

SPEAKER'S LIST

Ágnes Kasper is the Head of Law Branch at the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE). She is also a Senior Lecturer of Law and Technology in the Department of Law of the Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech). She holds diplomas in international business, law and management, and also received formal trainings on technical aspects of cybersecurity and digital evidence. Her current research focuses on regulatory aspects of cybersecurity, cyber defense and cyber diplomacy.

Archil Chochia is a Director of the Law School of Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech) where he also serves as a Senior Researcher and Managing Editor of the TalTech Journal of European Studies. His research spans law and technology, ethics of digitalization, alternative dispute resolution, and European integration.

Charles Szymanski is a professor at the University of Bialystok Faculty of Law. He also serves as a Distinguished Fellow of National Security Law and Policy in the Frontline States at the Syracuse University, and as a regular visiting professor at the University of Trento in Italy. Szymanski's primary research interests are in the fields of public international law and international labor law, and he is the author of many scholarly articles on these subjects. His upcoming publications include *National Security Law in the Frontline States: The Eastern Shadow* (with James Baker, editor, forthcoming 2026) and *Collective Responses to Artificial Intelligence in the Workplace* (with Massimiliano Delfino, forthcoming 2026).

Edward Lucas is a writer and security expert. His expertise includes energy, cyber-security, espionage, information warfare and Russian foreign and defense policy. He is the founder and director of the Baltic International Security Centre, a new thinktank. Formerly a senior editor at *The Economist*, the world's foremost newsweekly, he was for many years a senior (non-resident) adviser at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA), a thinktank based in Washington, DC. He writes a regular column in the *London Times*, and also for *Foreign Policy*.

Eric Shiraev is a political psychologist and professor at George Mason University in the United States. He is a co-founder and head of the CARP Research Lab, dedicated to the study of reputational politics. He is the author and co-author of multiple editions of *International Relations*, *Russian Politics*, *Russian Foreign Policy*, *Cross-Cultural Psychology*, *Personality*, and other books published by Oxford University Press, Taylor & Francis, SAGE, and Bloomsbury. His recent work has increasingly focused on the psychology of reputation and psychological warfare, examining how narratives and perceptions shape political and social outcomes.

Jason Jay Smart is a National Security Strategist on authoritarian systems and the post-Soviet space who has worked in Ukraine, Moldova, Central Asia, Russia, and Latin America. His PhD dissertation relates to character assassination as a tool of Russian foreign policy.

Larry Diamond is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and the Mosbacher Senior Fellow in Global Democracy at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI) at Stanford University. He received all of his degrees from Stanford University, including a B.A. in 1974, an M.A. in 1978, and a Ph.D. in Sociology in 1980. Diamond's research focuses on democratic trends and conditions around the world and on policies and reforms to defend and advance democracy. His latest book, *Ill Winds: Saving Democracy from Russian Rage, Chinese Ambition, and American Complacency*, analyzes the challenges confronting liberal democracy in the United States and around the world at this potential "hinge in history," and offers an agenda for strengthening and defending democracy at home and abroad.

Michael McFaul is the Ken Olivier and Angela Nomellini Professor of International Studies in Political Science, Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, and the Peter and Helen Bing Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, all at Stanford University. He joined the Stanford faculty in 1995 and served as FSI Director from 2015 to 2025. McFaul served for five years in the Obama administration, first as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Russian and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council at the White House (2009-2012), and then as U.S. Ambassador to the Russian Federation (2012-2014). McFaul has authored ten books and edited several others, including, most recently, *Autocrats vs. Democrats: China, Russia, America, and the New Global Disorder*.

Steven Livingston is Professor of Media and Public Affairs and the Founding Director of the Institute for Data, Democracy, and Politics (IDDP) at George Washington University. He also holds an appointment at the Elliott School of International Affairs and is a senior fellow in the Illiberalism Studies Program in the Elliott School. Livingston was also faculty lead in the founding of the Public Diplomacy Institute (PDI) in 2000 and served as the chairman of the Board of Directors until 2008. PDI is now the Institute for Public Diplomacy and Global Communication. Since 2019, Livingston has co-led two Social Science Research Council (SSRC) scholar working groups, which led to the publication of *The Disinformation Age* (Cambridge University Press, 2020 with Lance Bennett) and *Connective Action and the Rise of the Far-Right: Platforms, Politics, and the Crisis of Democracy* (Oxford University Press, 2025 with Michael Miller).

Timothy Garnham Less is a Senior Advisor for Geopolitics at the Cambridge Centre for Risk Studies where he is developing a program of work in geopolitical risk analysis with a focus on using AI to create analytical models for forecasting political and geopolitical risk. Outside

the University, he provides analytical and consultancy services for public and private-sector clients, specializing in the politics, economics and legal/regulatory environments in Russia and eastern Europe. He also speaks and writes extensively on eastern European affairs for the British and international media. Previously, he was Associate Lecturer at the University of Kent, and a member of the British Diplomatic Service.

MODERATORS:

Toomas Hendrik Ilves served as the fourth President of Estonia from 2006 to 2016. From July 2017, Ilves has been a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University. A prominent diplomat and politician, Ilves is internationally renowned for transforming Estonia into a global digital pioneer and cyber security leader. He championed the massive technological advancement that made Estonia one of the world's most advanced e-societies, pioneering concepts like e-Residency and widespread e-governance and is serving in various cyber security and internet governance advisory roles globally.

Raivo Vare is an Estonian business leader, statesman, and renowned expert on transit, economics, and geopolitics. He has played a significant role in the nation-building process following the restoration of Estonia's independence and is an active public opinion leader. Minister of State in the Transitional Government of the Republic of Estonia (1990–1992) and Minister of Roads and Communications (1996–1999).

Katrin Nyman-Metcalf is Adjunct Professor of Law, Tallinn University of Technology and active globally as a consultant on legal issues of law and technology like e-governance, cyber security, outer space law, human rights in the digital environment and communications related legal issues. Professor Nyman Metcalf has published extensively on issues related to law and technology, outer space law, human rights – especially freedom of expression - and regional integration. Her PhD (1999, Uppsala University, Sweden) is on the law of outer space. She was chairman of the European Space Agency International Relations Committee 2017-2020 and is chairman of the board of the Estonian Human Rights Centre.

Holger Mölder is an Associate Professor of International Relations and International Security Studies at Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech) within the Department of Law, School of Business and Governance. His research specializes in international relations, international security, international law, strategic studies, global conflicts, influence operations and political cultures. Previously, he worked for nearly 20 years in public administration and national defense system, primarily with the Estonian Ministry of Defense and Estonian Military Academy.