



საქართველოს პოლიტიკის ინსტიტუტი
GEORGIAN INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

Change of Regional Security Paradigm?

Sweden and Finland After Applying for NATO Membership

08 June 2022 | 17:00 (UTC+4)

Zoom platform

Working language: **English**

Program:

17:00 - 17:05

Opening Remarks:

Prof. Kornely Kakachia, the Georgian Institute of Politics

17:05 - 17:25

Speakers:

Moderator: Dr. Ketevan Bolkvadze, Lund University

Dr. Sinikukka Saari, Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Jakob Hedenskog, Stockholm Centre for Eastern European Studies

Dr. Daniel S. Hamilton, The Foreign Policy Institute of Johns Hopkins SAIS

Dr. Tom Røseth, The Norwegian Defence University College

Dr. Svante E. Cornell, Institute for Security and Development Policy

17:25-18:10

Discussion and Q&A



About the event:

The Russian invasion of Ukraine couple of month ago has shuttered the regional security architecture that has been in place since the end of the Cold War. It has also raised fear among many that the world was on the brink of yet another global war. These developments are especially concerning for the countries whose security is not guaranteed by the NATO umbrella. Armed conflict in the heart of Europe has surged support among Finns and Swedes in support of abandoning their long-held neutrality and opting for North Atlantic Treaty Organization membership.

Despite the harsh criticism and threats the Kremlin, NATO Secretary-General said that both Sweden and Finland would be welcomed warmly and that their integration process was going to be very quick. These developments also raise questions for other close allies of the alliance what they should be expecting from the upcoming Madrid Summit and what are the lessons to be learnt from the change of the long-held security paradigm in the region?

Roundtable brings together distinguished speakers to offer their insights on the potential NATO enlargement in the Scandinavia and its implication for other aspirant countries. The online discussion will be focused on the following questions:

- What are the implications and lessons of Sweden and Finland joining NATO for other aspirant countries?
- How has the war in Ukraine changed perception of security among Finnish and Swedish political elites and wider public?
- How is the security of Stockholm and Helsinki guaranteed in the interim period amid threats from Russia?



Opening Remarks:



Kornely Kakachia is Professor of Political Science at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia, and Director of Tbilisi based think tank Georgian Institute of Politics. His current research focuses on Georgian domestic and foreign policy, security issues of the wider Black Sea area and comparative party politics. He was a recipient of IREX and OSI fellowships and was a visiting fellow at Harvard University's Black Sea Security program, (2009–2010) Harriman Institute, Columbia University (2011), and The Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies. Prof. Kakachia is co-editor of the book titled "Georgia's Foreign Policy in the 21st Century: Challenges for a Small State" (London, New York: I.B. Tauris, 2021). In his capacity as an expert on Georgian Domestic and Foreign policy, Kakachia has appeared on the BBC, Deutsche Welle, Financial Times, Le Monde, Figaro, Time and Economist, on Georgian radio television stations to comment on Georgia's foreign policy, regional security and other issues.

Moderator:



Ketevan Bolkvadze is Associate Senior Lecturer at the Department of Political Science, Lund University, Sweden. She specializes in judicial and police reforms, democratization, bureaucratic politics, and corruption research. Bolkvadze holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Gothenburg, and an MA in European Studies from Maastricht University. Her research has appeared in peer-reviewed international journals such as Comparative Political Studies, European Journal of Political Research, and Democratization, among others. She has previously worked with Transparency International and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs in Tbilisi.



About the speakers:



Sinikukka Saari is a Senior Research Fellow at FIIA. Her area of expertise is the post-Soviet region. She has worked for many years at the nexus of research and strategic policy planning nationally and in the EU. Previously she has worked, for instance, at the EU Institute for Security Studies (Paris), the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Helsinki), EU Monitoring Mission (Tbilisi). She holds a PhD from the Department of International Relations at the London School of Economics. Her expertise includes Russian foreign policy; EU's and Finland's policy towards Russia; post-Soviet conflicts, EU's eastern partnership policy, foresight.



Jakob Hedenskog is an Analyst at Stockholm Centre for Eastern European Studies (SCEEUS) at UI. He went to UI from the Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI) in 2021. He has many years of experience studying Russia and Eastern Europe, in particular Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, and the countries in the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia). Jakob has a master's degree in Slavic languages and political science with a focus on Eastern Europe from Uppsala University. He has previously also worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs based at the embassy in Kyiv.



About the speakers:



Daniel S. Hamilton is a Senior Fellow at the SAIS Foreign Policy Institute and a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. At SAIS he co-leads the School's postdoctoral program on "The United States, Europe and World Order," working in partnership with the SAIS Kissinger Center for Global Affairs. At SAIS he served previously as the Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation Professor (2012-2019); Richard von Weizsäcker Professor (2002-2011); Founding Director of the School's Center for Transatlantic Relations (2001-2019) and Executive Director of the American Consortium for EU Studies (2002-2017), designated by the European Commission as the EU Center of Excellence Washington, D.C. During the 2020-21 academic year Dr. Hamilton directed the Global Europe Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He has also served as a Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Deputy Director of the Aspen Institute Berlin. He currently serves as President of the Transatlantic Leadership Network, as Richard von Weizsäcker Fellow at the Robert Bosch Academy in Berlin, as Advisory Board member of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs, and as a member of the editorial advisory boards of *Riddle* and the *Review of Central and East European Law*.



Dr. Tom Røseth is an experienced Researcher and Political Analyst with a demonstrated history of working in both state bureaucracy, academia and in international organizations on security policy issues. Head of the Ukraine-program at the Norwegian Defence University College. Skilled in Russia-China relations, intelligence studies, security policy analysis, and Arctic security. Strong research professional with a PhD in International Relations from the University of Oslo. Military Master's degree in Business Administration and Management from The Norwegian Defence University College. Second Master in Comparative politics from University of Bergen and MGIMO (Moscow Institute of International Relations) Management experience and several international assignments.



About the speakers:



Svante E. Cornell is a co-founder and Director of the Institute for Security and Development Policy. He is the Director of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program, the Joint Center operated by ISDP in cooperation with the American Foreign Policy Council (AFPC). Dr. Cornell is also a Senior Fellow for Eurasia at AFPC. His main areas of expertise are security issues and politics in Southwest and Central Asia, with a specific focus on the Caucasus and Turkey. He is the Editor in Chief of the Joint Center's bi-weekly publications, the Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst and Turkey Analyst, and oversees the Joint Center's Silk Road Papers series of occasional papers. Dr. Cornell is the author of several books, including *Small Nations and Great Powers*, the first comprehensive study of the post-Soviet conflicts in the Caucasus, and more recently, with S. Frederick Starr, *The Long Game on the Silk Road: US and EU Strategy for Central Asia and the South Caucasus*. His articles have appeared in numerous leading academic and policy journals as well as the U.S., European, and regional press. Cornell previously served as an Associate Professor of Government at Uppsala University and Associate Research Professor at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. He was educated at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey, and holds a Ph.D. in Peace and Conflict Studies from Uppsala University. He is a member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Military Science and a Policy Advisor to JINSA's Gemunder Center for Policy.
