

Georgia Defence & Security Conference | GDSC  
BATUMI 2017

October 12, 2017  
HILTON BATUMI HOTEL

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

## Wednesday, October 11

**Entire Day** Arrival at Tbilisi/Batumi International Airport

**20:00** Reception at Sheraton Hotel (pool) restaurant Jasmine, hosted by the Minister of Defence of Georgia Levan Izoria (dress code: Business Casual)

## Thursday, October 12

**08:30-09:00** Registration

**09:00-09:45** Welcome Remarks

Welcoming Remarks:

**Dr. Levan Izoria**, Minister of Defence of Georgia

**H.E. Giorgi Margvelashvili**, President of Georgia and

**H.E. Giorgi Kvirikashvili**, Prime Minister of Georgia

**H.E. Irakli Kobakhidze** - Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia

Guided by **Dr. Lincoln Mitchell** - Scholar at the Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, Columbia University, US

**09:45-10:00** Short Break

**10:00- 11:30** **PANEL 1 – NATO after the Warsaw Summit: Deterrence through Resilience and Implications for Partners**

**Moderator: Mr. Damon Wilson** - Executive Vice President, Atlantic Council US

**Speakers: Dr. Levan Izoria** – Minister of Defence of Georgia

**Mr. James Appathurai** - Deputy Assistant Secretary General

**Mr. Nurettin Canikli** - Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Turkey

**General John W. Nicholson** – RSM Commander, NATO

**Mr. Vytautas Umbrasas** - Vice-Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania

**Mr. Tamas Vargha** - Deputy Minister of Defence of Hungary

### *Food for thought:*

- *Deterrence through NATO's enhanced forward presence on the Eastern flank;*
- *Promoting enhanced national defence capabilities – a way of better deterrence;*
- *Perspectives and opportunities for Georgia and Ukraine;*
- *NATO's open door policy: The way ahead.*

**11:30-12:00**      **Coffee Break**

**12:00-13:30**      **PANEL 2 – ‘Total Defence’: Some Nations’ Way to Guarantee their Security  
(Hosted by the Royal United Services Institute – RUSI)**

**Moderator: Dr. Jonathan Eyal** – Associate Director, RUSI, UK

**Speakers:** **Ms. Lela Chikovani** – First Deputy Minister of Defence of Georgia  
**Mr. Raimonds Bergmanis** - Minister of Defence of the Republic of Latvia  
**MG Vladimer Chachibaia** – Chief of the General Staff of Georgian Armed Forces  
**Ms. Charlotta Collén** - Senior Adviser - National Defence Unit, Ministry of Defence of Finland  
**Dr. Igor Sutyagin** - Senior Research Fellow, Russian Studies, RUSI, UK (VTC)

***Food for thought:***

- *Total defence: conceptual principles, gains and obstacles;*
- *Sharing national practices of the total defence;*
- *Is it applicable for Georgia?*

**13:30-15:00**      **Lunch**

**15:00-16:30**      **Plenary 1**

**PANEL 3 – Modern Warfare: What’s New?**

**Moderator: Mr. Bruno Lété** - Senior Fellow for Foreign & Security Policy, GMF Brussels office

**Speakers:** **Amb. Eitvydas BAJAR NAS** - Ambassador-at-Large for Hybrid Threats, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania  
**Dr. Mgr. Jakub Landovsky** - Deputy Minister - Head of the Defence Policy and Strategy Division, Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic  
**Mr. Brian Whitmore** - Senior Russia Analyst, Author of the Power Vertical Blog, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Czech Republic  
**Dr. Élie Tenenbaum** - Research fellow, IFRI, France

***Food for thought:***

- *Hybrid warfare: new concept or new term?*
- *Russian hybrid warfare: the case of Georgia;*
- *The dynamics of asymmetry in military conflicts: cases and implications.*

**15:00-16:30**     **Plenary 2**

**PANEL 4 – The Future of the European Security: Competing Concepts and Existing Mechanisms**

**Moderator: Ms. Natalie Sabanadze** - Georgia's ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and the head of the Georgian mission to the European Union

**Speakers: Mr. Mikheil Janelidze** - Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

**Mr. Jean-Christophe Belliard** - Deputy Secretary General for Political Affairs of the European External Action Service

**Dr. Róbert Ondrejcsák** - State Secretary of the Ministry of Defence of the Slovak Republic

**Professor Mario Telo** - President Emeritus of the Institute of European Studies, Professor of International Relations at the Université Libre de Bruxelles and LUISS, Rome

**Dr. Bobo Lo** - Associate Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations (IFRI); Non-Resident Fellow at Lowy Institute for International Policy, Australia

**Dr. Richard Weitz** - Director and Senior Fellow, Center for Political-Military Analysis, Hudson Institute, US (VTC)

***Food for thought:***

- *Targeting European and Euro-Atlantic unity – Russia's strategic objectives;*
- *Post-Brexit UK and the EU: the future of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP);*
- *The EU and the South Caucasus –security nexus;*
- *The future of the Transatlantic Relations.*

**16:30 - 17:00**     **Coffee Break**

**17:00- 18:30**     **PANEL 5 – NATO and the Black Sea Security: Strategy in Action – Opportunities and Challenges**

**Moderator: Dr. Michael Carpenter** - Senior Director, Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement, US

**Speakers: H.E. Ian C. Kelly** - Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Georgia

**Mr. Victor Dolidze** - State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration

**Amb. John Herbst** - Director, Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center, Atlantic Council, US

**Mr. William Lahue** - Head of the NATO Liaison Office

**Amb. Basat Öztürk** - Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of National Defense of the Republic of Turkey

**Mr. D nu Sebastian Necul escu** - State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania

***Food for thought:***

- *The shifting security and military balance in the Black Sea region;*
- *The turning point - Annexation of Crimea and Russian A2/AD;*
- *NATO's response to Russian A2/AD: initiatives and alternatives;*
- *Georgia and Black Sea security: vulnerabilities and opportunities.*

**18:30– 18:40**     **Short Break**

**18:40– 19:00**     **Conference Summary**

Key – Note speech by **Dr. Levan Izoria**, Minister of Defence of Georgia  
**Dr. Jonathan Eyal**, Associate Director, RUSI, UK

**20:30-23:00**     **Dinner at Euphoria Hotel Batumi Grand Ballroom “Gonio”**

**Hosted by the Government of Autonomous Republic of Adjara**  
**(Dress code: Business Casual)**