“Engagement or Containment: EU-Russia Relations in Turbulent Times and the Role of Central Europe”

List of Speakers

Péter BALÁZS is director of the Center for EU Enlargement Studies which he established in 2005. Research activities of Prof. Balázs are centered on the foreign policy of the EU and problems of the late modernization and European integration of the Eastern part of the continent. He also analyzes the questions of European governance including the future of European institutions. Péter Balázs graduated in Budapest at the Faculty of Economics of the “Karl Marx” University (later: Budapest School of Economics, today Corvinus University). He got his PhD degree and habilitated at the same University. He is a ScD of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In parallel with his government and diplomatic career, he has been teaching and doing research. He was nominated Professor of the Corvinus University in 2000 and joined the Central European University as a full time Professor in 2005. He is regularly teaching at various Hungarian and foreign universities, lecturing in English, French, German and Hungarian.

After the systemic change in 1990, Prof. Balázs joined the Government of Hungary several times. He was State Secretary for Industry and Trade (1992-1993) and State Secretary for European Integration (2002-2003). He was Ambassador of Hungary in Denmark (1994-1996), Germany (1997-2000) and to the EU in Brussels (2003-2004). He was also the Government Representative of Hungary in the European Convention drafting the Constitutional Treaty, which became later, after several modifications, the Lisbon Treaty. In 2004, he was nominated the first Hungarian Member of the European Commission responsible for regional policy. In 2009-2010, he was Foreign Minister of Hungary.

Wolfgang BEHRENDT is desk officer at the European External Action Service, Russia Division, since 2012. Between 2008 and 2012 he served as the Head of political and economic section EUDEL to Moldova. Prior to that, he worked for the European Commission first as a case handler at the Anti-dumping investigations in third countries and then as a desk officer of its Turkey division. Wolfgang Behrendt received his diploma in Business administration and also in Public Finance.
Anton BENDARJEVSKIY was born in 1985 in the capital of Belarus, Minsk. He had to leave the country together with his parents in 1995, forced by Lukashenko’s dictatorship. They found their new home in Hungary, where he graduated in 2010 from the University of Pécs. He studied Media & Communication, and History and also spent a semester on a scholarship at University of Leicester, UK, Political Studies department.

In 2009 Anton joined the Hungarian foreign policy news portal, Kitekintő, in which he is still a permanent member leading the post-Soviet countries department. At Kitekinto.hu he writes articles mainly about Russia, Belarus and Ukraine and analyzes the events in the region.

The main topics of his historical academic research were the democratic processes in Belarus in the turn of 80’s and 90’s, the Kuropati tragedy, the Chernobyl disaster and it’s aspects in Belarus, and the history of the Bolshevik press.

In his biggest project up to date Anton travelled to the Chernobyl Zone in April 2011 creating series of articles about the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone nowadays, and the life of the current workers of the Chernobyl Power Plant, and about the inhabitants of the nuclear city of Slavutich, established in 1987, 50 km-s from Chernobyl. In December 2011 together with his colleague Mark Maczelka he has also presented a documentary, "Chernobyl’s Heritage: the Zone", which was screened in cinemas in 16 cities of Hungary, and later was aired on all major Hungarian channels, reaching nearly 2 million viewers.

András DEÁK is Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of World Economics, HAS, Budapest. He received his Diploma (MA) and his Doctorate (Ph.D.) in International Relations, in 1997 and 2003, respectively, both from the University of Economic Sciences, Hungary. His research fields cover economic processes in the Post Soviet space, integration into the world economy and energy policy in particular. His activities include foreign and energy policy analysis, political and corporate consultancy on Hungarian and also some civil activities in energy conservation.
Jan Niklas ENGELS is the director of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung office in Budapest, Hungary, since August 2013. He holds a Master degree in politics and public administration. He studied at the University of Konstanz (Germany) and at the University of Limerick (Ireland) and specialized in International Relations. In 2000-01, he took part in the Postgraduate Training Program of the German Development Institute in Bonn. Since 2001 he works for the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES). He was FES Resident Representative in Bénin and responsible for the West African Regional Project of FES on trade policies and FES activities in Togo, Burkina Faso and Niger. From 2008 to 2013, he was in charge of the “International Monitor of Social Democracy” conducted by the International Policy Analysis Unit of the FES headquarter in Berlin.

Severin FISCHER is a researcher at "Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik" (SWP), the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, in Berlin. His main focus of research is EU Energy and Climate Policy. Before joining SWP, he worked as an advisor to the Chairman of the Environment Committee in the European Parliament and at Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP) in Berlin. He recently published on the EU Energy and Climate Policy negotiations for the post-2020 period.

Balázs JARÁBIK is a visiting scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, where his research focuses on Ukraine and Eastern Europe. Jarábik worked with Pact, Inc. in Kyiv, Ukraine, to build its presence as one of the largest international non-governmental organizations in Eastern Europe. He currently serves as a project director for Pact, based in Vilnius, Lithuania. Prior to joining Carnegie, Jarábik was an associate fellow at FRIDE in Madrid. He recently joined the Central European Policy Institute in Bratislava as a fellow. He was a civic activist in Slovakia in the 1990s, and he later co-founded the Bratislava-based Pontis Foundation. He also worked as an adviser for political parties and civil societies in the Balkans and Eastern Europe, with the Slovak parliament and ministry of foreign affairs, and with international institutions including the European Parliament, Freedom House, Council of Europe, United Nations Development Project, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.
Reinhard KRUMM, born in Hamburg, Germany, got his MA in Russian History from the University of Hamburg in 1989, and his PhD from Regensburg University, Germany in 2003, where he is a lecturer on Russian History since 2008. From 1991 to 1998 he worked as a journalist in the former Soviet Union, serving as the Moscow correspondent of Der Spiegel magazine from 1996 to 1998. He joined the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in 2002, serving as the Head of the Regional Central Asian office in Tashkent from 2003 to 2007 and as the Head of the Russian office in Moscow from 2007 to 2012 and currently as the Head of the Department of Central and Eastern Europe.

Agata ŁOSKOT–STRACHOTA is energy policy analyst since 2001 and currently Senior Research Fellow at Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), Warsaw. Her main areas of expertise cover gas and oil sector, energy policy in Russia, the Caspian, CIS transit countries, Central and Southern Europe, European Union, as well as the closer Middle East. Her research interests include international energy relations. Presently Agata Łoskot-Strachota is focusing on EU security of energy supply challenges, external dimension of EU energy policy, EU-Russia energy relations and developments of the European gas market.

Viatcheslav MOROZOV is Professor of EU-Russia Studies at the University of Tartu. Before moving to Tartu in 2010, he taught for 13 years at the St. Petersburg State University, Russia. He has published extensively on Russian national identity and foreign policy, and, more recently, also on Russian domestic politics and discourses on democracy. He is the author of *Russia’s Postcolonial Identity: A Subaltern Empire in a Eurocentric World* (Palgrave, forthcoming 2015), *Russia and Others: Identity and Boundaries of a Political Community* (Moscow: NLO Books, 2009) and the editor of *Decentring the West: The Idea of Democracy and the Struggle for Hegemony* (Ashgate, 2013). Morozov is a member of the Program on New Approaches to Research and Security in Eurasia (PONARS Eurasia), based at George Washington University. In 2007-2010, he was a member of the Executive Council of the Central and East European International Studies Association (CEEISA)
András RÁCZ, PhD, is Senior Research Fellow of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs in Helsinki. Earlier he worked at the Hungarian Institute of International Affairs, and also at the Pazmany Peter Catholic University. His main research interests cover the post-Soviet region, the Eastern neighborhood policy of the EU, and the foreign and security policy of Hungary and of the Visegrad region. He was research fellow of the EFSPS Program of the Volkswagen Foundation, and also visiting fellow of the Transatlantic Academy of the German Marshall Fund.

Dr. Alexander SERGUNIN, Professor of International Relations at the Higher School of Economics (St. Petersburg) and St. Petersburg State University is currently working on a research project entitled “EU and Russia: Two Competing ‘Soft Power’ Projects in the Baltic Sea Region.” The main objective of this research is to examine the nature of the EU and Russian ‘soft power’ projects in the Baltic Sea Region and to critically assess how these projects are implemented in terms of their efficiency and interaction. Prof Sergunin is the author of numerous publications on regionalism, foreign and security policy and EU-Russia relations.

Nick SITTER is Professor of Public Policy at the CEU Department of Public Policy, Professor of Political Economy at the BI Norwegian Business School, and Research Associate at the LSE Centre for Analysis of Risk and Regulation. He holds a PhD, MSc and BSc (econ) from the London School of Economics and Political Science, Department of Government. Research interests include public policy (European integration, energy policy, competition law), party systems (political parties, party strategy, Euroscepticism), and political violence (democratization, civil war, terrorism). Books and journal special issues include A Liberal Actor in A Realist World: The EU Regulatory State and the Global Political Economy of Energy (with Andreas Goldthau, Oxford University Press, 2015), A History of Terrorism (Dreyer 2015, in Norwegian), Europe’s Nascent State: Public Policy in the EU (co-edited with Johan From, Gyldendal 2006), Understanding Public Management (with Kjell A. Eliassen, Sage 2008), and an edition
of *Nations and Nationalism* on Constitutionalism in Europe (co-edited with Bill Kissane, 2010). For a list of publications see cristin.no. Nick joined the Department of Public Policy as Head of Department in 2008, and served as Head of Department until 2011. In 2012-15 he is publishing a number of articles and book chapters on energy policy and terrorism as a contributor to the EU-funded GR:EEN (Global Re-ordering: Evolution through European Networks) FP7 research project.

**John SHATTUCK** is president and rector of the Central European University. He came to CEU after a distinguished career spanning more than three decades in higher education, international diplomacy, foreign policy and human rights. Before coming to CEU, he was CEO of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, a national public affairs center in Boston, and Senior Fellow at Tufts University, where he taught human rights and international relations. President Shattuck served as Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor under President Clinton, playing a major role in the establishment by the United Nations of the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia; assisting an international coalition under UN authority to restore a democratically-elected government to Haiti; and negotiating the Dayton Peace Agreement and other efforts to end the war in Bosnia. Subsequently he served as US Ambassador to the Czech Republic, working with the Czech government to assist in overhauling the country’s legal system, and with Czech educators to support innovative civic education programs in the country’s schools and universities. In recognition of his human rights leadership, he has received the International Human Rights Award from the United Nations Association of Boston; the Ambassador's Award from the American Bar Association Central and East European Law Initiative; and the Tufts University Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Award.

**Andris SPRUDS** is the director of the Latvian Institute of International Affairs. He also holds the position of professor at Riga Stradins University. Andris Spruds has an MA in Central European History from the CEU in Budapest, Hungary and in International Relations from University of Latvia. He has also obtained a PhD in Political Science from Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. Andris Spruds has been a visiting student and scholar at Oxford, Uppsala, Columbia and Johns Hopkins University, as well as the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs and Japan's Institute of Energy Economics. His research interests focus on energy security and policy in the Baltic Sea region, the domestic and foreign policy of post-Soviet countries, and transatlantic relations.
Tomáš STRÁŽAY is currently senior research fellow and head of the Central and Southeastern Europe Research Program at the Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA), Bratislava, Slovakia. He graduated from the Faculty of Arts, Comenius University, Bratislava in 1999, and received his PhD from the Institute of Political Studies at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, Poland in 2010. In 2003 he joined RC SFPA. He worked as an editor and later as editor-in-chief of the Slovak Foreign Policy Affairs journal. Since 2005 he has been co-editing the International Issues & Slovak Foreign Policy Affairs quarterly. He is a leading expert in the project Think Visegrad – V4 Think Tank Platform and National Convention on the European Union in Montenegro. He is the author and co-author of numerous analyses and articles on the Western Balkans and regional cooperation. Since 2007 he has cooperated with the European Economic and Social Committee and Committee of the Regions as an expert advisor. So far he has participated in the development of the following opinions: “Transport Policy in the Western Balkans” (EESC); “EU-Bosnia and Herzegovina Relations” (EESC); “Western Balkans: Enhancing the European perspective” (CoR); “EU-Serbia Relations: The Role of Civil Society” (EESC).