary of State to the Prime Minister Romano Prodi from 2006 to 2008. Between 2001 and 2015 he was Member of the Italian Parliament, excluding between 2004 and 2006 when he was Member of the European Parliament. He also served as deputy Secretary of the Democratic Party (PD) from 2009 to 2013. He left office as Prime Minister in 2014. From 1993 to May 2013 he managed an independent think tank, Arel, founded by the late Beniamino Andreatta. He was also Vice Chairman of Aspen Institute Italia, President of the Italy-Spain Dialogue Forum, and a member of the Trilateral Commission.

He is the author of many books on international and economic affairs, with particular reference to EU enlargement, including: L’allargamento dell’Unione Europea (Il Mulino, 2003); L’Europa a Venticinque (Il Mulino, 2005); L’Europa è finita? (with L. Caracciolo, ADD Editore 2010) and Andare insieme, andare lontano (Mondadori, 2015).

MANOLI, Panagiota, Head of the Programme in Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP), Greece

Apart from her role as researcher, Ms Manoli is also Assistant Professor in International Political Economy at the Department of Mediterranean Studies, at the University of the Aegean. She has been Visiting Professor at the European Studies Center, University of Pittsburgh (2016) and at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington D.C. (2010). She was Director of Studies and Research at the International Center for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) (Athens, 2005—2009) and Secretary of the Economic Affairs Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (Istanbul, 2000—2004). Her research interests focus on comparative regionalism, security and development, European Neighbourhood Policy and Black Sea politics.

MARTIN, Natalia, Research Assistant, Jacques Delors Institute (JDI), France

Ms Martin is a research assistant at the JDI, where she works on the field of EU external relations. Her research interests lie in defense and security policies, EU southern neighbourhood and Southeast Asia integration and geopolitics. Prior to joining the JDI, Ms Martin completed a Master’s degree at the Spanish Diplomatic School (2014—2015) and at the College of Europe (2015—2016), where she specialized in European Political and Administrative Studies. Her Master’s thesis focused on “International Trade and Maritime Vulnerabilities in Southeast Asia: EU threats and challenges”. Previously, and within the framework of her studies, she pursued an internship within the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where she worked under the Unit for International Civil Servants.

MIKHELIDZE, Nona, Senior Fellow, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI), Italy

Ms Mikhelidze is currently scientific coordinator of the project “South Caucasus and the West: Towards Close Cooperation?” at the IAI. Her research interests include the ENP and conflict resolution in the South Caucasus, the Wider Black Sea and regional cooperation, Turkey and Caspian Region, and Russian foreign policy in the ex-Soviet space.


MORAN, James, Ambassador, MENA Principal Advisor, European Union External Action (EEAS)

Mr Moran was Ambassador and Head of the EU Delegation in Egypt from February 2012 to September 2016. His experiences in Middle East extend also to EU missions to Jordan and Yemen in 1999—2002 and to Libya, where he was the EU’s senior coordinator in 2011 during the revolution. Between 2002 and 2011, after heading the China division in Brussels he was the EU’s Asia Director from 2006—2011, and was the chief negotiator for a number of EU partnership agreements with Southeast Asian countries. Earlier experience in the 1980’s and 90’s included service with the EU Delegations in Jamaica and Ethiopia and various assignments in Brussels.

MUNZ, Rainer, Special Adviser on Migration and Demography, European Political Strategy Centre (EPSC), European Commission

Prior to joining the EPSC, Mr Münz worked as Senior Fellow at Bruegel, Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI) and at the Migration Policy Institute (MPI, Washington DC). Until 2004, Mr Münz was researcher at the Austrian Academy of Sciences, as well as university professor at Humboldt University Berlin, University of Bamberg, UC Berkeley, Frankfurt, HU Jerusalem, Klagenfurt, Vienna and Zurich. He currently teaches at the Central European University (CEU), Budapest. He has been member of the German commission on immigration reform and member of the “Reflection Group Horizon 2020—2030” of the European Council (Gonzales Commission). At present, he is chair of KNOMAD, the World Bank’s Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development and co-chair of IOM’s Migration Advisory Board.
MÜHLBERGER, Wolfgang, Senior Research Fellow, The European Union Research Programme, The Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA), Finland

Prior to joining the FIIA, Mr Mühlberger worked as a Research Fellow at the NATO Defense College in Rome and he was also Visiting Researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv. His expertise lies in EU-MENA relations, Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Arab conflicts, Lebanon, Arab transformation: transitions in Tunisia and Egypt, conflicts in Libya and Syria, Transnational and national Islamist Movements: Hamas, Hezbollah, Muslim Brotherhood and Conflict management, peace building, and Security Sector Reform (SSR), scenarios.


MUSCAT, Joseph, Prime Minister, Malta

Before been devoted to a political career, Dr. Muscat was a journalist and eventually Assistant Head of news with a maltese private radio station. He was elected member to the National Executive of the Partit Laburista at the age of 21 and later nominated as Education Secretary of the Party. From 1997 to 1998 he was a member of the National Commission for Fiscal Morality. Dr. Muscat was also a market intelligence manager and investment adviser. He successfully contested the first European Parliamentary elections in Malta in 2004. In 2006 he was the recipient of the Outstanding Young Person of the Year. In 2008 he was elected as the Leader of the Partit Laburista and since 2013 he is Prime Minister of Malta.

PACE, Roderick, Director of the Institute for European Studies, University of Malta

Professor Pace has devoted his life to academic purposes. He is a prolific writer and his main research interests are in foreign policy analysis, Euro-Mediterranean Relations, small states in world politics and in the EU. He has also published extensively on Malta and the European Union and on Malta’s foreign policy and politics. He is a member of the editorial board of the journal South European Society and Politics edited by Susannah Verney and Ana Bosco and published by Taylor and Francis.


PASCOUAU, Yves, Associate Research Fellow, Jacques Delors Institute (JDI), France

In addition to his fellowship at the JDI, Mr Pascouau is also Director of Migration and Mobility Policies at the European Policy Centre (EPC). His areas of expertise are: European Immigration, Asylum and Integration Policies. Before joining the EPC, he worked for 10 years as a Researcher at the University of Pau. He has also been a Researcher at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, where he conducted a large-scale survey on migrants’ integration requirements. He has researched and published widely on the EU and national immigration, asylum and integration policies. He has participated in various EU projects and has also been a national expert for several networks such as the Free Movement of Workers Network and the Odysseus Academic Network. Alongside his positions at the EPC and JDI he is also the editor of online legal website European Migration Law.

Selected publications: "EU external migration policy: In the kingdom of the blind the one-eyed man is king" EPC 2017; "EU external dimension of migration: the Libyan sirens’ call?" in European Migration Law 2017; "A jobseeker’s visa for third-country nationals" JDI 2016; "The EU’s migrant strategy: a welcome new impetus" JDI 2015.
PELLERIN-CARLIN, Thomas, Research Fellow, Jacques Delors Institute (JDI), France

Mr Pellerin-Carlin is a research fellow at the JDI, where he works on the European energy policy and European defence policy. After an experience in a consultancy (Europroject, Italy, 2010) and at the French Army, Mr Pellerin-Carlin joined the French Administration (General Secretariat for European Affairs, France, 2012) before becoming Academic Assistant (College of Europe, 2013-2015), and Research Assistant of the European Energy Policy Chair (College of Europe, 2014-2015). He also took part in the SPECQUE: Euro-Canadian European Parliament Simulation (2010-2015) of which he was Executive Vice-President (2013-2014).


PUGLIERIN, Jana, Head of program, Alfred Von Oppenheim Center for European Policy Studies, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik (DGAP), Germany

Before her appointment as Head of programme at the Alfred Von Oppenheim Center for European Policy Studies, Dr Puglierin was program officer at the DGAP’s Future Forum Berlin From September 2013 to December 2015. Prior to this she was an advisor on disarmament, arms control, and non-proliferation at the German Bundestag, where she also worked on matters relating to German and European foreign and security policy. Between 2003 and 2010, she worked as a researcher and lecturer in Bonn University. She also held a teaching post at the University of Chemnitz.

Selected publication: “Aid and Assistance by All Means in their Power: The EU Mutual Assistance Clause as a Test Case for European Defense” DGAP 2016; “Perception and Exploitation: a series on Russia’s non-military influence in Europe” DGAP 2015

RUPNIK, Jacques, Director of Research, CERI, Sciences-Po, France

Mr Rupnik’s experience in the research field started in the 1970s as Former research associate at the Russian Research Center in Harvard University. He was also Eastern Europe analyst for the BBC World Service, Executive director of the International Commission for the Balkans at Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1995-1996) and Member of the Independent International Commission on Kosovo (1999-2000). In addition, Mr Rupnik has been an advisor to the President of the Czech Republic, Vaclav Havel and advisor to the European Commission. He is member of the scientific committee of the Charles University in Prague and of the Prague Institute of International Relations. Furthermore, he is member of the board of the Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation in The Hague and of the European Partnership for Democracy in Brussels. Member of the Research Council of the International Forum for Democracy Studies in Washington (since 2013). He was also Senior Fellow at the Davis Center (2008) and at the Center for European Studies (2011) at Harvard.

SANTOS PINTO, Ana, Research Fellow, Instituto Português de Relações Internacionais (IPRI-UNL), Portugal

Ms Santos Pinto is Assistant Professor at the Department of Political Studies – NOVA University of Lisbon, Researcher at the IPRI and Research Fellow in the National Defense Institute (Portugal). Previously, she worked as Research Consultant to the UN Alliance of Civilizations (2008-2010), Advisor of the Ministry of National Defense of Portugal (2006-2009) and Research Assistant at the Portuguese Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Lisbon (2001-2003). Ana Santos Pinto develops her research on identity in International Politics and Security issues, mainly regarding European Union, Middle East and North Africa.


SIKORSKI, Radislaw, Former Polish Foreign Affairs Minister and Senior Fellow, Center for European Studies, Harvard, USA

Mr Sikorski started his professional career as a war correspondent in Afghanistan and Angola in the 1980s, before serving as Deputy Minister of National Defence in 1992, initiating Poland’s NATO accession campaign. In 1998-2001 he served as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Honorary Chairman of the Foundation for Assistance to Poles in the East. From 2002 to 2005, he was resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C. and executive director of the New Atlantic Initiative. He was editor of the analytical publication European Outlook and expert on Atlantic issues at the U.S. House of Representatives’ Committee on Foreign Affairs. Mr Sikorski served as Minister of National Defence in 2005-2007 and he was sworn in as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland in 2007 (until 2014). In addition, he is Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs and Vice-Chairman of the Civic Platform since 2010. Until 2015 he was Marshal of the Sejm (chair of the lower house of the Polish Parliament).

SPENCER, Claire, Senior Research Fellow, Chatham House, UK

Dr Claire Spencer is senior research fellow for the Middle East and North Africa Programme and Second Century Initiative at Chatham House. Over the previous decade, she was head of the Middle East and North Africa Programme, which she expanded, having set up the Middle East and Central Asia Policy Unit at the development agency Christian Aid from 2003—2005. She previously served as deputy director and head of the Mediterranean Security Programme which she established at the Centre for Defence Studies, King’s College, University of London from 1995—2001. She is currently a steering committee member of the EuroMeSco network of ‘Euro-Med’ think tanks, and a core group member of the EU-Southern Neighbourhood Civil Society Dialogue initiative.

TERRÓN CUSÍ, Anna, President of Instrategies and Chair of the Advisory Board of the Institute on Globalisation, Culture and Mobility, United Nations University, Spain

Ms Terron’s professional career has developed internationally, being Spanish Secretary of State for Immigration (2009—2011), Secretary for the EU of the Government of Catalonia and a member of the Committee of the Regions (2004—2009). Previously, she was Member of the European Parliament, acting as spokesperson for the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament (1994—2004). She is currently Special Adviser to the European Commissioner Cecilia Malström. In the field of research, she is member of the ECFR, Trustee of Friends of Europe, and President of the Advisory Board of the Institute for Globalization, Culture and mobility of the United Nations University.

VAN DER LOO, Guillaume, Researcher, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Belgium

Before joining CEPS, Mr Van der Loo was a researcher at the Ghent European Law Institute (GELI) focusing on EU trade and external relations law and the legal framework of the EU's neighbour-hood relations (2010—2014). He obtained a PhD in December 2014 on the EU’s new generation of Association Agreements and Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas signed with the Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia. In addition, he published several articles and book chapters on, inter alia, the EU’s legal framework with its neighbours, Russia’s WTO accession and the role of regions in the EU. Mr Van der Loo also participated in several expert meetings at the European Commission on the implementation of the Association Agreements with the Eastern Partnership countries and was involved in several training projects for civil servants of ENP and pre-accession countries.


VORRATH, Judith, Researcher, SWP, Germany


WEISS, Stefani, Director, Program Europe’s Future, Bertelsmann Stiftung, Germany

Ms Weiss is a director in the Brussels office of the Bertelsmann Stiftung and a resident expert on a broad spectrum of international-relations and security policy issues. Currently, she is working on the European neighbourhood policy and the refugee and migration crisis. Her latest research work deals with the optimal distribution of competences between the EU and its member states and the European Added Value of EU spending. She holds an MA in Political Science, Sociology and International and Public Law from the University of Bonn.

YOUNGS, Richard, Senior Associate, Carnegie Europe, Belgium

Mr Youngs is a senior fellow in the Democracy and Rule of Law Program at Carnegie Europe. Mr Youngs is an expert on the EU foreign policy, in particular in questions of democracy support. Mr Youngs is also a professor of international relations at the University of Warwick. Prior to joining Carnegie in July 2013, he was the director of the European think tank FRIDE. He has held positions in the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office and as an EU Marie Curie fellow. He was a senior fellow at the Transatlantic Academy in Washington, DC, from 2012 to 2013.