SMALL STATES AND THE NEW SECURITY ENVIRONMENT (SSANSE) PROGRAMME

#SSANSE2018

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HOSTED BY THE CENTRE FOR SMALL STATE STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND AND THE NATO SCIENCE FOR PEACE AND SECURITY PROGRAMME
PROGRAMME

08:30-09:00 Opening Session
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 State Studies, University of Iceland and the NATO Project Country Director of SSANSE

09:00-10:20 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, UK
Robert P Wheelsburg, Professor,Elizabethtown College, USA

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 Petursson, PhD Candidate, University of Lapland, Finland
European Small State Neutrals and NATO
Steven Murphy, Post-Doctoral Researcher in the SSANSE project, University of Iceland

Discussions

10:20-10:40 Coffee break

10:40-12:00 Small States and the Politics of Engagement
Chair:Arnór Sigurjónsson, Director, Defence Directorate, 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, USA
Denmark at War: Patterns and Developments in Denmark’s Military Engagement
Anders Wivel, Professor, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Risks and Threats in Small State: Icelanders’ Perceptions of Security
Silja Bárðar Ómarsdóttir, Adjunct lecturer and Post-Doctoral Researcher in the SSANSE project, University of Iceland

Discussions

Security Strategies in the Nordic Baltic Region: Towards Enhanced Regional Defence Cooperation
Zviel Marja Vacekauksaitė, Young researcher in the SSANSE project, Vilnius University, Lithuania
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, Lithuania

Discussions

12:00-12:30 Lunch

12:30-13:50 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 Wolverhampton, UK

Discussions

Kristína 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 Misk, Assistant Professor, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia

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
Hilary Briffa, PhD Candidate, King’s College, London, UK

Discussions

13:50-14:10 Coffee break

14:10-15:40 NATO and the Near Abroad
Chair: Svéinn H. Guðmarsson, Press Officer, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Foreign and Security Policy Reorientation Dilemmas of a Small European State: The Case of Armenia
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, USA

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

Discussions

The Specific Security Challenges of Small States in Africa
Ian Taylor, Professor, St. Andrews, UK
Self-Preservation and Strategic Hedging in the GCC
Imad K. Harb, Director of Research and Analysis, Arab Center Washington DC, USA
Quatar’s Defense Policy, a Different Tradition of a Small State
Brahim Saïdi, Assistant Professor, Quatar University

Discussions

15:40-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-17:00 Small States Security Interests and Partnerships in non-NATO Countries
Chair: Alan Tidwell, Professor and Co-director of SSANSE, Georgetown University, USA
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
Rebecca 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, Christchurch, New Zealand

Discussions

17:00-17:15 Summary
Margarita Šešelgytė, Professor, Vilnius University, Lithuania and Co-Director of the SSANSE Project