

**U.S.-Russia Strategic Dialogue
Reducing Nuclear Risks During Great Power Competition
Fall-Winter 2020
Virtual Sessions**

Agenda

*Times below is MSK (GMT+3)

Thursday, November 12, 2020

16:00-16:20 Welcome, overview, and introductions:

- **Ms. Heather A. Conley**, Senior Vice President for Europe, Eurasia, and the Arctic; and Director, Europe, Russia, and Eurasia Program
- **Dr. Vladimir A. Orlov**, Director, PIR Center; President, Trialogue Club International; Professor, MGIMO University

16:20-17:20 **SESSION I: U.S.-Russia Arms Control Stocktaking Post-U.S. Election: Where We Are and Where We Are Going?**

This session will present the current state of play on U.S.-Russia strategic stability talks from both an American and Russian perspective. Discussants will describe what elements of the talks they believe are gaining positive traction and what elements may be becoming more intractable. What are the variants for a new bilateral arms control treaty? This session will tease out differences, acknowledge convergences and assess new areas that must be factored into future bilateral discussions.

- **U.S. Discussants:**
 - **Mr. Tim Morrison**, Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute (*Confirmed*)
 - **Ms. Lynn Rusten**, Vice President, Global Nuclear Policy Program (*Confirmed*)
- **Russian Discussants:**
 - **Gen. Evgeny Buzhinskiy***, Chairman, PIR Center Executive Board (*confirmed*);

- **Mr. Andrey Baklitskiy**, Senior Research Fellow, Center for Euro-Atlantic Studies, Institute for International Studies, MGIMO-University; Consultant, PIR Center (*confirmed*);
- **Moderated by Dr. Vladimir A. Orlov**, Director, PIR Center; President, Trialogue Club International; Professor, MGIMO University

- 17:20-18:05 Smaller group discussion breakout
- 18:05-18:15 Break
- 18:15-18:45 Groups reconvene and recap discussion
- 18:45-19:00 Conclusions
- 19:00-19:30 Virtual networking space

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

- 16:00-16:20 Welcome and overview of the previous week
 - **Dr. Vladimir A. Orlov**, Director, PIR Center; President, Trialogue Club International; Professor, MGIMO University
 - **Ms. Heather A. Conley**, Senior Vice President for Europe, Eurasia, and the Arctic; and Director, Europe, Russia, and Eurasia Program

16:20-17:20 **SESSION II: Broadening the Scope of Arms Control: New Strategic Systems, “Non-Strategic” Arsenals, Conventional Long-Range Precision Strike, Hypersonic Missiles, Missile Defense and Space Capabilities**

This session will examine how to develop a negotiating framework to incorporate ballistic missile defenses, new weapons systems, non-strategic or tactical nuclear weapons as well as space-based weaponry into future arms control discussions. Rather than focusing on new treaty negotiations, could non-treaty instruments be explored. What will be the impact of further proliferation of emerging weapon systems? How to address those aspects of the security environment that led to the emergence or warrant the preservation of the emerging weapons systems?

- **U.S. Discussants:**
 - **Dr. Anya Fink***, Research Analyst, Center for Naval Analysis (*Confirmed*)
 - **Mr. Elbridge Colby**, Principal, The Marathon Initiative (*Confirmed*)
- **Russian Discussants:**
 - **Mr. Dmitry Stefanovich***, Research Fellow, Center for International Security, Primakov Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences (*tentatively confirmed*);
 - **Dr. Andrey Malov**, Member of PIR Center Advisory Board (*confirmed*);
- **Moderated by Gen. Evgeny Buzhinskiy***, Chairman, PIR Center Executive Board (*confirmed*);

- 17:20-18:05 Smaller group discussion breakout
- 18:05-18:15 Break
- 18:15-18:45 Groups reconvene and recap discussion
- 18:45-19:00 Conclusions
- 19:00-19:30 Virtual networking space

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

- 16:00-16:20 Welcome and overview of the previous week
 - **Ms. Heather A. Conley**, Senior Vice President for Europe, Eurasia, and the Arctic; and Director, Europe, Russia, and Eurasia Program
 - **Dr. Vladimir A. Orlov**, Director, PIR Center; President, Trialogue Club International; Professor, MGIMO University
- 16:20-17:20 **SESSION III: Strategic Stability, Nuclear Doctrines and Nuclear Risk Reduction**

This session will cover nuclear escalation hotspots in the U.S.-Russia relations and if the Cold War-era concept of strategic stability still applicable to the realities of today. How can misperceptions about the two countries nuclear doctrines be dispelled? What practical measures in nuclear risk reduction are desirable and what are the obstacles to achieving them? Given uncertainty about extending New START, what means and methods can promote stability and reduce risk between U.S. and Russia. What types of alternative transparency measures (e.g. space-based reconnaissance) and confidence building measures could be acceptable to either side? What other types of information should be included as part of the agreement's notifications (e.g. regarding exercises) and/or what other information or measures should be included to promote transparency? Finally, absent arms control, do we expect changes to doctrine, force postures, plans and programs? If so, what types of changes, and how might this impact strategic stability?

- **U.S. Discussants:**
 - **Dr. Heather Williams**, Defense Studies Department and Centre for Science and Security Studies (CSSS), King's College London (*Confirmed*)
 - **Mr. Frank C. Miller**, Principal, The Scowcroft Group (*confirmed*)
- **Russian Discussants:**
 - **Dr. Vyacheslav Nikonov**, Chairman, Committee on Education, State Duma, Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (*confirmed*);
 - **Dr. Dmitriy Trenin***, Director, Carnegie Moscow Center (*confirmed*);
- **Moderated by Rebecca Hersman**, Director, Project on Nuclear Issues, CSIS (*Confirmed*).

- 17:20-18:05 Smaller group discussion breakout
- 18:05-18:15 Break
- 18:15-18:45 Groups reconvene and recap discussion
- 18:45-19:00 Conclusions
- 19:00-19:30 Virtual networking space

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

16:00-16:15 Welcome and overview of the previous week

- **Dr. Vladimir A. Orlov**, Director, PIR Center; President, Trialogue Club International; Professor, MGIMO University
- **Ms. Heather A. Conley**, Senior Vice President for Europe, Eurasia, and the Arctic; and Director, Europe, Russia, and Eurasia Program

16:15-17:15 **SESSION IV: Future Arms Control Architecture: How to Go Multilateral? What Does it Look Like and How Does the Russian-US Relationship Shape It?**

How to involve China, the United Kingdom, and France in the arms control process? What tools can be used, such as cooperative risk reduction, on-site inspections, nuclear risk reduction centers, and non-treaty arrangements to construct new arms control scaffolding? What role can the P5 play in this process? How can the January NPT Review Conference be used to begin to reconstruct this architecture?

- **Keynote speaker:**
 - **Hon. Sergey Ryabkov**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (*TBC*);
- **U.S. Discussants:**
 - **Mr. Tom Countryman***, Chair of the Board, Arms Control Association; Former US Acting Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security (*Confirmed*)
 - **Ms. Rebecca Heinrichs**, Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute (*TBC*)
- **Russian Discussants:**
 - **Dr. Alexey Arbatov**, Head, Center for International Security, Primakov Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences (*confirmed*);
 - **Dr. Vladimir A. Orlov**, Director, PIR Center; President, Trialogue Club International; Professor, MGIMO University (*confirmed*);
- **Moderator: Ambassador Laura Kennedy**, former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Conference on Disarmament (*Confirmed*)

- 17:15-18:00 Smaller group discussion breakout
- 18:00-18:30 Groups reconvene and recap discussion
- 18:30-18:45 Break
- 18:45-19:15 **Session V: Participant Round-Up**

This final session will allow each participant a short 3-minute intervention about what struck them as the most important issue was raised and the most promising element to pursue.

- 19:15-19:30 Wrap up

- **Dr. Vladimir Orlov**, Director, PIR Center; President, Trialogue Club International; Professor, MGIMO University
- **Heather A. Conley**, Senior Vice President for Europe, Eurasia, and the Arctic; and Director, Europe Program