



“Every Midweek Brainstorming Session is like a chamber concert – no one is simply casually present. Discussing a problem or an expert report debated by a small number of highly qualified professionals makes it possible to learn new things and, more significantly, to discuss the nature of the problem honestly, regardless of the personalities involved.”

Pavel Luzin, postgraduate student, Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russian Academy of Sciences, PIR Center Alumnus

“It was useful, several new ideas came to me” – such feedback is the main criterion of success for the organizers of the Midweek Brainstorming sessions.

Every other week, usually on Wednesdays, the PIR Center hosts a mixed gathering of professionals, including researchers, Foreign Ministry and military diplomats, analysts, engineers, and journalists, both leading experts and rising specialists.

Should the internet be governed? The future of China’s nuclear policy – is Beijing willing to consider reducing its arsenal, or are they building it? Why did Uzbekistan withdraw from the Collective Security Treaty Organization? What exactly is being studied by hundreds of students from Myanmar at nuclear universities? What would a cyber-war entail, and how would we avoid it? How should Russian and US foreign policy change after the elections? These and many other fascinating questions have been discussed during Midweek Brainstorming sessions over the past year.

Midweek Brainstorming:

- Presentations of research papers at PIR Center – both new projects by experienced professionals and first projects by young scholars;
- Free exchange of opinions and thoughts on key international security issues;
- Meetings with colleagues and new, interesting people.

Twice a month on Wednesdays at 4 pm

For information about the upcoming Midweek Brainstorming sessions, please call +7 (495) 987 19 15

The Midweek Brainstorming sessions

are held in two formats. One is where an experienced expert takes the center stage; the other is where young researchers defend their theses and thereby begin their professional career. As a rule, the topic chosen for such theses is something new, with no experienced experts available for that narrow subject. The event is always attended by professionals who can give valuable advice on what to change, what to add or remove from the thesis, and how to polish it.

The defense of a thesis turns into an insightful debate between real professionals, which especially impresses the young researchers. If the outcome is positive, the young trainee’s piece of research can be recommended for publication. And after such a discussion, an article even by a beginner can take its rightful place among works by well-known professionals. Tea and snacks are offered during the two-hour sessions.

To learn more about our Midweek Brainstorming sessions please visit:
midweek.eng.pircenter.org

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