

## Eastern Partnership and Its Prospects: What Can the EU Offer to the Eastern Neighbors?



**Péter BALÁZS** is Director of the Center for EU Enlargement Studies which he established in 2005. Research activities of Prof. Balázs are centered on the foreign policy of the EU and problems of the late modernization and European integration of the Eastern part of the continent. He also analyzes the questions of European governance including the future of European institutions. Péter Balázs graduated in Budapest at the Faculty of Economics of the “Karl Marx” University (later: Budapest School of Economics, today Corvinus University). He got his PhD degree and habilitated at the same University. He is a ScD of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In parallel with his government and diplomatic career, he has been teaching and doing research. He was nominated Professor of the Corvinus University in 2000 and joined the Central European University as a full time Professor in 2005. He is regularly teaching at various Hungarian and foreign

universities, lecturing in English, French, German and Hungarian.

After the regime change in 1990, Prof. Balázs joined the Government of Hungary several times. He was State Secretary for Industry and Trade (1992-1993) and State Secretary for European Integration (2002-2003). He was Ambassador of Hungary in Denmark (1994-1996), Germany (1997-2000) and to the EU in Brussels (2003-2004). He was also the Government Representative of Hungary in the European Convention drafting the Constitutional Treaty, which became later, after several modifications, the Lisbon Treaty. In 2004, he was nominated the first Hungarian member of the European Commission responsible for regional policy. In 2009-2010, he was Foreign Minister of Hungary.

**Victor CHIRILA** is Executive Director of the Foreign Policy Association. He is an experienced expert on Moldovan politics, European integration and foreign policy issues. He holds Master of Science in European Public Policy awarded by the Edinburgh University, United Kingdom. Between 1996 and 2006, Mr. Chirila worked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova. During this period, he held different positions including Deputy Director of the European Integration Department, Chief of Staff of the Foreign Minister, Political Counselor at the Moldovan Embassy in the United States of America, Deputy Director of the Europe and North America Department and the International Economic



Relations Department. He has written many analyses, commentaries and studies on European integration, Moldovan foreign policy and the Transnistrian settlement, which can be found on the Foreign Policy Association website - [www.ape.md](http://www.ape.md).



**Ivane CHKHIKVADZE** works for the Open Society Georgia Foundation. In the capacity of Civil Society Program Coordinator, Mr. Chkhikvadze deals with the issues related to Georgia's European integration; peace initiative and regional (Black Sea and South Caucasus) integration and ethnical minorities and marginalized groups.

In 2005-2006 he studied at the College of Europe (Warsaw, Poland) and obtained Master's Degree in European Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies. Before joining the Foundation, Ivane worked for the International Organization for Migration Mission to Georgia in 2010-2012; European Stability Initiative in 2009-2010; Eurasia Partnership Foundation in 2007-2009 and at the Office of the State Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration in 2006-2007. He is a visiting lecture of the EU Foreign Policy at the Caucasus University.

**Lolita ČIGĀNE** is a member of the Saeima, the Latvian Parliament, since 2010. She was appointed to her current duties as the Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee in 2014, after being elected to the Saeima for her third term. From 2005 to 2010 she worked as a political analyst, a deputy head of mission and a campaign finance expert in about 15 election observation missions of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR): in Armenia, Croatia, Kyrgyzstan, the USA, Bulgaria, FYROM, Hungary, Slovakia and others.

Ms. Čigāne has a vast experience in the NGO sector – for six years she worked as a public policy analyst and project director at the Soros Foundation Latvia and Center for Public Policy Providus. In 2008-2010 she was the head of the board at the Transparency International Latvia. Ms. Čigāne holds Master's degrees in Political Economy and International Relations and European Affairs from the London School of Economics and the Central European University in Budapest.





**Jan Niklas ENGELS** is the director of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung office in Budapest, Hungary, since August 2013. He holds a Master degree in politics and public administration. He studied at the University of Konstanz (Germany) and at the University of Limerick (Ireland) and specialized in International Relations. In 2000-01, he took part in the Postgraduate Training Program of the German Development Institute in Bonn. Since 2001 he works for the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES). He was FES Resident Representative in Bénin and responsible for the West African Regional Project of FES on trade policies and FES activities in Togo, Burkina Faso and Niger. From 2008 to 2013, he was in charge of the “International Monitor of Social Democracy” conducted by the International Policy Analysis Unit of the FES headquarter in Berlin.

**Richard GIRAGOSIAN** is the Founding Director of the Regional Studies Center (RSC), an independent “think tank” located in Yerevan, Armenia ([www.regional-studies.org](http://www.regional-studies.org)) and serves as both a Visiting Professor and Senior Expert at Yerevan State University’s Centre for European Studies (CES). He has served as a guest lecturer for the U.S. Army Special Forces and, for nine years, was a Professional Staff Member of the Joint Economic Committee (JEC) of the U.S. Congress.



**Grzegorz GROMADZKI** is Senior Expert at the Stefan Batory Foundation based in Warsaw. He worked previously as a journalist for Gazeta Wyborcza – a Polish daily newspaper, and as a senior expert at the Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW). He is the author of more than 100 reports, policy papers and articles on Eastern Europe and its relations with the EU. Most recently, he wrote a report “The Eastern Partnership after Five Years: Time for Deep Rethinking.”



**Miklós HARASZTI** is Director of Research on Human Rights at the Center for EU Enlargement Studies of the Central European University. He is UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human right in Belarus. He is a Hungarian author, professor, and human rights promoter. His books, including “A Worker in a Worker’s State” and “The Velvet Prison,” have been translated into many languages. He was a founder of Hungary’s democracy and free press movement in the 1970s. In 1989, he participated in the “Roundtable Negotiations” on the transition to free elections. As a member of Hungary’s parliament in the 1990s, he authored the country’s first laws on press freedom. From 2004 to 2010, he directed the media freedom watchdog institution of the 56-nation Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Recently, he headed the OSCE’s observation missions for elections in the U.S. and in Kazakhstan. He has taught at several universities, including Bard College, Northwestern University, and the New School.



In the past two years, he gave courses on global press freedom issues at Columbia University.



**Imants LIEĢIS** is Latvia’s Ambassador to Hungary, also accredited to Montenegro, Slovenia and Croatia. He was Latvia’s Ambassador to NATO in the pre-accession period until Latvia joined NATO 10 years ago. Thereafter he was Ambassador to the EU Political and Security Committee and for a short time Ambassador to Spain. His other Ambassadorial appointments include the Benelux countries. He has worked as a career diplomat since 1992, and previously worked as a lawyer in England, where he was born and educated.

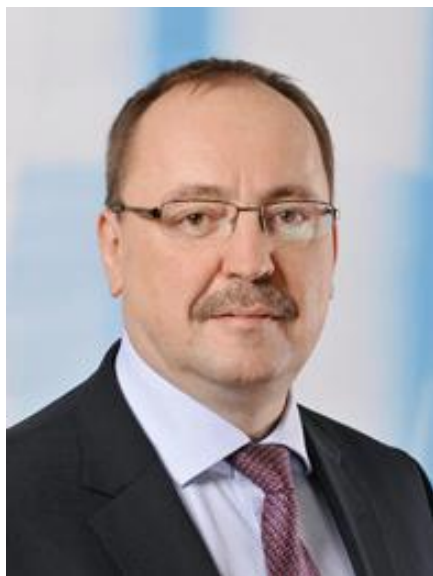
From March 2009 until November 2010 Ambassador Lieģis served in the Government as Minister of Defense (and Acting Minister of Justice from May 2010). Following that he was elected to Latvia’s Parliament for one year, working as Chairman of the European Affairs Committee and Head of Delegation to NATO’s Parliamentary Assembly.

He is a Research Fellow at the Latvian Institute of International Affairs and Board Member of the European Leadership Network for multilateral nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues. He has published works on foreign affairs, defense and security matters.

**Julian LINDLEY-FRENCH** is a leading strategic analyst, author, advisor and commentator who has been appointed to three professorial chairs, has eight books to his name and has written many major articles and reports. Mr. Lindley-French is currently Senior Fellow at the Institute of Statecraft in London, Director of Europa Analytica in the Netherlands, Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow at the National Defense University in Washington, as well as a Fellow of the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute. He is Visiting Programme Director at Wilton Park and Honorary Fellow of the Strategy and Security Institute at the University of Exeter as well as a Member of the Strategic Advisory Panel of the UK Chief of Defence Staff.



His blog, Lindley-French's Blog Blast ([www.lindleyfrench.blogspot.com](http://www.lindleyfrench.blogspot.com)), has a world-wide readership. In September 2011 Lindley-French co-authored a major report, "Strategic Communications and National Strategy" for Chatham House with Professor Paul Cornish. "The Oxford Handbook of War" (Oxford University Press) is regarded as a definitive compendium on the subject the paperback version of which was published in March 2014. In February 2015 he published a second print edition of "Little Britain? Twenty-First Century Strategic Challenges for a Middling European Power," which considers the strategy and policy options faced by Britain and its armed forces in the early twenty-first century. In July 2015 he will publish a new book on NATO for Routledge.



**Zsolt NÉMETH** is a founding member of Fidesz and has been a member of the Hungarian Parliament since the first free and democratic elections in 1990. Currently, he is Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Head of Hungarian Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly to the Council of Europe since 2014.

Mr. Németh is a key figure in formulating Fidesz's foreign policy, participating in the preparation of the party's foreign policy strategies in the past two decades. In 1990-1994, he headed the Committee on Human Rights, Religions and Minority Affairs in the Parliament. In 1998-2002, he acted as Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2002-2010, he was the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, and acted as Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2010-2014. Mr. Németh acted as member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of

Europe in 1993-2008. In 2004, he became Member of the European Parliament, where he served in the Committee on Foreign Affairs for a year. In 2005-2008, he was Vice Chairman of the Political Affairs Committee of the Council of Europe. He has been member of the Political Assembly of the European People's Party (EPP) since 1998. Németh has held several honorary and executive positions at non-profit organizations and other NGOs, among others, the Pro Minoritate Foundation. He is the Honorary Chief Superintendent of the Calvinist Congregation

of Transsylvania, and a Member of the Knight's Order of the Johannites. He studied political science at the Oxford University St. Anthony's College as a visiting student in 1988-89. He earned his M.A. in Economics and Sociology at the Karl Marx (Corvinus) University of Economic Sciences at Budapest in 1987.

**James NIXEY** is Head of the Russia and Eurasia Programme at Chatham House (the Royal Institute of International Affairs) in London. His principal expertise concerns the relationships between Russia and the other post-Soviet states. He has published papers and articles in books and journals, and commented extensively in the national and global media. He has also organised hundreds of private expert roundtables on Russian and Eurasian affairs while at Chatham House.

His own publications include *The Long Goodbye: Waning Russian Influence in The South Caucasus and Central Asia* (2012), *Russia's Geopolitical Compass: Losing Direction in Putin Again: Implications for Russia and the West* (2012), *The South Caucasus: Drama on Three Stages in A Question of Leadership: America's Role in a Changed World* (2010) and *The End of Illusions in The Russian Challenge* (forthcoming, May 2015).

As the principal fundraiser for the Programme, he has raised money for projects from dozens of corporate sector companies, governments and grant-giving institutions. Mr. Nixey holds degrees in modern languages and international relations and has previous experience in journalism (as a reporter in Moscow in the late 1990s) and the banking sector.



**Amanda PAUL** is Policy Analyst and Senior Programme Executive at the European Policy Centre (EPC) in Brussels. She is responsible for managing EPC projects related to Turkey, the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Eurasia region. Ms. Paul is also a Senior Associate Fellow at the International Centre for Policy Studies, a leading Kyiv-based think tank, where she contributes to research and projects related to Ukraine and the broader region. Prior to working at the EPC, she worked at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) and Türk Henkel in Istanbul, Turkey.

Her recent publications include: *Crimea One year After Russian Annexation* (EPC March 2015), *The Eastern Partnership, the Russia-Ukraine War, and the Impact on the South Caucasus* (IAI, February 2015); *Will Turkish Stream Rise from the Ashes of South Stream?* – (Emerging Europe, February 2015); *Internet "Freedom" in Turkey* (EPC February 2014) *Eastern Partnership at a Crossroads* – (World Commerce Review, December 2014); *ENP Ten Years on: The Russia-Ukraine Crisis & the Impact on Security and Stability in the South Caucasus* (Latvian Institute of International Affairs,



November 2014); Crimean Tatars - Persecuted and Harassed (Euobserver, September 2014) Russia-Ukraine and the need for Unity of Purpose (Euobserver, December 2014); Parliamentary elections in Ukraine: new hope? (EPC, December 2014), Moldova Heading for a Hot Autumn (EPC, October 2014); Why the EU must Reengage with Turkey (EPC, October 2014).

**Andris PIEBALGS** is European and Economic Affairs Advisor to the President of Latvia, member of the Board of the Global Fund Europe and member of the Board of Trustees of “Friends of Europe.” He was Latvia’s European Commissioner for energy (2004-2009), for development (2010-2014) and for budget (2014). He served as Head of Cabinet of the Member of the European Commission in 2004, Deputy Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia (2003-2004) and was Ambassador of Latvia to the EU (1998-2003) and previously to Estonia (1995-1997).



Before starting a career in diplomacy, Mr. Piebalgs held various positions in the Latvian government, the parliament and in public administration over the 1990s in the field of finance and education: he was Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Latvia (1994-1995), member of the Saeima and Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee (1993-1994) and Minister of Education (1990-1993) after serving as leading specialist and Head of Department in the Ministry of Education (1988-1990).

Mr. Piebalgs graduated with a degree in physics from the University of Latvia in 1980. He is fluent in Latvian, English, Russian, French and German, and has a basic knowledge in Spanish and Estonian.

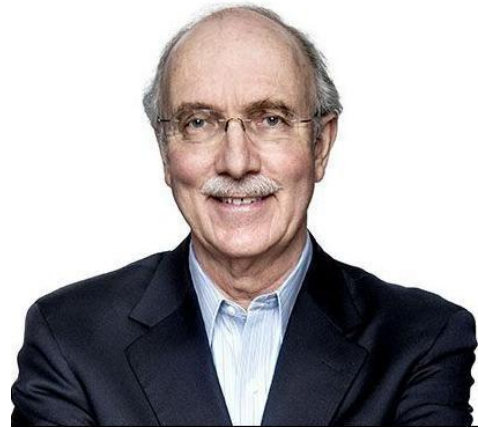


**Juris POIKĀNS** is currently Ambassador for the Eastern Partnership of the Republic of Latvia and Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova (with residence in Riga). After starting his diplomatic career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia in 1996, he held a wide range of positions based both in Riga and abroad. Over the years he served, among others, in the diplomatic representation of Latvia in the USA, Slovenia, Belarus and Russia. He was Deputy Political Director in 2006-2007, Head of the Division of East Europe and Central Asia (2005-2006), of the Division of the Baltic and Nordic Countries (2002-2003) and of the Division of Russia and the CIS Countries (1999-2002).

Ambassador Poikāns holds a Master degree in social sciences (1999) and a Bachelor degree in international relations (1996) from the Faculty of History and Philosophy of the University of

Latvia. He studied security policy in the George C. Marshall European Centre for Security Studies, Garmisch – Partenkirchen, Germany (1997), took a diplomatic course at the Foreign Service Academy, Islamabad, Pakistan (1999) and completed the Foreign Service Programme of the Oxford University (2002). He speaks Latvian, English, Russian, Slovenian and French.

**John SHATTUCK** is President and Rector of the Central European University. He came to CEU after a distinguished career spanning more than three decades in higher education, international diplomacy, foreign policy and human rights. Before coming to CEU, he was CEO of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, a national public affairs center in Boston, and Senior Fellow at Tufts University, where he taught human rights and international relations. President Shattuck served as Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor under President Clinton, playing a major role in the establishment by the United Nations of the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia; assisting an international coalition under UN authority to restore a democratically-elected government to Haiti; and negotiating the Dayton Peace Agreement and other efforts to end the war in Bosnia. Subsequently he served as US Ambassador to the Czech Republic, working with the Czech government to assist in overhauling the country's legal system, and with Czech educators to support innovative civic education programs in the country's schools and universities. In recognition of his human rights leadership, he has received the International Human Rights Award from the United Nations Association of Boston; the Ambassador's Award from the American Bar Association Central and East European Law Initiative; and the Tufts University Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Award.



**Dmytro SHULGA** was born in 1980 in Sevastopol, Crimea. He holds an M.A. in International Relations (Kyiv, Ukraine), LL.M. in European Integration Law (Dresden, Germany), and took a traineeship in the European Parliament in 2003-2004. Since 2005 he works for the International Renaissance Foundation (the Open Society Foundation in Ukraine), and since July 2012 he is the IRF's European Programme Director. His actual professional priorities are awareness raising about Ukraine in the EU, re-thinking the Eastern Partnership policy, expert support to the Ukrainian government on the implementation of the Association Agreement and the Visa Liberalization Action Plan, and establishing the Ukraine-EU civil society platform under the Association Agreement.



**Zsuzsanna VÉGH** is Research Assistant at the Center for EU Enlargement Studies of the Central European University since 2012. Her areas of research include the Visegrad Cooperation, the Visegrad countries' (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) foreign, security and international development policies and the EU's Eastern Partnership policy. She joined CENS after obtaining her MA degree at the International Relations and European Studies program of the Central European University (2012). She also holds a Master from the Eötvös Loránd University in international studies with a concentration on EU affairs and external relations (2011). Previously she worked as Associate Fellow at the former Hungarian Institute of International Affairs (2011-2013).



**Andrei YELISEYEU** is Researcher at the Belarusian Institute for Security Studies (BISS) since mid-2012. He holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and a Master of Arts in Historical Studies from the Belarusian State University in Minsk. He was awarded with MA in Political Science from the European Humanities University (Vilnius, Lithuania) and LLM in International and European Law from the Riga Graduate School of Law (Riga, Latvia). He also graduated from the Estonian School of Diplomacy in Tallinn. His research interests include international relations in the Baltic Sea region, EU-Belarus relations, international public law, international human rights law, visa policy, migration.