

The University Consortium Fourth Annual Conference

“Rethinking Dividing Lines”

27-28 September 2019, MGIMO, Moscow

Day 1 – Friday, 27 September 2019

- 08:30-08:45 *Buses arrive for the hotel guests. 08:45 buses depart for MGIMO*
- 10:00-10:30 **Opening Remarks** (Room 423)
Speakers – Anatoly Torkunov, Julie Newton, Andrey Sushentsov
- 10:30-12:00 **Keynote Dialogue: “Rethinking Dividing Lines”** (Room 423)
Chair – Andrey Sushentsov; Speakers – Rastislav Káčer, Andrey Kelin, Charles Kupchan
- 12:00-13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00-15:15 **Analytical Panels: “Rethinking Concepts and Approaches”** (Room 423)
Panel 1: Analysing competing views on evolution of international (dis)order
Moderator – Alexander Nikitin; Speakers – Stephen Sestanovich, Ivan Timofeev
- 14:00-14:15 *Break*
- Panel 2: Rethinking dividing lines in Europe and Eurasia and regional security:
Moderator – Vladimir Baranovsky; Speakers – David Cadier, Sergej Utkin
- 15:15-15:45 *Coffee Break*
- 15:45-17:45 **Roundtable 1: “Rethinking Strategic Stability”** (Room 423)
Moderators – Robert Legvold, Sergei Ryabkov; Members – Alexei Arbatov, Angela Kane, Dmitry Suslov
- 17:45-18:00 *Break*
- 18:00-18:45 **Reflections of the day led by Dmitri Trenin** (Room 423)
Chair – Robert Legvold
- 19:15 *Buses depart from MGIMO with all conference guests to drop off at restaurant for dinner*
- 20:15 *Dinner at **Cantinetta Antinori** (Denezhnyy Pereulok, 20, Moskva, Russia, 119002)*

Day 2 – Saturday, 28 September 2019

- 08:30-08:45** *Buses arrive for the hotel guests. 08:45 buses depart for MGIMO*
- 10:00-12:00** **Roundtable 2: “Shifting Configurations”** (Room 423)
Moderator – Fyodor Lukyanov; Members – Michael Kofman, Rajan Menon, Adam Thomson, Mikhail Troitskiy, Vygaudas Ušackas
- 12:00-13:00** *Lunch*
- 13:00-14:30** **Working Groups**
- 1A) The Ukrainian Security Dilemma in an International Context: Comparing approaches and ways forward (Room 423)
Chair – Igor Istomin
Rapporteur – Juliette Faure
- 1B) The Ukrainian Security Dilemma in an International Context: Comparing approaches and ways forward (Room 442)
Chair – Olga Oliker
Rapporteur – Chris Jolliffe
- 2A) Security Architecture in Europe: (Re)thinking approaches, design and construction (Room 443)
Chair – Jeffrey Mankoff
Rapporteur – Inal Tugov
- 2B) Security Architecture in Europe: (Re)thinking approaches, design and construction (Room 216)
Chair – Andrei Zagorski
Rapporteur – Katherine Kirk
- 14:30-15:00** *Coffee Break*
- 15:00-17:00** **The Working Groups Report: Diagnostic Analysis and *Chto Delat’* Prescriptions** (Room 423)
Chair – Julie Newton; Speakers – WG Chairs and Rapporteurs
- 17:00-17:30** *Coffee Break*
- 17:30-19:00** **Reflections 2: “Strategic Visions”** (Room 423)
Chair – Thomas Graham
- 19:30** *Buses depart from MGIMO with all conference guests to drop off at restaurant for dinner*
- 20:30-22:30** *Dinner at **Café Pushkin** (Toerskovy Blod, 26A, Moskva, Russia, 125009)*
- 22:45** *Buses depart from Café Pushkin to bring all hotel guests back to the hotel*

CONFERENCE WALKTHROUGH

Overall Objective

The University's Consortium's mission is to foster better mutual understanding among Russians, Americans, and Europeans through inter-regional dialogue and engagement. The UC seeks to do this by bringing together on a continuing basis graduate students, senior scholars and practitioners from all three regions. Our annual conferences are our largest and most ambitious attempts to fulfil that mission. The conference programme is designed to ensure that each event contributes to a progressive exploration of the ways key concepts and issues are understood in each region. The analytical panel and roundtable discussions will inspire and inform working-group discussions, which will seek to bring out commonalities and differences in regional understandings and explore how these can best inform policy-relevant prescriptions.

In order to help us all succeed in this ambitious undertaking, we have prepared a walkthrough of conference events to guide you through the programme and enhance your situational awareness. This includes a chronological list of events with a brief description of each event's objectives.

Conference Sessions

27 September: Day 1

Keynote Dialogue: "Rethinking Dividing Lines"

This is a trilateral discussion among three former or current officials from the US, EU and Russia. This keynote dialogue is concerned with broad questions. How, or to what extent, have the core divisions between Russia and Western countries evolved over the last few years, or months? Where exactly are the lines of division across the Euro-Atlantic-Eurasian area? How do different regional narratives frame the underlying sources of those divisions? Why do these divisions persist? And how, or to what extent, can we overcome these dividing lines?

Analytical Panels

This panel is the most analytically rigorous session of the conference. Four speakers and a chair will define, analyse or challenge key approaches and concepts related to the conference's overall theme, "rethinking dividing lines between Russia and Western countries". The panel is divided into two topics, each of which will be addressed by a Russian and a non-Russian speaker.

Panel topics:

- Panel 1: Analysing competing views on evolution of international (dis)order: Shifting understandings of polarity, balance of power, spheres of influence, sovereignty, national security, globalization, multilateralism, transnationalism, fusion of domestic and foreign policies
- Panel 2: Rethinking dividing lines in Europe and Eurasia and regional security: Mainstream and alternative thinking about the regional order in Europe and Eurasia, including the lands in-between; approaches to institutions and security architecture; divergence and convergence between models of integration/values/interests



Roundtables 1 & 2

Roundtables tackle more specific topics of strategic importance. The roundtable format encourages a conversation among senior experts from all three regions. The chair delivers an opening presentation followed by a discussion with other members of the roundtable. Later, the discussion is opened to the audience for questions and comments. Roundtable 1 will focus on issues of strategic (in)stability. Roundtable 2 will focus on changing configurations of the international order among and within our three regions.

Roundtable topics:

- Roundtable 1: “Rethinking Strategic Stability”: What can constitute strategic stability in a nuclear world no longer shaped by just the US and Russia but now by nine nuclear-weapons possessing states, including China, India, and Pakistan as well? What is happening to the traditional notion of strategic stability *qua* crisis stability as MAD/secure second strike? Is it still relevant? Given that certain assessments that the danger of nuclear war is greater today than at “any time in the post-World War II period,” how do you assess the challenges and dangers of a new multipolar nuclear world?
- Roundtable 2: “Shifting Configurations”: (De)Constructing Russia/EAEU - EU relations; (De)Constructing Russia-NATO relations; (De)Constructing Trans-Atlantic alliance and European strategic autonomy

Reflections 1

Dmitry Trenin will reflect on discussions from the first day, in order to highlight insights, lessons and/or surprises, advance the conversation, and inspire the next day’s sessions.

28 September: Day 2

Working Groups & *Chto Delat'*

Two sets of parallel Working Groups, each consisting of senior scholars, experts, advanced students, and former officials, are led by a chair and a UC Fellow “rapporteur” and will discuss sets of questions devised in advance in collaboration with the chairs and rapporteurs.

- Working Groups 1 A & B: The Ukrainian Security Dilemma in an International Context: Comparing approaches and ways forward
- Working Groups 2 A & B: Security Architecture in Europe: (Re)thinking approaches, design and construction

Working Groups represent the arena where analytical diagnoses will be actively discussed and debated, and relevant policy prescriptions can be put forward. All Working Groups will be given a set of questions for discussion, moderated by the chair who will rigorously (given the time constraints) manage and drive conversation among participants. The WG chair will also work in close cooperation with a designated UC Fellow, who will serve as “rapporteur” for the WG. The “rapporteur” will take minutes of the session, distil the group’s discussions into answers to the question-sets, which can then be presented to the conference plenum.

In the next *Chto Delat'* session, the chair and rapporteur will both present the final statement and policy recommendations to the other three WGs, where overlapping and competing ideas can be identified and refined.

Strategic Visions

This session is a reflective inter-generational conversation between the younger UC Fellows and older generations of scholars, experts and former officials about their impressions of conference proceedings and about their visions of a common future for our countries and regions.

Conference Goals

The conference goal is to foster stimulating, rich and constructive conversation among scholars, practitioners and also students that can yield not only policy-relevant recommendations but also fresh ideas for publishable analysis and/or a series of analyses based on the Working Group sessions.

Our post-conference analyses should highlight areas of agreement and disagreement in areas discussed in our Working Groups and try to identify the reasons for both. We will seek to weigh new, alternative ideas for where and how to begin setting relations on a better track, and we aim to identify longer term strategies for a more constructive evolution of relations.