Small States and the New Security Environment (SSANSE)

Venue: Nordic House
Sæmundargata 11
101 Reykjavík

08:30-09:00
Welcoming words by Pia Hansson, Director of the Institute of International Affairs and the Centre for Small State Studies, University of Iceland
Opening presentation by Baldur Thorhallsson, Professor, and Research Director of the Centre for Small States, University of Iceland and the NATO Project Country Director of SSANSE

09:00-10:30
The Trusted Allies, NATO and the Nordics

Chair: Anne-Marie Brady, Professor, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand and the Partner Country Project Director of SSANSE

Rethinking the Cold War Small States: the US, Russia and the Origins of Cooperation and Competition in Denmark, Norway, Iceland and the Arctic
Caroline Kennedy-Pipe
Professor
University of Loughborough

Robert P Wheelersburg
Professor
Elizabethtown College

The Transparent Sea Dilemma: Maritime Security in the Age of Climate Change
Jason Rhys Parry
PhD
Binghamton University

15 min discussions

Nordic Patchwork Solutions to New Security Challenges from Russia: Defence Cooperation Across the EU-NATO Divide
Anke Schmidt-Felzmann
Baltic Sea Fellow
Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI), Stockholm, Sweden
**NATO’s Policy on Civil Resilience: Added Value for Small States?**
Gustav Pétursson
PhD Candidate
University of Lapland, Finland

**European Small State Neutrals and NATO**
Steven Murphy
Post-Doctoral Researcher in the SSANSE project
University of Iceland

15 min discussions

10:30-10:45
Coffee break

10:45-12:15

Small States and the Politics of Engagement

Chair: **Arnór Sigurjónsson**, Director, Defence Directorate, the Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

**Building Shelter in Washington: The Politics of Small State Engagement**
Alan Tidwell
Professor and Co-director of SSANSE
Georgetown University

**Denmark at War: Patterns and Developments in Denmark’s Military Engagement**
Anders Wivel
Professor
University of Copenhagen

**Risks and Threats in Small State: Icelanders’ Perceptions of Security**
Silja Bára Ómarsdóttir
Adjunct lecturer and Post-Doctoral Researcher in the SSANSE project
University of Iceland

15 min discussions

**Security Strategies in the Nordic Baltic Region: Towards Enhanced Regional Defence Cooperation**
Zivile Marija Vaicekauskaite
PhD Candidate in the SSANSE project
Vilnius University

**Building a Security Shelter against Hybrid Threats and Systemic Challenges: Case of The Baltic States**
Neringa Bladaite
PhD Candidate in the SSANSE project
Vilnius University

**Assessing US-Baltic relations in the Age of Trump**
Andris Banka
Lecturer in International Relations
Cag University, Turkey

15 min discussions
12:15-13:00
Lunch

13:00-14:30
Partnerships and Capacity Building in Europe

Chair: Pia Hansson, Director of the Institute of International Affairs and the Centre for Small State Studies, University of Iceland

Defense Policies of Small States in Central Europe: The Role of Visegrad Cooperation
Martin Dangerfield
Professor
University of Wolverhamton

Kristina Janková
Junior Lecturer and Researcher
Institute of European Studies and International Relations, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia

External Energy Policy of the EU. Small Member State’ Perspective
Matus Misik
Assistant Professor
Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia

15 min discussions

Small States and the Global Proliferation of Armed Drones: Risks and Opportunities
James Rogers
Assistant Professor in War Studies
University of Southern Denmark

Malta: Bridge of the Mediterranean (Neutrality as a Small State, Status Seeking Grand Strategy
Hillary Briffa
PhD Candidate
King’s College, London

Global Risks and Threats in the Security Narrative of Portugal: Official Documents and Securitization
Pedro Ponte e Sousa
PhD Candidate
Portuguese Institute of International Relations, New University of Lisbon

15 min discussions

14:30-14:45
Coffee break

14:45-16:15
NATO and the Near Abroad

Chair: Bogi Ágússon, Reporter, the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service (RÚV)

Croatia and Armenia: A Comparison of Foreign and Security Policy Orientations of two Small European States
Narek Mkrtchyan  
Visiting lecturer  
American University of Armenia  
Vahrem Ter-Matevosyan  
Assistant Professor  
American University of Armenia

Confronting Corruption and State Capture in Moldova  
Ryan Knight  
MA Candidate in the SSANSE project  
Georgetown University

Thinking Out Loud About NATO in Georgia and Georgia in NATO  
Tinatin Khidasheli  
PhD Candidate  
Caucasus University, Tblisi, Georgia

15 min discussions

The Specific Security Challenges of Small States in Africa  
Ian Taylor  
Professor  
St. Andrews

Self-Preservation and Strategic Hedging in the GCC  
Imad K. Harb  
Director of Research and Analysis  
Arab Center Washington DC

Quatar’s Defense Policy, a Different Tradition of a Small State  
Brahim Saidy  
Assistant Professor  
Quatar University

15 min discussions

16:15-16:30  
Coffee break

16:30-17:30  
Small States Security Interests and Partnerships in non NATO countries

Chair: Alan Tidwell, Professor and Co-director of SSANSE, Georgetown University

Small States and China's political interference activities under Xi Jinping  
Anne-Marie Brady  
Professor and the Partner Country Project Director of SSANSE  
University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

Balancing, Bandwagoning or Hedging? Small States and Security Alliances in the Asia-Pacific  
Bec Strating  
Lecturer in Politics and Early Career Researcher  
La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia

Contending Security Interests in Oceania
Stephanie Lawson
Professor
Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia

*The Dilemmas of Energy Security for a Small State*
Toby Dalley
Young Researcher
University of Canterbury

20 min discussions

17:30-17:45
Final remarks: **Margarita Šėgelytė**, Professor, Vilnius University and Co-Director of the SSANSE project