
Safeguarding Europe

How to defeat and deter Russia?

Tuesday 10 December 2024

10:00 – 11:00 **Registration and coffee**

11:00 – 11:15 **Opening remarks**

Keynote speaker – to be confirmed

Chair: James Nixey, Director, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

11:15 – 12:45 **Session 1: Russia's intentions towards Europe**

- What is Russia's declared *and actual* policy towards Europe (and the EU and NATO)? How much of a priority is Europe for Russia?
- What will Russia do to achieve these goals? What is it capable of?
- Russia's proposals for European security architecture – why are they empty? (and why are they seductive to some?)
- What are the dangers of concession to Russia's narrative? Where (or who) are Europe's weak points?
- Is this an ideological confrontation?
- What kind of Russia are we likely to face in the next decade?

Speakers:

Duncan Allan, Associate Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

Sergei Medvedev, author of 'A War Made in Russia' and 'The Return of the Russian Leviathan'

John Foreman, retired diplomat, former UK Defence Attaché in Moscow and Kyiv

Hanna Hopko, Chairwoman, ANTS; former Head of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Verkhovna Rada

Chair: James Nixey, Director, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

12:45 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:30 **Breakout sessions**

Breakout session 1: Defence & security

- What deters Russia? What have we learnt from Russia's war on Ukraine?
- The state of Europe's defence industry; how can Europe/the EU/NATO deter and defend itself?
- What security arrangements should be offered to Ukraine to boost its own and Europe's security?
- How fast is Russia rebuilding its military and in what areas? What do European countries need to do to prepare for a possible direct confrontation?
- Cyber and information warfare – what should we expect from Russia and how much damage can it do? What is the best defence?

Speakers:

Oleksandr Lytvynenko, Head, Ukraine's National Security Council (tbc)

Keir Giles, Senior Consulting Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Programme

Roderich Kiesewetter, Member of the Bundestag (tbc)

Céline Marangé, Senior Research Fellow (Russia and Ukraine), IRSEM

General Sir James Everard, former NATO Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe

Chair: Natalie Sabanadze, Senior Research Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

Breakout session 2: Geopolitical tools

- EU enlargement (and how the EU needs to prepare for it) – how to update the process to reflect the EU's and the candidate states' needs? How can the European Union integrate new members faster (Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia)?
- What 'coalitions of the willing' could be shaped to boost regional cooperation? In which geostrategic direction (Black Sea, Eastern Europe, South Caucasus)?
- What can be done to boost the resilience of the EU candidate states?
- What other institutions can help deter Russia? And what institutions should we give up on in this respect?
- How effective are sanctions and other economic tools as a shield against Russian interference? Are we able to limit Russia's illicit finance flows inside the European countries as a means to influence politics?

Speakers:

Kataryna Wolczuk, Associate Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

Iulian Groza, Executive Director, Institute for European Policies and Reforms (IPRE)

Chair: John Lough, Associate Fellow, Russia-Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee break**

16:00– 17:30 **Session 2: Europe's strategy towards Russia**

- How resilient is Europe to the challenge posed by Russia?
- Why is Russia the single greatest threat to Europe?
- Can Europe cope with less US commitment?
- Economic warfare: how can sanctions be more impactful?
- Why is there still no overall strategy or policy goal for Russia? What will it take?
- Are the current approaches (NATO Strategic Concept, EU's Strategic Compass) a sufficient answer to the Russia challenge? Are we moving in the right direction and fast enough?

Speakers:

Maria Domanska, Senior Fellow, Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW)

More speakers to be confirmed soon

Chair: Armida van Rij, Senior Research Fellow, Chatham House

17:30 – 17:40 **Closing remarks and next steps**

17:40 – 19:30 **Reception**

