



2010

The Small Guild, Rīga Old Town  
September 10-11, 2010

The 5th Riga Conference aims to kick-off high level international discussions on foreign and security policy issues before entering the intensive policy making season in the fall of 2010. The conference has become a gathering of some of the most respected world thinkers, academics, commentators, journalists, and politicians, providing a platform for a broad intellectual exchange on the current international agenda.

Day 1 Friday, September 10

15:30 – 16:00 Registration

16:00 – 17.30 Opening discussion: **What Does the World Economic and Financial Crisis Mean for Security in the West?**

The economic crisis has become a turning point not only in European inter-relationships but also in activities and thinking at a Transatlantic level. Europe and U.S. have been the closest partners jointly addressing international challenges. What does the world expect from the EU? Will the expectations and capabilities on the both sides of the Atlantic meet the requirements of diverse international challenges in pressing economic conditions?

**Prof. Dr. Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga**, Vice-chair of the Reflection Group on the Future of Europe in 2020-2030 Time Horizon

**Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis**, Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia

**Prof. Michel Foucher**, Director of Studies, The Institute for Higher National Defence Studies

**Mr. Uffe Ellemann-Jensen**, Chairman of Baltic Development Forum

**Dr. Simon Serfaty**, Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Senior Adviser, Europe Program

Moderator: **Mr. Robert Cottrell**, Editor of TheBrowser.com

Supported by the European Commission Representation in Latvia

**17:30 – 18:00** Break

**18:00 – 19:00** Discussion: **Baltic Sea Region after Crises: What Next?**

Returning stability and economic growth are the aspects that characterize Baltic countries and Poland while parts of the world are struggling to overcome the economic crisis. How to use the potential of growth to endorse further economic development? How to move on with cross-border energy projects and interact with vague Russia?

**H.E. Mr. Valdis Zatlers**, President of the Republic of Latvia

**H.E. Mr. Bronisław Komorowski**, President of the Republic of Poland

**H.E. Mrs. Dalia Grybauskaitė**, President of the Republic of Lithuania

**H.E. Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves**, President of the Republic of Estonia

Moderator: **Mr. Toms Baumanis**, Chairman of the Board, Latvian Transatlantic Organization

**19:30 – 21:00** Opening dinner hosted by **Mr. Imants Lieģis**, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Latvia, Large Guild, Amatu str. 6

**21:00 – 22:30** Night Owl Session I: **The Renaissance of Geopolitics in the Search for Energy Resources**

The depletion of fossil fuels, out-dated transportation infrastructure, complicated relationships between the countries that are transporting and producing energy, are driving the world towards a renaissance of geopolitics. Do the biggest consumers ignore common regional and the EU interests while struggling to meet their national needs?

**Mr. Bruce Jackson**, President of the Project on Transitional Democracies

**Dr. Alan Riley**, The City Law School, City University London

**Dr. Vladimir Milov**, Head of the Independent Institute of Energy Policy in Moscow

**Mr. Vladimir Socor**, Senior Fellow, The Jamestown Foundation

Moderator: **Mr. Edward Lucas**, Deputy Editor, Central and Eastern Europe Correspondent for the Economist

Supported by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

**21:00 – 22:30** Night Owl Session II: **A new Strategic Concept: Green Light for Reforms**

The New NATO Strategic Concept will outline the tasks for the Alliance which is facing the rise of new security challenges. The Alliance as the 'club of the willing' has been seen as the most effective collective security organization that acts on consensus principles. Can the new strategic concept to be expected to strengthen the basis for consensus among member states when addressing persisting or arising threats?

**Mr. Jānis Sārts**, State Secretary, Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Latvia

**Amb. Dr. Hans-Friedrich von Ploetz**, German Representative in the Group of Experts for Drafting NATO's New Strategic Concept

**Dr. Julian Lindley-French**, Member of the Strategic Advisors Group, Atlantic Council and Professor at the Royal Military Academy of the Netherlands

Moderator: **H.E. Mr. Artis Pabriks**, Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, former Foreign Minister of the Republic of Latvia

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09:30 – 11:00

Morning discussion: **A Strategy towards Europe's Contested Neighborhood**

The inability of the EU member states to speak with a single voice and react in a coordinated manner towards their Eastern Partners has revealed the lack of consensus in the EU regarding the implementation of the joint strategy towards its contested neighborhood. Diverse interests and arising threats restates the question to both sides of the EU and NATO common external border: what do we expect from the neighboring region and what will be the common action towards it?

**H.E. Mr. Māris Riekstiņš**, Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, former Foreign Minister of the Republic of Latvia

**H.E. Mr. Grigol Vashadze**, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Georgia

**Mr. Henryk Litwin**, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

**Dr. Dimitrios Triantaphyllou**, co-convenor and co-rapporteur of the Commission on the Black Sea

**Dr. Alexander Pivovarsky**, Senior Economist, Office of the Chief Economist, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Moderator:

**Mr. Nils Muižnieks**, Director of Advanced Social and Political Research Institute, University of Latvia

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00

Discussion: **Russia: Has Reset Succeeded?**

New Transatlantic policy trends and President Obama's administration in the U.S. call for extensive cooperation with Russia to jointly address challenges in Afghanistan, Iran and elsewhere. Do expectations meet the realities? Is Europe a third tango partner?

**Mr. Mikhail Margelov**, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Federation Council of the Russian Federation

**Mr. Mark Leonard**, Director of the European Council on Foreign Relations

**Mr. Jeremy Shapiro**, Special Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Europe and Eurasia Affairs at the Department of State

**Mr. Konstantin von Eggert**, Carnegie Moscow Center, Member of the Advisory Board of „Pro et Contra” Journal

**Dr. Bobo Lo**, Independent Scholar and Consultant

Moderator:

**Mr. Tomas Valasek**, Director of Foreign Policy and Defense, Centre for European Reform

13:00 – 14:30

Buffet lunch hosted by **Mr. Andris Teikmanis**, State Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, restaurant “Kaļķu vārti”, Kaļķu str. 11a

14:30 – 16:00

Afternoon discussion: **What is NATO's Exit Strategy in Afghanistan?**

The mission in Afghanistan has been the top priority for NATO, displaying the solidarity and common action of the member states in the stabilization and state building process. The current situation however confirms that the military cannot be the only means for success in Afghanistan. Are regional cooperation, emphasis on the civilian missions, and engagement of the Taliban the key aspects of the success story in Afghanistan?

**Mr. Imants Lieģis**, Defense Minister of the Republic of Latvia

**Dr. Edgar Buckley**, Senior Vice-President for EU, NATO and European Cooperation, Thales Group

**Mr. Paul H. Chapin**, Conference of Defence Associations Institute, Member of the Board

**Mr. Abubakar Siddique**, Senior Correspondent covering Afghanistan and Pakistan for RFE/RL's Central Newsroom

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Michael Stürmer**, Chief Correspondent, Welt-Gruppe, Berlin

**16:00 – 17:00** Free time / Riga Old Town Sightseeing

**17:00 – 17:45** Transfer to the Reception from the Hotel Radisson Blu Rīdzene and Hotel Radisson Blu Latvija

**18:00 – 20:00** Reception hosted by **H.E. Mr. Valdis Zatlers**, President of the Republic of Latvia Venue: restaurant "Ostas skati", Matrožu str. 15