

COUNCIL *on*
**FOREIGN
RELATIONS**

GIFGRF

**COUNCIL OF COUNCILS
EIGHTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

**COUNCIL
OF COUNCILS**

An Initiative of the Council on Foreign Relations



OCTOBER 4-6, 2015

ISTANBUL, TURKEY

*Hosted by
Global Relations Forum
&
Council on Foreign Relations*

COUNCIL OF COUNCILS MEMBERS

ARGENTINA

Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI)

JAPAN

Genron NPO

AUSTRALIA

Lowy Institute for International Policy

MEXICO

Mexican Council on Foreign Relations (COMEXI)

BELGIUM

Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

NIGERIA

Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA)

BRAZIL

Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV)

POLAND

Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM)

CANADA

Center for International Governance Innovation (CIGI)

RUSSIA

Institute of Contemporary Development (INSOR)

CHINA

Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS)

SAUDI ARABIA

Gulf Research Center (GRC)

EGYPT

Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies

SINGAPORE

S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

FRANCE

French Institute of International Relations (IFRI)

SOUTH AFRICA

South African Institute of International Affairs
(SAIIA)

GERMANY

German Institute for International and Security Affairs
(SWP)

SOUTH KOREA

East Asia Institute (EAI)

INDIA

Observer Research Foundation (ORF)

TURKEY

Global Relations Forum (GIF)

INDONESIA

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

UNITED KINGDOM

Chatham House (Royal Institute of International
Affairs)

ISRAEL

Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)

UNITED KINGDOM

International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)

ITALY

Institute of International Affairs (IAI)

UNITED STATES

Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)

Council of Councils Mission Statement

The defining foreign policy challenges of the twenty-first century are global in nature. To help direct high-level international attention and effective policy responses to these threats and opportunities, the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) has created a Council of Councils (CoC). The CoC is composed of twenty-six major policy institutes from some of the world's most influential countries. It is designed to facilitate candid, not-for-attribution dialogue and consensus-building among influential opinion leaders from both established and emerging nations, with the ultimate purpose of injecting the conclusions of its deliberations into high-level foreign policy circles within members' countries.

Participants are welcome to disclose ideas from CoC meetings and may attribute that information to the CoC, but may not reveal the identity or the affiliation of any speaker, participant, or institution attending the meeting. On- and off-the-record sessions will be noted on the agenda. An official photographer will be present and pictures will be displayed on the official webpage and social media websites, but use of personal recording devices and cameras is prohibited.

Council of Councils Eighth Regional Conference

Agenda

Sunday, October 4, 2015

7:20 p.m.–7:30 p.m. Board the Gümüş Damla Yacht (*leaving from the Grand Tarabya Hotel jetty*)

7:30 p.m.–10:30 p.m. *Opening Dinner and Discussion on Turkish Politics*

Moderator: Ali Hakan Altınay, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution (Turkey)

Speakers: Bülent Aras, Senior Scholar, Istanbul Policy Center, and Professor, Sabancı University (Turkey)

Murat Yetkin, Editor in Chief, Hürriyet Daily News (Turkey)

Monday, October 5, 2015

Yapı Kredi Yeniköy Korusu

Sait Halim Paşa Caddesi No: 4

Yeniköy, Sarıyer

Istanbul

9:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m. *Registration and Light Breakfast*

10:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m. *Session One*

Reinforcing International Cooperation in Responding to Refugees and Migration

Guiding Questions: What is driving the global refugee crisis? Which of these underlying dynamics are likely to continue in the coming decades? What changes need to be made to improve the current system for humanitarian response, at both the global and regional levels, including reducing impacts on frontline states? What explains the recent increase in asylum applications to industrialized nations from the developing world? What additional international mechanisms are needed to manage migration more effectively at a global or regional level?

Moderator: Sook-Jong Lee, President, East Asia Institute (South Korea)

Panelists: Elif Özmenek-Çarmıklı, Researcher, USAK International Strategic Research Organization (Turkey)

Gilead Sher, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for National Security Studies (Israel)

Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Chief Executive, South African Institute of International Affairs (South Africa)

11:15 a.m.–11:45 a.m. *Coffee Break*

11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m. *Session Two*

The Future of the MENA Region and Global Security

Guiding Questions: Given the deeply entrenched social, economic, political, ethnic, and sectarian tensions, what is the most likely scenario for the political development of the MENA region in the next decade? What mixture of political authoritarianism, violent conflict, and democratic experimentation should one anticipate? Will the Saudi Arabia-Iran or Sunni-Shia confrontation become the defining fault line, or can these conflicts be defused? Will the self-declared Islamic State prove to be a transient phenomenon or an enduring force in the region and even worldwide? What is the risk that additional states may seek to acquire military nuclear capability in the region? What can outside actors do to reverse the spreading disorder?

*Moderator: **Abdulaziz Sager**, Chairman, Gulf Research Center (Saudi Arabia)*

*Panelists: **Bessma Momani**, Senior Fellow, Center for International Governance Innovation (Canada)*

***Charles Powell**, Director, Real Instituto Elcano (Spain)*

***Ali Vaez**, Senior Analyst, Iran, International Crisis Group (Belgium)*

1:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. *Buffet Lunch*

1:30 p.m.–2:15 p.m. **Keynote Address on Ukraine**

*Speaker: **Ertuğrul Apakan**, Chief Monitor, OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (Turkey)*

2:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m. **Special Session on Ukraine**

*Moderator: **Özdem Sanberk**, Former Ambassador and Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Turkey)*

*Panelists: **Michael Fullilove**, Executive Director, Lowy Institute for International Policy (Australia)*

***Igor Yurgens**, Chairman, Institute for Contemporary Development (Russia)*

3:15 p.m.–6:00 p.m. *Free Time*

6:00 p.m.–9:30 p.m. *Cocktail Reception, Public Event, and Dinner at Sakıp Sabancı Museum*

Sakıp Sabancı Museum
Emirgan Mh.

Sakıp Sabancı Cd. No: 42

Sarıyer, Istanbul

6:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m. *Cocktail Reception*

6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. *Public Event*

The Endgame in the Eurozone and Europe's Prospects as an Effective Global Actor

*Moderator: **İlter Turan**, Professor of Political Science, Bilgi University (Turkey)*

*Speakers: **Thomas Gomart**, Director, French Institute of International Relations (France)*

***Richard N. Haass**, President, Council on Foreign Relations (United States)*

***Memduh Karakullukçu**, Vice Chairman and President, Global Relations Forum (Turkey)*

***Volker Perthes**, Director, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Germany)*

7:45 p.m.–9:30 p.m. *Dinner and Keynote Speaker at the Seed*

*Speaker: **Ali Babacan**, Former Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Minister of Economic Affairs (Turkey)*

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Yapı Kredi Yeniköy Korusu

Sait Halim Paşa Caddesi No: 4

Yeniköy, Sarıyer

Istanbul

9:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m. *Light Breakfast*

10:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m. *Session Three*

Redesigning Regional and Global Energy Governance

Guiding Questions: Is stronger coordination to manage global energy dynamics a necessary and feasible prospect? Globally, should the International Energy Agency be reformed to allow membership of consumers who are not members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, especially big players like China, India, or Brazil—and how might this be brought about? Does the world need a new institution to promote sharing of clean technologies? Is it viable to build multilateral mechanisms to provide a more stable global investment environment in the energy sector? Regionally, is closer cooperation among potential supplier and consumer countries necessary to develop the Southern Gas Corridor as a realistic alternative to Europe's dependence on Russian gas? Can Turkey play a pivotal role in shaping and sustaining such cooperation?

*Moderator: **Memduh Karakullukçu**, Vice Chairman and President, Global Relations Forum (Turkey)*

*Panelists: **Ünal Çeviköz**, Former Turkish Ambassador to the UK, Iraq and Azerbaijan (Turkey)*

***Jarosław Źwiek-Karpowicz**, Head of Research, Polish Institute of International Affairs (Poland)*

***Nicolò Sartori**, Researcher, Institute of International Affairs (Italy)*

11:15 a.m.–11:45 a.m. *Coffee Break*

11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m. *Session Four*

Global Climate Cooperation Beyond Paris

Guiding Questions: What are the prospects for a substantive multilateral breakthrough in Paris? What is the minimum that needs to be achieved at COP-21 to maintain international momentum? If Paris “fails,” will the major action shift to local, national, bilateral, minilateral, or regional initiatives? What is likely to be the overall effect of diverse, piecemeal alternatives to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change process? Can any of these alternatives replace (and even reinforce) more encompassing UN-wide efforts, or are they a distraction? If global deadlocks at the multilateral level persist beyond 2015, will global debates increasingly shift from mitigating climate change to adapting to its consequences?

*Moderator: **Stewart M. Patrick**, Director and Senior Fellow, International Institutions and Global Governance Program, Council on Foreign Relations (United States)*

*Panelists: **Sanjeev Ahluwalia**, Advisor, Observer Research Foundation (India)*

***Rob Bailey**, Research Director, Energy, Environment, and Resources, Chatham House (United Kingdom)*

***José María Lladós**, Academic Director, Argentine Council for International Relations (Argentina)*

1:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. **Closing Remarks**

1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m. *Lunch*

Speaker Bios

Hakan Altınay

Hakan Altınay is a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and the founding president of Global Civics Academy. Altınay previously worked as regional director for Asia and Near East at Pathfinder International (1996–98), Caspian and Black Sea coordinator at the International Research and Exchanges Board in Istanbul (1999–2001), and executive director at the Open Society Foundation in Istanbul (2001–2009). He has been a world fellow at Yale University since 2009. He became a nonresident senior fellow at Brookings in 2009, and he established the European School of Politics in Istanbul in 2014. His book, *Global Civics: Responsibilities and Rights in an Interdependent World*, was published by Brookings Institution Press in 2011. The book has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish and inspired a documentary by the Chinese director Jian Yi. Altınay is currently working on the questions of constituency-building and normative frameworks for enhanced global cooperation and governance. He holds a BA in political science and international relations with high honors from Boğaziçi University and an ABD in political science from the New School for Social Research.

Ertuğrul Apakan

Ertuğrul Apakan heads the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine. He previously served as Turkey's permanent representative to the United Nations (UN), where he represented Turkey at the UN Security Council (UNSC) from August 2009 to the end of 2010 and held the presidency of the UNSC in September 2010. Prior to his appointment as the permanent representative, Apakan served as undersecretary of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2006 to 2009 and as deputy undersecretary for bilateral political relations from 2004 to 2006. Throughout his long diplomatic career, Apakan actively took part in the UN-Cyprus talks, Turkey-Greece exploratory talks on the Aegean Sea, Turkey-European Union talks, and negotiations on Turkish-Armenian protocols. Furthermore, during his tenure at the UN, he was involved in issues related to gender, children, aging, and disaster management. Apakan graduated from Ankara University's Faculty of Political Sciences and holds an MA in international economics from Ege University.

Bülent Aras

Bülent Aras is a senior scholar and the coordinator of the conflict resolution and mediation stream at the Istanbul Policy Center (IPC), as well as professor at Sabancı University's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Previously, he was academic advisor to Ahmet Davutoğlu, former Turkish minister of foreign affairs. A leading expert on Turkish foreign policy, Middle Eastern politics, and Central Asia, Aras has worked as a consultant for numerous organizations, such as Oxford Analytica, Microsoft, and Human Rights Watch. He is a member of the board of directors of the International Center for Black Sea Studies. Before joining IPC, Aras worked at the Center for Strategic Research and served as chairman of the Diplomacy Academy, both affiliated with Turkey's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also taught in Istanbul Technical University's department of humanities and social sciences. In 2010, he was senior visiting professor of Turkish studies at Oxford University's St. Antony's College. He was a research scholar at the Paris-based European Union Institute for Security Studies in 2004, at St. Antony's College in 2003, and at Indiana University's center for Eurasian studies in 1998. Aras has published thirteen books and numerous articles, which have appeared in journals such as *Middle East Policy*, *Journal of Third World Studies*, *Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies*, and *Political Science Quarterly*. He wrote a weekly column on foreign policy for *Daily Sabah* in 2009 and 2010. He is editor in chief of *Perceptions* and founding editor of *Alternatives: Turkish Journal of International Relations*. Aras received his BA, MA, and PhD in political science and international relations from Boğaziçi University.

Ali Babacan

Ali Babacan was appointed the Turkish minister of foreign affairs in August 2007. He has held multiple positions in the government, including minister of state in charge of economy from 2002 to 2007 and chief negotiator in Turkey's accession negotiations with the European Union in 2005. Babacan has also served in parliament, to

which he was first elected in 2002 and reelected in 2007. He is a founding member and board member of the Justice and Development Party. Prior to working in the government, Babacan worked at a Chicago-based company from 1992 to 1994, providing financial consulting services to top executives of major banks in the United States, and then ran his family business until 2002. He received a BS in industrial engineering from the Middle East Technical University and an MBA in marketing, organizational behavior, and international business from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management as a Fulbright scholar.

İlter Turan

İlter Turan is a professor of political science and a former rector (1998–2001) at Bilgi University in Istanbul. Turan previously worked as an assistant professor at Istanbul University's department of economics. He completed his PhD (1966), associate professorship (1970), and professorship (1976) at Istanbul University. Turan started teaching at Istanbul University's faculty of political science in 1984 and became the head of the department of political sciences in 1991. In 1993, he joined Koç University's College of Administrative Sciences and Economics as a professor of political science. Turan has published books and articles in both Turkish and English on the subjects of comparative politics, Turkish political life, political behavior, political culture, international relations, and foreign policy. He has also served on the administrative boards of various firms and foundations, and he writes weekly for *Dünya* newspaper. Turan received a BA in political science from Oberlin College and an MA from Columbia University in the same subject.

Murat Yetkin

The editor in chief of the *Hürriyet Daily News*, Murat Yetkin began his journalism career in 1981 and joined the BBC World Service in Ankara in 1986. After working for a number of international news organizations, including Deutsche Welle and Agence France-Presse, he joined what was then the *Turkish Daily News* as the diplomacy and defense editor in 1992. Yetkin subsequently joined the founding team of Turkey's first round-the-clock news channel, NTV, and established its Ankara office. He returned to print journalism in 2001 as Ankara bureau chief of the daily newspaper *Radikal*, where he also wrote regular columns on current affairs, mainly addressing politics, diplomacy, security, and the economy. He assumed his current position at the *Hürriyet Daily News* in May 2011. Yetkin frequently appears on leading Turkish news channels, NTV, and CNN Türk. Yetkin is the author of four published books on Turkey's international relations: *Active Policy in the Ring of Fire: Turkey in the Triangle of the Balkans, the Caucasus and the Middle East*; *Turkey in the Waiting Room of the European Union*; *The Motion: The True Story of the Iraq Crisis*; and *The Kurdish Trap: Öcalan from Damascus to İmralı*. Yetkin is also an Eisenhower fellow and a member of the Georgetown University leadership seminar group. He graduated from the Middle East Technical University's mechanical engineering department.

Participant Bios

Nigar Aġaoġulları Yalınkılıç

Nigar Aġaoġulları Yalınkılıç, the executive director of Global Relations Forum (GRF), joined GRF in 2009 as a program director and has coordinated GRF's task force on energy. Currently, she oversees and coordinates GRF's track-II projects with Russia and GRF's task force on security. Before she started her career at an international law firm in New York, Yalınkılıç worked at Western Policy Center in Washington, DC, and at the Turkish mission to the United Nations. Prior to joining GRF, she specialized in strategy and business development and served as a communication consultant to several companies. She is fluent in Turkish and English, and conversational in French and Greek. Yalınkılıç graduated from Georgetown University in 2002 with a BS degree (cum laude) in foreign affairs concentrating in culture and politics as well as minorities, and she completed a certificate program in Muslim-Christian relations. She holds an MSc degree (merit) in social and public communication from the London School of Economics with specializations in corporate communications and social psychology.

Sanjeev S. Ahluwalia

Sanjeev S. Ahluwalia is an advisor at the Observer Research Foundation. He is also affiliated with the Energy and Resources Institute, where he worked for three years, and the CUTS Center for Infrastructure Regulation and Competition in an honorary capacity. His main areas of expertise include energy regulation, institutional development, and political economy analysis. Having served as a senior specialist for the World Bank's poverty reduction and economic management network in East Africa for seven years, as well as in numerous senior level positions in India's ministry of finance, ministry of commerce, and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, Ahluwalia has significant expertise in public sector financial management. He has also worked for the finance department of the government of Uttar Pradesh. Ahluwalia hosts a blog, *Opinion India*, which is also available at *Times of India Blogs*, and writes for the *Asian Age*, *Globalist*, and *Swarajya*.

Bozkurt Aran

Bozkurt Aran is the director of the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey's Centre for Multilateral Trade Studies. He started work at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the third secretary at the department of Eastern Europe in 1973. Aran served as vice consul at the Salzburg consulate general, first secretary at the Kuala Lumpur embassy, and economic counsellor at the Washington embassy. He was appointed the consul general of the Republic of Turkey at Dusseldorf (1989–93), ambassador to Pakistan (1998–2000), permanent representative at the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization in Paris (2002–2004), and ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran (2004–2006). He then served as the permanent representative of Turkey to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva (2007–2012), where he chaired the trade policy board, the committee of trade and environment, and the accession working committee of Belarus. After serving as the deputy director-general for bilateral relations for European countries at the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1993–1998), he worked as the director-general for bilateral economic affairs (2000–2002) and director-general for the Middle East (2006–2008). He was also a member of the management board of the advisory center on WTO law. Aran graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences at Ankara University.

Rob Bailey

Rob Bailey is director of the Energy, Environment, and Resources Department at Chatham House. His research has included climate change and food security, the political economy of low-carbon development, conflict and resources, and global resource governance. He came to Chatham House from Oxfam, where he was responsible for policy on climate change, trade, and food security. Prior to this, he had a career in financial services. Bailey holds degrees from Cambridge University and the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Hikmet Çetin

Hikmet Çetin is the former speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, former minister of foreign affairs, and former North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) senior civilian representative in Afghanistan. He served four terms as a member of the Turkish parliament. He held the positions of minister of foreign affairs from 1991 to 1994 and speaker of the house between 1997 and 1999. On November 19, 2003, he was appointed as NATO secretary-general's senior civilian representative in Afghanistan, the highest level political representative of NATO in Afghanistan. He took office in Kabul in 2004 and served four consecutive terms until August 24, 2006. Earlier in his career, he worked as the head of the economics planning department at the State Planning Organization. During this time, he was a part-time lecturer at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara. Çetin is a member of the Global Leadership Foundation and the executive board for the European Leadership Network as well as honorary board member of the Peres Center for Peace. He graduated in 1960 with a BA in economics and finance from Ankara University and received his MA in economics of development from Williams College. In 1968, he carried out research on development models at Stanford University.

Ünal Çeviköz

Ünal Çeviköz joined the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1978. Following his service in Ankara, he worked as second secretary at the Turkish embassy in Moscow and as consul at the Turkish consulate general in Bregenz, Austria. After serving as the chief of section at the east European department of the foreign ministry, Çeviköz was assigned to the Turkish embassy in Sofia as counselor. After 1989, he worked at the economic and political affairs directorates in the international secretariat of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). After launching the NATO Information Office in Moscow in 1994, Çeviköz prepared the NATO-Russia Founding Act before returning to the Turkish foreign ministry, where he headed the Balkan department and then served as the deputy director general for the Caucasus and Central Asia. He then served as Turkey's ambassador to Azerbaijan (2001–2004) and Iraq (2004–2006). From 2007 to 2010, Çeviköz acted as deputy undersecretary for bilateral political affairs and prepared the protocols signed between Turkey and Armenia in 2009. He then served as ambassador to the United Kingdom from 2010 to 2014. Çeviköz has been president of the general assembly of the International Maritime Organization since 2013. He holds two bachelor's degrees from Boğaziçi University, in English language and literature and political science, and a master's degree from Brussels University in international relations.

Jarosław  wiek-Karpowicz

Jarosław  wiek-Karpowicz is head of the research office at the Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM). He previously worked at PISM as program coordinator of eastern and southeastern Europe. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Warsaw's Institute of Political Science. His main areas of research include energy security, international relations in the post-Soviet space, and contemporary Russia. He has published numerous papers and articles, the most recent being "Sanctions and Russia."  wiek-Karpowicz received two master's degrees as well as his doctoral degree in political science from the University of Warsaw. He also studied political science at Moscow State University and the University of Strasbourg.

Salim DerviŐođlu

Salim DerviŐođlu served as commander of the Turkish naval forces from 1997 to 1999. Previously, he served as the deputy secretary-general of the Turkish National Security Council, head of the plans and policy department of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, allied naval forces command of southern Europe, superintendent of the Turkish Naval Academy, chief of the intelligence division of the Turkish general staff, and head of the press and public relations department of the Turkish National Security Council. DerviŐođlu is currently a member of the Wise Men Center for Strategic Studies in Istanbul. He is a graduate of the Turkish Naval War College and received his MSc in management from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey.

Michael Fullilove

Michael Fullilove is the executive director of the Lowy Institute for International Policy. Fullilove has also worked as a lawyer, a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC, and an advisor to former Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating. He remains a nonresident senior fellow at Brookings. Fullilove writes widely, and his work is published in outlets such as the *New York Times*, *Financial Times*, and *Foreign Affairs*, as well as the Australian press. He is the author of *Rendezvous with Destiny: How Franklin D. Roosevelt and Five Extraordinary Men Took America into the War and into the World*, which won the 2014 New South Wales Premier's Literary Award for nonfiction. He is the coeditor, with Anthony Bubalo, of *Reports from a Turbulent Decade*, an anthology of the Lowy Institute's best work. He is also the editor of *Men and Women of Australia!: Our Greatest Modern Speeches*. Fullilove will deliver the Boyer Lectures on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's Radio National in September and October 2015.

Thomas Gomart

Thomas Gomart is the director of the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI), based in Paris and Brussels. He was previously IFRI's vice president for strategic development (2010–2015) and the director of its Russia/NIS Center (2004–2013), and is coeditor of the trilingual electronic collection *Russie.Nei.Visions*. Before joining IFRI, Gomart was assistant professor at the Sorbonne (1996–99), cadet officer in the army (2000), Lavoisier fellow at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (2001), visiting fellow at the European Union Institute for Security Studies (2003), and Marie Curie fellow at the department of war studies at King's College London (2003–2004). Gomart has managed many projects with leading international think tanks, high-level government officials, senior executives from global companies, nongovernmental organization activists, and leading journalists. He recently published, with Thierry de Montbrial, "Think Tanks à la française" in the September–October 2014 edition of *Le débat*. Gomart holds an EMBA from HEC Paris and a PhD in history from Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne.

Imtiaz Gul

Imtiaz Gul is the founder and executive director of the Center for Research and Security Studies, a Pakistani think tank focused primarily on security, radicalization, and governance. He has contributed to international and national print publications, including *Foreign Policy*, *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Friday Times*, *Pulse*, *Islamabad*, and *Express Tribune*, on issues such as militancy, border regions, Afghanistan, and India-Pakistan relations. In addition to advising foreign diplomatic missions and development sector organizations, Gul regularly appears as an expert on several Pakistani television channels, as well as the Doha-based Al Jazeera English/Arabic satellite television channel for his expertise in areas such as Afghanistan, the tribal areas, and the Kashmir militancy, which he has been covering since 1988. He has presented papers at numerous international security and counterterrorism conferences and authored the books *Pakistan: Before and After Osama*, *The Most Dangerous Place: Pakistan's Lawless Frontier*, *The Al Qaeda Connection: The Taliban and Terror in Tribal Areas*, and *The Unholy Nexus: Pak-Afghan Relations Under the Taliban*.

Richard N. Haass

Richard N. Haass is in his thirteenth year as president of the Council on Foreign Relations, the preeminent independent, nonpartisan organization in the United States dedicated to the study of U.S. foreign policy. In 2013, he served as the chair of the multiparty negotiations in Northern Ireland that provided the foundation for the 2014 Stormont House Agreement. For his efforts to promote peace and conflict resolution, he received the 2013 Tipperary International Peace Award. From 2001 to 2003, Haass was director of policy planning for the Department of State as well as U.S. coordinator for policy toward the future of Afghanistan and U.S. envoy to the Northern Ireland peace process. He was also special assistant to President George H.W. Bush and senior director for Near East and South Asian affairs on the staff of the National Security Council from 1989 to 1993. Haass is the author or editor of twelve books on U.S. foreign policy and one book on management. His most recent books are *Foreign Policy Begins at Home: The Case for Putting America's House in Order* and *War of Necessity, War of Choice*.

A Memoir of Two Iraq Wars. A Rhodes scholar, he holds a BA from Oberlin College, both an MA and PhD from Oxford University, and numerous honorary degrees.

Memduh Karakullukçu

Memduh Karakullukçu is the vice chairman and president of the Global Relations Forum (GRF). He is also the founding partner of the Turkish online legal informatics initiative, Kanunum.com. Previously, he served as senior advisor to the chairwoman of the Turkish Industry and Business Association and as the founding managing director of Istanbul's leading science park, Istanbul Technical University (İTÜ) ARI Teknokent. During his tenure at İTÜ, Karakullukçu was senior advisor to the president; coordinator of the law, technology, and policy graduate program; and the strategic advisor at the university's center for satellite communications. He has also served as a member of the academic staff at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and İTÜ. Karakullukçu's earlier academic work includes research commissioned by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on inflation dynamics, debt instruments, and debt markets. His recent policy work at GRF includes global energy analysis, technology-related security issues, global economic and financial governance, and the economic prospects of the Middle East and North Africa. Earlier in his career, he worked as a specialist in structured finance in London and Istanbul. Karakullukçu received his BS in electrical engineering and in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, his MSc in finance from the LSE, and his JD from Columbia University. He is a member of the New York State Bar.

Alexandra Kerr

Alexandra Kerr is assistant director of the International Institutions and Global Governance Program at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). She joined CFR in 2012 as a program coordinator overseeing projects related to global multilateral cooperation, and has since managed the Council of Councils (CoC) initiative, coordinating meetings in nine countries over the past three years. Prior to joining CFR, Kerr held a postgraduate fellowship focused on conflict mediation at the Center for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva. During her studies she held several research positions, including at the University of Oxford, the political risk division of Lloyd's of London, and the UN World Food Program in Rome. Starting in November 2015, Kerr will be a fellow at the National Defense University in the Institute for National Security Studies, where she will be concentrating on U.S. defense strategy with a focus on irregular warfare and complex military operations. Kerr holds a BA and MA in international relations from the University of Saint Andrews in Scotland, and an MA in international conflict from the Department of War Studies in King's College London.

Sönmez Köksal

Sönmez Köksal is a retired career diplomat who has served as ambassador of Turkey to France and Iraq and permanent delegate to the Council of Europe. He was undersecretary of state in charge of the Turkish National Intelligence Organization from 1992 to 1998. Köksal has served in several posts at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including deputy director-general in charge of multilateral economic relations, deputy permanent delegate to the European Economic Committee, director of the Middle East and Africa department, and director of the policy planning department. Until recently, Köksal was president of the board of trustees of the Istanbul Commerce University and a member of the academic staff at Işık University. He is currently a board member of Global Relations Forum and a member of the Wise Men Center for Strategic Studies in Istanbul. Köksal is a graduate of the Faculty of Political Sciences of Ankara University.

Elena Lazarou

Elena Lazarou is an assistant professor at the School of Social Sciences at the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV). From 2012 to 2014, she headed FGV's Center for International Relations. Lazarou's interests include European studies, foreign policy analysis, and regional integration. Her current research focuses on EU-Brazil relations and the impact of the eurozone crisis on the European Union's external relations. She also coordinates a pilot program

on think tanks and foreign policy in Brazil that is funded by the Ford Foundation and leads FGV's European studies group, financed by the Brazilian science and technology council. Previously, Lazarou headed the Euro-Mediterranean observatory of the Hellenic Center for European Studies (2009–2010), was a research associate at the University of Sheffield's Center for International Policy Research (2007–2008), and a visiting scholar at Columbia University and New York University (2005). She is also affiliated with the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy and is a visiting professor at Sciences-Po Grenoble. She has held postdoctoral research positions at Cambridge University and the London School of Economics and Political Science. A regular contributor to the Brazilian press, Lazarou has published several articles and has edited volumes and book chapters in English and Portuguese. Lazarou received a PhD in international relations from Cambridge University.

Sook-Jong Lee

Sook-Jong Lee is the president of the East Asia Institute, an independent, nonprofit think tank based in Seoul. She is also a professor of public administration at Sungkyunkwan University. Lee holds a number of advisory positions in the South Korean government, including in the presidential national security advisory group; presidential committee for unification preparation; and councils for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Unification, and the Korea International Cooperation Agency. Lee also participates as a member of the Trilateral Commission, Council of Councils, and many other transnational networks on research and policy studies. Her research interests include multilateralism, democracy, and civil societies, focusing on South Korea, Japan, and other East Asian countries. Previously, Lee was a research fellow at the Sejong Institute, a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution, a professorial lecturer at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, and a visiting fellow at the German Institute of Global and Area Studies. Her recent publications include *Keys to Successful Presidency in South Korea*, *South Korea as New Middle Power Seeking Complex Diplomacy*, *Korea's Role in Global Governance for Development Cooperation*, *Public Diplomacy and Soft Power in East Asia*, *Japan and East Asia: Regional Cooperation and Community Building*, and *Toward Managed Globalization: The Korean Experience*. Lee received a BA from Yonsei University and an MA and PhD in sociology from Harvard University.

Gallia Lindenstrauss

Gallia Lindenstrauss is a research fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies. Her main research interests include Turkish foreign policy, ethnic conflicts, Azerbaijan's foreign policy, the Cyprus dispute, and the Kurdish conflict. Lindenstrauss was a postdoctoral fellow at Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations from 2009 to 2010 and a Neubauer research fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies from 2007 to 2009. Lindenstrauss lectures at the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya and has previously lectured at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She received her PhD from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's department of international relations.

Joseph Chinyong Liow

Joseph Chinyong Liow is dean and professor of comparative and international politics at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He is also a senior fellow and the inaugural Lee Kuan Yew chair in Southeast Asia studies at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. Liow has published numerous articles in international scholarly peer-reviewed journals, the most recent appearing in *Modern Asian Studies*, *Pacific Review*, *Pacific Affairs*, and *Journal of Islamic Studies*. He has also published in policy journals such as *Foreign Affairs*, *National Interest*, and *Asia Policy*. Liow's recent books are *Dictionary of the Modern Politics of Southeast Asia*, *The East Asia Summit and the Regional Security Architecture*, *Piety and Politics: Islamism in Contemporary Malaysia*, and *Islam, Education and Reform in Southern Thailand: Tradition and Transformation*. He is also editor of the four-volume collection *Islam in Southeast Asia: Critical Concepts in Islamic Studies*. Liow is currently working on two books, one on U.S.-Southeast Asia relations and a second on religion and nationalism in Southeast Asia.

José María Lladós

José María Lladós is the director of academic affairs at the Argentine Council for International Relations. Previously, he served in Argentina's Ministry of Defense as secretary of defense production and secretary of planning during the presidencies of Raúl Ricardo Alfonsín and Fernando de la Rúa, respectively. He has also been advisor to the defense committee of the National Chamber of Deputies. Lladós was an assistant professor of constitutional law at University of Buenos Aires Law School and has served as legal advisor to the Argentine Chamber of Electronics Industries. He was also a consultant for the National Institute of Industrial Technology and the Institute for the Integration of Latin America and the Caribbean. Additionally, Lladós was executive secretary of the Argentine-Brazilian business council and a board member of both the Banco Hipotecario and the Sociedad Mixta Siderurgia Argentina. He holds an MA in international relations from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and a JD from the University of Buenos Aires Law School.

Bessma Momani

Bessma Momani is a senior fellow at the Center for International Governance Innovation and a 2015 fellow at the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation. She is also an associate professor at the University of Waterloo and Balsillie School of International Affairs. Momani has been a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC, and a visiting scholar at Georgetown University's Mortara Center for International Studies. She has authored and coedited six books and over sixty scholarly, peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters that have examined the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, petrodollars, regional trade agreements in the Middle East, and economic liberalization throughout the Arab Gulf and the Middle East.

Ogaba Danjuma Oche

Ogaba Danjuma Oche is the director of the research and studies department of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA). He held a lecturing position in the department of political science at the University of Jos from 1989 to 1994 and became a research fellow at the NIIA in 1994. Oche's academic backgrounds in history and international relations have informed his research interests and publications to a very large extent. His current areas of research interest include Nigeria's international relations and foreign policy, international organizations, conflict studies, democratization processes, terrorism, and security issues. Some of his publications include "United Nations Peacekeeping in Africa: Issues and Problems" in *African Journal of Peace and Conflict Studies* and *From Dispute to Dialogue: Essays on Conflict and Conflict Resolution*. He has served as editor of the *Nigerian Forum* and editor in chief of *Management Review Limited Journal*. He is coeditor of the book *Nigeria in the Global Arena: Past, Present and the Future* (2011). Oche obtained both his BA in history and political science and PhD in political science from Ahmadu Bello University.

Elif Özmenek-Çarmıklı

Elif Özmenek-Çarmıklı is a researcher at the International Strategic Research Organization (USAK) Center for Social Studies and a PhD candidate at the New School University. Her main research interests include the external dimension of migration management, border management, human rights, and conflict resolution. Her ongoing PhD thesis is titled "Extraterritorial Migration Control: Rise of Turkey as Bufferizing Actor." From 2000 to 2010, Özmenek worked as the New York correspondent and commentator for several media organizations. She also has taught foreign policy and sociology at Bosphorus University, Baskent University, and the State University of New York. Özmenek also worked as a political risk analyst at the American International Group (AIG) and as a researcher at the Institute for International Research, the Arab Organization for Human Rights, and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. She is a coauthor of *Turkey and Syrian Refugees: The Limits of Hospitality*, a joint report by the Brookings Institution and USAK. Recently, she was a consultant for a needs-assessment project supervised by the International Organization for Migration titled "Legal, Institutional, Administrative and Technical Needs Assessment for Effective Implementation of the EU-Turkey Readmission Agreement."

Stewart M. Patrick

Stewart M. Patrick is a senior fellow and the director of the International Institutions and Global Governance program at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). From 2005 to April 2008, he was a research fellow at the Center for Global Development, where he directed research and policy engagement on the intersection between security and development. Patrick has also served on the secretary of state's policy planning staff, with lead staff responsibility for U.S. policy toward Afghanistan and a range of global and transnational issues. Prior to government service, Patrick was a research associate at the Center on International Cooperation at New York University (NYU). He has taught at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and at NYU. Patrick is the author of numerous articles and chapters on the subjects of multilateral cooperation, state-building, and U.S. foreign policy. He has also written, cowritten, or edited five books, including his most recent book, *Weak Links: Fragile States, Global Threats, and International Security*. Additionally, Patrick writes *The Internationalist* blog for CFR. Patrick graduated from Stanford University and received two master's degrees as well as his doctorate in international relations from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes scholar.

Volker Perthes

Volker Perthes has been chief executive officer and director of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) since October 2005. He joined SWP in 1992 and worked as head of the SWP Middle East and Africa research group for several years. Perthes serves on various national and international bodies, such as the advisory research council of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs (as chairman), the international advisory council of the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies, the advisory board of the Turkey: Culture of Change Initiative of the Turkish Industry and Business Association, the advisory council for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, and the Australia-Germany advisory group. He is a frequent commentator on German and international media. He was an assistant professor at the American University of Beirut from 1991 to 1993 and has since taught at several universities. He is currently a professor of political science and international relations at Humboldt University of Berlin and the Free University of Berlin. He earned his doctoral degree and his habilitation from the University of Duisburg in 1990 and 1999, respectively.

Charles Powell

Charles Powell is the director of the Real Instituto Elcano, Spain's leading international relations think tank. He is also a professor of Spanish contemporary history at CEU San Pablo University and vice president of the Fundación Transición Española (Foundation for the Study of the Spanish Transition). Previously, he was deputy director and senior analyst for European affairs at the Real Instituto Elcano, an institution he first joined in 2002. Before that, he was deputy director of the European studies program at the José Ortega and Gasset-Gregorio Marañón Foundation in Madrid. Prior to settling permanently in Spain in 1997, Powell was lecturer in history at Oxford University's Corpus Christi College, J.A. Pye fellow at Oxford's University College, and junior research fellow at Oxford's St. Antony's College. He has published six books and dozens of articles on Spanish history, politics, and foreign policy, and has lectured in over thirty countries. Powell holds a BA (first class honors) in history and modern languages from Oxford University, where he also obtained his DPhil for a thesis on Spain's transition to democracy.

Abdulaziz Sager

Abdulaziz Sager is the chairman and founder of the Gulf Research Center and the president of Sager Group Holding in Saudi Arabia. In November 2003, Sager was appointed a member of the Makkah Province council. In addition, he serves as an advisory board member of the Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, Geneva Center for Security Policy, German Orient-Foundation, King Abdulaziz University's Faculty of Economics and Administration, and 2005 Arab Human Development Report for the UN Development Program. He has also been the chief editor of the *Gulf Yearbook* (2003–2009 editions). Sager has special research interest in

Gulf strategic issues and frequently contributes to international and regional media. He has authored numerous publications, including “Political Reform Measures from a Domestic GCC Perspective,” “Political Opposition in Saudi Arabia,” “Energy Shapes New Gulf Security Architecture,” and “Why for all its problems, the EU is still a model for the Arab world.” Sager holds an MA in international relations from the University of Kent and a PhD in politics and international relations from Lancaster University.

Tristram Sainsbury

Tristram Sainsbury is a research fellow in the Group of Twenty (G20) Studies Center at the Lowy Institute for International Policy. He is a contributing author and coeditor, with Mike Callaghan, of a forthcoming book, *The G20 and the Future of International Economic Governance*, and editor of the G20 Studies Center’s quarterly *G20 Monitor*. Prior to joining the Lowy Institute, Sainsbury was at the Australian Treasury, where he worked on G20 policy, focusing mainly on international financial architecture reform, financial regulation reform, and G20 growth strategies. He has also worked on a project at the Australian National University’s Crawford School of Public Policy on innovative approaches to Australian assistance to Micronesian states in the Pacific. Sainsbury holds a bachelor’s degree in resource economics from the University of Sydney and a master’s degree in applied economics from the Australian National University.

Özdem Sanberk

Özdem Sanberk is a retired career diplomat and former undersecretary of Turkey’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He is currently a member of the Wise Men Center for Strategic Studies in Istanbul and has served as the director of the International Strategic Research Organization in Ankara since June 2010. He served as the Turkish ambassador to the United Kingdom from 1995 to 2000. Earlier in his career, he served in Madrid, Amman, Bonn, and Paris. Sanberk was the advisor to Prime Minister Turgut Özal from 1985 to 1987. He then served as the Turkish ambassador and permanent representative to the European Union in Brussels and as the undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ankara. Following his retirement in 2000, Sanberk was the director of the Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation in Istanbul. He also served as the Turkish representative on the United Nations secretary-general’s panel of inquiry into the Gaza flotilla incident. He is a frequent commentator on international affairs in the Turkish press. Sanberk is a graduate of the law faculty of Istanbul University.

Nicolò Sartori

Nicolò Sartori is a senior research fellow at the Institute of International Affairs (IAI) and department head of its energy program. His research focuses on the external dimension of Italy’s and the European Union (EU)’s energy policies, the emerging role of Turkey as a regional energy player, the geopolitical implications of the Southern Gas Corridor, and the governance of energy policies in the EU framework. He is editor of the column “Centers of Gravity” in the international review *Oil Magazine*, and professional fellow at the World Energy Council, Italy. In the past, Sartori worked in the research division at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Defense College in Rome, where he carried out research on the role of the North Atlantic Alliance as an energy cooperation broker in the Caspian region. He holds a BA in international and diplomatic studies from the Roberto Ruffilli College and an MA in international relations from the University of Bologna.

Dorothee Schmid

Dorothee Schmid heads the Middle East and Turkey program at the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI). Prior to her academic work, Schmid served as a country risk analyst for Bank Crédit Agricole Indosuez and as a Euromed attaché for Cités Unies France. She has carried out various consulting missions for public institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and private companies. Since joining IFRI in 2002, Schmid has produced extensive analysis on European Union and French policies in the region, induced democratization, political economy, and regional balance of powers. She started the contemporary Turkey program in 2008 to follow the rise of Turkish ambitions in the Middle East and the transformations of the Turkish regime under Islamist rule. Schmid has authored numerous articles focused on Turkey and the Middle East. Her latest

publications include “Persistence and Evolutions of the Rentier State Model in Gulf Countries” (with Anaïs Özyavuz) and “Les Kurdes face à leur destin” in *Moyen-Orient*. She edited *La Turquie au Moyen-Orient: le retour d'une puissance régionale?* in 2011 and is partnering with the Arab World Institute to edit a book on the new Kurdish dynamics. Schmid regularly appears in the French and international media through op-eds and participation in radio and television programs. She graduated from Sciences Po and holds a PhD in political science from Paris 2 University.

Gilead Sher

Gilead Sher heads the Center for Applied Negotiations at the Tel Aviv University's Institute for National Security Studies. He is also the founder and senior partner at Gilead Sher, Kadari & Company law offices. Sher served as Israel's chief and co-chief negotiator at the 2000 Camp David summit and the 2001 Taba talks, respectively, and was chief of staff and policy coordinator for former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak. His professional career combines the practice of law, policy planning and implementation, academic research, and involvement in civil society organizations. He publishes extensively in national and international media. Sher, an Israel Defense Forces colonel (reserve) who served as an armored corps brigade commander, was a guest lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School (2001–2011) and taught at Tel Aviv University's conflict resolution and mediation graduate program. His book *The Israeli-Palestinian Peace Negotiations, 1999–2001: Within Reach* was published by Routledge in 2006.

Elizabeth Sidiropoulos

Elizabeth Sidiropoulos is the chief executive of the South African Institute of International Affairs, an independent foreign policy think tank based in Johannesburg. She is a member of the international advisory board of the *Indian Foreign Affairs Journal*, the *Chinese Quarterly of International Strategic Studies* of the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies, and the journal of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. She is also the editor in chief of the *South African Journal of International Affairs*. A member of the World Economic Forum, Sidiropoulos serves on the Global Agenda Council on the Future of Regional Organizations and the Think Tank Leaders Forum. Her most recent works include the coedited volumes *Development Cooperation and Emerging Powers: New Partners or Old Patterns?* and *Institutional Architecture and Development: Responses from Emerging Powers*. Sidiropoulos holds an MA in international relations (cum laude) from the University of the Witwatersrand.

Johannes Thimm

Johannes Thimm is currently the head of the Americas research division at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP). He has published widely on issues of U.S. foreign policy, transatlantic relations, and global governance, and is a frequent contributor to German and international media. Prior to joining SWP, he worked briefly at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Thimm studied political science and international relations at the Free University of Berlin, University of Washington, and Yale University. He received his PhD from the Free University of Berlin.

Eka Tkeshelashvili

Eka Tkeshelashvili is the president of the Georgian Institute for Strategic Studies. She has held numerous positions in the Georgian government, including vice prime minister, state minister for reintegration, national security advisor to the president, secretary of the National Security Council, and minister of foreign affairs. Earlier in her career, Tkeshelashvili also worked as the prosecutor general, minister of justice, and chairperson of the Tbilisi Appeals Court. She also served as the deputy minister of internal affairs and deputy minister of justice. Before joining the government, she was deputy chief of party at IRIS Georgia and led programs on rule of law, legal aid, and human rights. Tkeshelashvili also taught public international law and accountability for human rights atrocities at various Georgian universities. She holds a master's degree in international human rights law from

Notre Dame Law School, a certificate in human rights lawyering and human rights advocacy from Oxford University, and a diploma in law from Tbilisi State University.

Ali Vaez

Ali Vaez is a senior analyst at the International Crisis Group (ICG). Consulting closely with all sides in the nuclear negotiations for the past few years, Vaez has led ICG's efforts in helping to bridge the gaps between Iran and the P5+1 (the five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany). Before joining ICG, he headed the Iran project at the Federation of American Scientists in Washington, DC, focusing on Iran's nuclear and missile programs. Vaez is a trained scientist and has more than a decade of experience in journalism. He has written widely on Iranian affairs and is a regular contributor to mainstream media outlets. Vaez received a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and a doctor of philosophy from the University of Geneva. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University from 2008 to 2010.

Yaşar Yakış

Yaşar Yakış is currently the president of the Centre for Strategic Communication, a nongovernmental organization aimed at facilitating Turkey's strategic communications. Upon joining the diplomatic services in 1962, he served at the consulate general in Antwerp, the embassy in Lagos, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Defense College in Rome, and the embassy in Damascus. Yakış was then appointed ambassador to Riyadh (1988), deputy undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1992), ambassador to Cairo (1995), and permanent representative to the United Nations office in Vienna (1988). In 2001, Yakış became a founding member and deputy chairman of the Justice and Development Party. He was minister of foreign affairs of the fifty-eighth Turkish government (2002–2003) and served as a member of parliament until June 2011. He participated in the European convention to draft the European constitution. He served as the chairman of the parliamentary European Union (EU) committee, co-chairman of the Turkey-EU joint parliamentary commission (2003–2011), and chairman of the parliamentary French caucus (2007–2011). Yakış is also a member of the Turkish-Greek Forum, board member of the Global Relations Forum, and co-chairman of the Turkish-British "Tatlıdil" Forum. He is bestowed on the Decoration of the King Abdulaziz (first degree), Legion d'Honneur (Officier), and L'Ordine della Stella della Solidarietà Italiana (Commandatore). Yakış obtained his BA from Ankara University Faculty of Political Sciences.

Igor Yurgens

Igor Yurgens is chairman of the management board of the Institute of Contemporary Development (INSOR) and president of both the All-Russian Insurance Association and the Russian Association of Motor Insurers. He is a member of the management boards of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, Presidential Council for Civil Society Institutions and Human Rights, academic council of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, presidium of the Council on Foreign and Defense Policy, and Russian Council on International Affairs. Yurgens is also honorary consul general of Monaco in Moscow. He is a professor at the National Research University Higher School of Economics and has authored numerous articles and monographs. Yurgens graduated from the economics department of Moscow State University, where he also obtained a PhD in economics.