Challenges for the U.S. and NATO in Promoting Middle East Stability and Security

Wednesday, April 30, 2014
St. Mary’s College of Maryland, St. Mary’s City, MD

Agenda

8:15 AM - 8:45 AM
Check-in & Continental Breakfast, Campus Center

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM
Welcome, Cole Cinema, Campus Center
Dr. Michael Cain, Director, Center for the Study of Democracy
Ms. Bonnie Green, Executive Director, The Patuxent Partnership

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Opening Remarks
Colonel Troy Thomas, USAF, Director for Strategic Planning, National Security Council

9:30 AM - Noon (Coffee Break at 10:30 AM)

Panel I: Understanding Regional History to Improve Security in the Middle East

The Origins of America’s Involvement in the Gulf: Reluctant Replacements for Pax Britannica
Captain Jeffrey R. Macris, Ph.D., Permanent Military Professor, Associate Professor of History, U.S. Naval Academy

Does a Light Footprint Matter? The U.S. Navy and Bahrain
Geoffrey F. Gresh, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of International Security Studies, National Defense University

Building the Regional Security Architecture in the Middle East
Ms. Egle Murauskaite, Research Associate, James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies

Noon - 1:15 PM
Lunch, Great Room, Campus Center
1:15 PM - 3:15 PM

Panel II: The Intersection of U.S. Foreign Policies with Middle East Politics

Ensuring ‘Stability and Security’ During the Arab Awakenings
Heidi Lane, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Strategy and Policy Department Director, Greater Middle East Regional Study Group, United States Naval War College

Tailoring, Not Teetering: The Challenges and Opportunities for U.S. Policy in the Arabian Gulf
Lawrence P. Rubin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, Georgia Institute of Technology

“It’s Not You, It’s Me”: America’s Military Separation from the Middle East
Ionut C. Popescu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Robertson School of Government, Regent University

3:15 PM - Break

3:30PM - 4:45PM


Whither America’s Direction: The Folly of Attempting to Develop U.S. Middle East Military Strategy
Tomislav Z. Ruby, Ph.D., President/CEO, Bluegrass Critical Thinking Solutions

Beyond Istanbul: NATO’s Relationships In the Middle East Beyond 2014
Mark R. Jacobson, Ph.D., Senior Transatlantic Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States

5:00PM

Reception and Dinner
State House, Historic St. Mary’s City
Keynote Speaker: Admiral Steve Abbot, USN (ret), President and CEO, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

As of April 24, 2014