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SOFIA SECURITY FORUM
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International conference

"WINNING THE PEACE IN UKRAINE"

October 20, 2023

Central Military Club, Sofia, Bulgaria / Livestream via ZOOM

Languages: Bulgarian-English (simultaneous translation)

The Russian military aggression against Ukraine is the biggest threat to the regional and global peace. It destroyed the security architecture that was the guarantor of the peace and prosperity of the European continent. The continued aggression, the unceasing destruction of civilian infrastructure and the death of the civilian population, the deportation of people including children, the undermining of the global energy and food security make the prospects for peace even more blurred.

What are the prospects for peace in Ukraine, how to achieve security in the Black Sea region, what is the role of NATO and the EU, what is the future of the European security architecture and others will be the main questions that will be discussed during the conference.

8.30 – 9.00 – Registration

9.00 – 9.30 – “Addressing complex security challenges in the Black Sea region and beyond. The Bulgarian perspective” – conversation with the Minister of Defense of Bulgaria Todor Tagarev – (confirmed)

Moderator: Yordan Bozhilov, President of the Sofia Security Forum

9.30 – 10.00 – “NATO’s Response to the War in Ukraine” – Panel discussion with Julianne Smith - US Ambassador to NATO (confirmed)

Moderator: Dragomir Zakov, National security and defense adviser to the Prime Minister, Former Minister of Defense of Bulgaria (confirmed)



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10.00 – 10.30 – “Ukraine’s Peace Formula” – Conversation with Ihor Zhovkva, Deputy Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine (VTC) (confirmed)

10.30 – 11.15 – Opening of the Exhibition “Solidarity with Ukraine! The horror of war against Ukraine in pictures and child drawings”, Mila Serafimova, Manager of the Program “Media and Communications”, Sofia Security Forum

Coffee-break

11.15 – 13.00 - “Restoring the peace and security in Europe. The future of the European Security Architecture”

Panelists:

Gergana Karadjova, Director-General, Directorate General for Political Affairs, MFA, Bulgaria (confirmed)

Alexandra von Nahmen, Brussels Bureau Chief, Deutsche Welle (confirmed)

Ognyan Minchev, Chairman of the Managing Board of The Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS); Department of Political Sciences, Sofia University (confirmed)

Vessela Tcherneva, Vice-President and Head of Sofia Office, ECFR (confirmed)

13.00 – Lunch