



DEMOCRACY and INFORMATION: FRIENDS or FOES?

7-8
OCTOBER
2019
Kyiv, Ukraine



Founded in 1949, the Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, including all members of the European Union.

All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.



The Council of Europe Schools of Political Studies were established to train future generations of political, economic, social and cultural leaders in countries in transition. With the participation of national and international experts, they run annual series of seminars and conferences on topics such as European integration, democracy, human rights, the rule of law and globalisation.

In July 2008, the Directors of the Schools of Political Studies established an association. Endowed with a legal framework, the Schools now have a tool which allows the Network to communicate with a voice of its own.



UKRAINIAN SCHOOL OF POLITICAL STUDIES

Ukrainian School of Political Studies (USPS) is a joint project of the Agency for Legislative Initiatives and the Council of Europe, founded in 2005.

The project aims to become a milieu for young Ukrainian leaders to connect and find like-minded people who would promote democratic values through their professional and personal engagements, to be a one-stop shop for democratic education and raising general political culture.

Registration. Introduction of participants 09.00

OPENING OF THE ROUNDTABLE 09.30

Svitlana MATVIENKO

Chairwoman of the Board, Agency for Legislative Initiatives,
Director, Ukrainian School of Political Studies



Has two degrees in philosophy (Kyiv–Mohyla Academy, Taras Shevchenko Kyiv National University). Started her professional career at the Centre for institutional development of civil service in 2007. Has been working in the non–profit sector for over 10 years. Expert on political processes, parliamentarism and civic education. Among scientific interests are anthropology, political philosophy and modern Western philosophy. Chief editor of the journal "Parliament".

Michael REMMERT

Head of Education Policy Division, Co–ordinator of the Schools of
Political Studies Programme, Council of Europe



Joined the Council of Europe in 1994, initially working in the field of social cohesion, then on democratic institutions and e–governance. He has also been in charge of the annual session of the CoE's Forum for the Future of Democracy from 2005 to 2011 and of World Forum for Democracy in 2018. From 2010 to mid–2018 he was Deputy to the Director of Policy Planning. Studied political science and economics in Germany and Canada and holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Freiburg, Germany. From 1988 to 1993, he was a university lecturer and trainer in Civic Education.

Uliana POLTAVETS

Deputy Chairwoman of the Board, Agency for Legislative Initiatives,
Programme Director, Ukrainian School of Political Studies



Has a degree in human resource management (Kyiv National Economic University) and in public and international administration (Leiden University, Netherlands). Has been working in NGOs and international organizations for over 10 years. Has a number of publications on the topics of ethics in politics, conflict of interest, political associations, and public administration.

10.00

DISCUSSION PLATFORM

Introduction: What Does the Future Hold for Democracy?

Today's democracy as a system of governance, as a political idea and as a basic value of the Western world seems to be in crisis. The "project" of democracy might need to be re-imagined in response to the ever-growing challenges of modernity, particularly, increasing weaponization of information. Our information space is polluted and corrupted to an extent it no longer functions. The more we progress into the Digital Age at an ever accelerating speed, the less we seem to know about it. As populism, hate speech and privacy violations become pandemic, which roles can politics and regulation, civil society, the private sector and academia play to get things right? Can we save our human-rights- and rule-of-law-based type of civilization at the advent of a Forth Industrial Revolution, with an Internet of things and AI about to take over?



Volodymyr YERMOLENKO

PhD, Senior Lecturer at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Editor-in-chief at UkraineWorld, Director of European Projects at Internews Ukraine

Philosopher, essayist, translator, author of the books: "Narrator and Philosopher: Walter Benjamin and His Time", "Distant relatives. Essays on Philosophy and Literature", "Ocean Hunter: The History of Odyssey", "Current Ideologies. Ideas and Politics in Europe in the XIX-XX Centuries". Sheveliov Prize Winner (2018) for Best Essay Book in Ukraine, Book of the Year Award (Non-Fiction and Political Studies) 2018.



Olaf STEENFADT

Director of Journalists Trust Initiative (Reporters Without Borders) and CoE expert on Quality of Journalism in the Digital Age

He previously worked for national German public broadcasters ARD and ZDF in various roles, including as a radio and TV presenter, investigative reporter, domestic and foreign correspondent, as well as in format development and corporate communication. Olaf is a member of the "High-level Expert Group on Fake News and Online Disinformation" of the European Commission and of the "Committee of Experts on Quality of Journalism in the Digital Age" at the Council of Europe. He teaches frequently at universities in Germany and Europe.

Coffee break 11.30

DISCUSSION PLATFORM

12.00

Digital Age – a Threat or a Blessing for Democracy?

Modern democracy cannot function without a vibrant civil society, representative political parties, and free and fair elections. However, all these pillars are incessantly tested as more of their aspects are transferred into the digital realm. Election interference, feminist flashmobs, and even revolutions that start as online phenomena transcend the virtual borders into the real life. Where does this leave modern democracy and its main characteristics?

Democratic Elections in the Digital Age: Free, Fair... and Manipulative?

Olga AIVAZOVSKA

Coordinator of Political Programs, Chairwoman of the Board, Civic Network "OPORA", USPS Alumna



Expert on electoral law and political processes, initiator of campaigns on changes to the profile legislation, and leader of the largest non-party election monitoring campaigns in Ukraine. Since 2018 – Chairwoman of the Board of the The International Renaissance Foundation. She was included in the ratings of the most influential women of Ukraine according to the magazine Focus in 2014 – 2017 and NV.UA – 2016. Graduate of the Draper Hills Summer Fellowship on Democracy and Development Program at Stanford University and the Ukrainian School of Political Studies (2009).

*Democratization in the Digital Age:
New (and Not So New) Threats and Opportunities for Civil Society*

Ivan GOMZA

PhD, Associate Professor, Kyiv School of Economics



Received a French Government Scholarship (BGF) at a dual French–Ukrainian postgraduate course at Paris X–Nanterre University and Kyiv–Mohyla Academy, obtained his PhD, in 2012. He was a Fellow of the DAAD in 2016 and 2017. In 2011–2019 worked at the Department of Political Science of the Kyiv–Mohyla Academy, where he taught several courses on political regimes and disagreement. Scientific interests are centered around authoritarianism, democratization, political extremism and nonviolent resistance.

Since 2017 he teaches at the Kyiv School of Economics courses on Political Regimes, Governance and Civil Service and the National and Transnational Dimension of Political Activism. Acts as Secretary of Subcommittee 052 of the Fifth Research and Development Panel of the Ministry of Education, which is developing and implementing changes to the principles of social science teaching in Ukraine.

Social and Political Movements in Social Media



Yaroslav VEDMID

CEO, Digital Agency Postmen, USPS Alumnus

In communications since 1999, he was previously a journalist and editor at InvestGazeta. In 2004, he founded the citizens' initiative "Strichka" (Ribbon), which launched "Pomaranchevyy Tyzhden" (Orange Week) and inadvertently launched an orange branding of the revolution in the course of subsequent actions. In 2011, he co-founded the digital agency PlusOne DA, which is one of the TOP-10 Ukrainian digital agencies. In 2013 launched digital agency Postmen, which in 4 years has become the #1 most efficient agency in Ukraine.

13.30 Lunch

14.30 **WORKSHOP**

Fake News, Disinformation, and Crisis of Trust: Countering Challenges

Fake news and social media are increasing polarization and producing small encapsulated clans, every one with a deep distrust of the others – a threat to democracy. What are the historical lessons and informational challenges in our countries? What are the ways that may help us reverse this disturbing trend?



Olga YURKOVA

Co-founder, StopFake, USPS Alumna

Journalist and co-founder of StopFake, an independent Ukrainian organization that trains an international cohort of fact-checkers in an effort to curb propaganda and disinformation in the media. Teaches different audiences how propaganda works and how to identify fake news, consults a range of organizations and public structures. Has 15 years of experience in journalism. For fighting propaganda, she was included into the list of New Europe 100 and was named a TED Fellow in 2018. Her TED Talk has been watched over 1 million times.

Coffee break 16.30

DISCUSSION PLATFORM 17.00**Democracy and Information:
the Balance between Values and National Security**

In today's overwhelming world of information any fact can be distorted or even fabricated. When such manipulations become the basis for state's foreign policy, for other states counteraction to propaganda develops into something resembling a missile defense system shielding society from fakes and half-truths. However, where is the line between merely protecting national interests and violating basic democratic values like freedom of speech and expression?

Yanina SOKOLOVA

Journalist, TV-presenter



Famous journalist and TV presenter, author of "Rendezvous with Yanina Sokolova", "Cinema with Yanina Sokolova", founder of "Screen School", as well as the ideological inspiration and soul of the "Ya, Nina" (Me, Nina) project. She is the author of the most popular project on combating Russian propaganda "Evening with Yanina Sokolova", watched by 11 million people worldwide every month. Has two higher educations: psychologist and theater and film actress. Began her career in the press, later working as a journalist and television presenter. Produced a documentary called We Are Soldiers.

Family photo 18.30

Transfer to the restaurant (meeting point: hotel lobby) 19.00

Dinner at "100 years back in the future" 19.30

10.00

KEYNOTE SPEECH

The Rise of Homo Digitalis: Adventures in Unreality

The rise of a phenomenon of Homo Digitalis – the hyper-empowered, networked individual – is changing the nature of conflicts all over the world. When government institutions become inept, hyper-connected private citizens assume the functions of the state, including waging war. Social media are becoming the most powerful weapon of any arsenal. How are social media reshaping the conflict in the 21st century?



David PATRIKARAKOS

British journalist, author and TV producer

Contributing editor at the Daily Beast and a contributing writer at Politico Europe. He is also a Poynter Fellow at Yale and a Non-Resident Fellow in the School of Iranian Studies, at the University of St. Andrews. His latest book "War in 140 Characters: How Social Media is Reshaping Conflict in 21st Century" was internationally acclaimed, being reviewed and featured in many prominent international media. His first book, "Nuclear Iran: The Birth of an Atomic State", named New York Times Editors' Choice, was the first history of Iran's nuclear programme. He also works with think tanks and governments and has briefed Parliament, the Foreign Office and MPs on the Middle East and Eastern Europe, and given evidence before Parliamentary Select Committees.

11.30

Coffee break. Check-out

12.00

DISCUSSION PLATFORM

#FakeNews – Old News? Propaganda and Cyber Threats

Although the concept of "fake news" has only come to light in the recent years, the idea behind it is hardly new. The free circulation of malicious lies, the ineffectiveness of fact-checking, the resilience of populist propaganda, emergence of the so-called post-truth era appear to challenge fundamental cornerstones of democratic regimes and ethical media. However, now all these extend into the cyber world which become an increasingly important battlefield of the geopolitical rivalry. How to reconcile the world of fakes, propaganda, and cyber threats with the main values of democracy?

Andriy KULYKOV

Ukrainian journalist and co-founder of Hromadske Radio



Journalist, editor, radio host, television host, media expert, media trainer. He is a professional interpreter (Ukrainian–Russian–English), translates rock-songs. In the 90s, was Producer and Senior Producer of BBC Ukrainian Radio Service (London), then Editor-in-Chief and Deputy Director of TV News Service at "1+1" channel. In 2007–2015, he hosted the political talk show "Svoboda Slova" (Freedom of Speech) on ICTV which won the nomination for the best political talk show of the national television award "Teletriumph".

Tamila TASHEVA

Co-founder, NGO "CrimeaSOS"



Ms. Tasheva is involved in human rights activities, in particular dealing with the issues of internally displaced persons and the human rights situation in Crimea. Participates in advocacy, drafting of Ukrainian legislation in the field of social protection, as well as humanitarian law on temporary occupied territories. Before the occupation of Crimea, organized a series of cultural, educational and public initiatives, and promoted the culture of Crimean Tatar people in Ukraine. Member of the Board of the The International Renaissance Foundation (IRF) and the International Partnership for Human Rights (Brussels, Belgium).

Yegor AUSHEV

CEO, Hacken, USPS Alumnus



PhD in Physics and Mathematics. Co-founder and director of development of the ethics hacker Cyber School. Cyber School graduates have been invited to work in the IT departments of the President's Office and the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine. Co-founder and development director of HACKEN, a decentralized blockchain-based cybersecurity platform which has over 200 clients among which are Prozorro, Air Asia etc.

Conclusions and feedback 13.30

Lunch 14.00

PARTICIPANTS



Rezar BALLA (Albania)

Media and communication expert at Leviz Albania

Rezar Balla is a media and communication expert at Leviz Albania project, a Swiss founded project that supports civil society organisations that aim to increase democracy at the local level. He joined the project in 2016, taking the position of media and communication expert, working everyday with civil society organisations on how to use media and social media as an advocacy tool. He previously studied journalism in university and for the past ten years has dedicated himself to the field of Public Relations.



Mirko BOSKOVIC (Montenegro)

Editor at Public Broadcasting Service Radio–Television of Montenegro

Mirko Boskovic is an investigative journalist and documentary author. He is an editor in the Investigative department at the Public Broadcasting Service Radio–television of Montenegro and author of TV show (investigative docu–series) Mechanism (Mehanizam) which has received numerous local, regional and international awards. Investigations made by Mechanism revealed many high–profile cases of corruption, injustice and system and power abuses.



Maja ČAKARUN (Croatia)

Consultant at Communication Office Colic, Laco & Partners

Maja Čakarun is a communication expert in PR and project management. She has worked for numerous EU projects for Croatian institutions and the European Commission Representation in Zagreb. She has also acted as Head of the PR Department at Zagreb City Holding Ltd, as Spokeswoman for the Central Finance and Contracting Agency, and as project manager and publicity officer at the Ministry of Finance. She is a member of the Croatian Public Relations Association and member of the Steering Board of the Academy for Political Development.

Gulsah DENİZ-ATALAR (Turkey)
Lawyer



Gulsah Deniz-Atalar completed her master's degree in Intellectual Property Rights, Technology Policies and Innovation Management at the Ankara University. She is a member of the Ankara Bar Association and has been working as a lawyer since 2006. She has been a member of Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi since 2008. She was a deputy candidate for Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi at the 2018 Turkey general election. She is member of several NGOs and her interests' areas include human rights, IT law and intellectual property rights, artificial intelligence, environmental law and climate change.

Olga EROKHINA (Belarus)
Editor in chief of belsat.eu



Olga Erokhina graduated from the Institute of journalism of the Belarusian State University, with a specialisation in international journalism. She was a correspondent in the political department for the newspaper "Vechernij Minsk" and later an economical observer for an important Belarusian newspaper "Komsomolskaja Pravda in Belarus". She now works as editor in chief of the website Belsat.eu.

Ainura ESHENALIEVA (Kyrgyzstan)

Project Coordinator at the Public Foundation "Media Policy Institute"



Ainura Eshenalieva is a media specialist in Kyrgyzstan. She has worked at the Public Foundation "Media Policy Institute" as a Project Coordinator since 2011. The foundation is engaged in protecting the rights of journalists in the courts, providing legal advice to media outlets and media representatives, educational projects for state bodies, journalists, advocates, teachers, students, as well as advocacy in the field of media law. Ainura has an education in journalism and holds a master's degree in civil law.

Jakub GODA (Slovakia)
Creative director and owner of Gode VFX



Jakub Goda is a writer/blogger, creative director and owner of Gode VFX, a digital studio. He was a disinformation expert for Spolu, a political party in Slovakia, and a contributor to Hlavane Spravy, an influential disinformation website. Has a master's degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from the University of York. In 2016, he participated in a training course on "Data-driven journalism against prejudices about migration" and in 2017 he took part in a Digital Communication Network Exchange Programme at the U.S. Department of State.



Florent GUIGNARD (France)
Founder of Le Drenche

Florent Guignard is a civic entrepreneur, with a scientific background. At the age of 28, he decided to found the newspaper "Le Drenche", realising that it won't be possible to have an open and participative democracy without having open, participative, and democratic medias. Four years after its creation, Le Drenche is now the most student read newspaper in France, with 140,000 copies printed every month. Florent is also involved in "Open Democracy", the French network for a more participative democracy where he has been president for more than a year.



Pavel HAVLICEK (Czech Republic)
Analyst at AMO Research Centre

Pavel Havlicek is an analyst on Eastern Europe, especially Ukraine and Russia and the Eastern Partnership at the AMO Research Centre. He also deals with questions of strategic communication and disinformation. He graduated from the Erasmus Mundus International Master in Russian, Central and East European Studies. Since June 2019, he has been working on a research project on the EU support to the civil society sector as part of the Rethink.CEE Fellowship of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.



Nora JUSUFI (Kosovo*)
Development economist and researcher at GAP Institute

Nora Jusufi is a development economist and researcher at GAP Institute. She completed her master's degree at the School of International Service, American University in Washington D.C. in International Development/Development Economics. Nora has experience in NGOs in various fields, including but not limited to procurement research, access to justice, economics, public policy but also in project coordination, public relations and communication management and consultancy.

* All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nation's Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

Irina KURUA (Georgia)

Chief File Editor at Adjara Public Broadcaster



Irina Kurua is chief file editor at Adjara Public Broadcaster. With an experience of almost 20 years in journalism, she has worked on television and radio. She is member of the Charter of Journalistic Ethics, an organisation where united journalists strive to work to the highest standards, correct mistakes on the basis of self-regulation, and help their colleagues raise professionalism by discussing each disputed case. Currently she hosts a political talk show "Say" on Adjara TV and is editor of the news service.

Youssef LAKHDER (Morocco)

Journalist at Hespress.com



Youssef is a journalist who works at Hespress.com, the first and most visited online newspaper in Morocco and the 3rd one in the MENA region. He holds a Bachelor in English studies and has partaken in several trainings on journalism with the Council of Europe, Reuters and the International Monetary Fund. He focuses on economics and social issues, science, technology and civil society.

Indrek LEPIK (Estonia)

Head of opinion desk at Postimees



Indrek Lepik is head of opinion desk at Estonia's biggest daily newspaper Postimees. He previously worked in radio and TV as a news editor, correspondent and presenter for the Estonian Public Broadcasting. At Postimees, he is responsible for the everyday workings of the department, including op-eds and the daily editorial. He also leads the editorial team for the weekend edition "Arvamus & kultuur" ("Commentary & Culture") and hosts a weekly current affairs' show at Kuku Raadio.

Yurii MYRONENKO (Ukraine)

Director and Co-founder, Institute for Social and Economic Research



Yurii Myronenko leads ISER, an analytical centre working on implementation of EU/NATO standards into Ukrainian governance and public policies. In 2010–2014 – Chairman of the Board of the Holding "Diamond Sfir Group", in 2008–2010 – CFO of OJSC "Concern Stirol". His priority project is creating inclusive to public security institutions a platform to share the experience with experts in cybersecurity and defense, information and communication security, psycholinguistics, media expertise, social networks, big data analysis, and electoral process protection.



Ana NEGRU (Moldova)

Project coordinator at Information and Documentation Centre on NATO

Ana Negru is a program coordinator at the Information and Documentation Centre on NATO in the Republic of Moldova. She covers subjects that go from Women, Peace and Security Agenda, to disinformation and propaganda on security subjects and the Moldova–NATO Partnership. She holds a master's degree in law and graduated with a post–university course in the field of national security and defence at Armed Forces Military Academy.



Dana PAVLYCHKO (Ukraine)

Director of Osnovy Publishing

Dana Pavlychko is Director of Osnovy Publishing in Kyiv, Ukraine. Osnovy is an independent publishing house founded in 1992. Dana is also co–founder of "Holosuy!" an NGO devoted to youth voting. She graduated with a master's in Public Policy from King's College London and she is a Member of the United World College Selection Committee in Ukraine.



Claire PERSHAN (France)

Project Manager at Renaissance Numerique

Claire Pershan is Project Manager at Renaissance Numerique a leading independent French think tank focused on digital society and the social impact of digital policy. Formerly she worked as Google Policy Fellow. She leads Project Seriously, a platform that empowers civic counter–speech in response to hateful content situated in the "grey zone". Claire is a graduate of Sciences Po School in International Affairs, where she studied Human Rights and Humanitarian Action, with a focus on Digital Rights. She has worked as a Global Academic Fellow at New York University in Abu Dhabi, and as a Training Coordinator at the education technology company Edmodo in San Francisco.



Dinser SAHIN (Turkey)

Deputy Head at Radio and Television Supreme Council

Dinser Sahin is Deputy Head of the International Relations Department at the Radio and Television Supreme Council. More specifically, he oversees the European Council and EPRA. He has worked there as well as in the Public Opinion Department since 2014. He previously studied media and communication at Kingston University in London and holds a PhD in International Relations from the University of Ankara.

Dominik SCHERRER (Switzerland)

Member of the Advisory Council on Youth in the Council of Europe
Youth Department



Dominik Scherrer is a Member of the Advisory Council on Youth in the Council of Europe Youth Department. In this capacity he follows Internet Governance topics. Moreover, in Switzerland he leads an NGO that aims to promote young people's political participation through participation structures, improved access to political rights and an online participation platform.

Yiannis SIDIROPOULOS (Greece)

Journalist



Yiannis Sidiropoulos is a Greek journalist who worked as a columnist and a reporter. He is an expert on issues of minorities and human rights. He has been awarded the 2016 National Journalism Award for credible journalism with a focus on combating racism, intolerance and discrimination and for working on revealing and combating the spread of neo-Nazism and fascist groups in Greece. In 2018 he became spokesman for the Hellenic Ministry of Economy and Development and is currently working as a press officer in the European Parliament. He has been a member of the Hellenic School of Political Studies since 2013.

Krisztian SIMON (Hungary)

Journalist



Krisztian Simon is a doctoral candidate in the «Human Rights Under Pressure» joint interdisciplinary program of the Freie Universität in Berlin and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. In his dissertation, he looks at the impact of foreign grants on the media landscapes of Russia and Hungary. He has been covering topics related to international affairs, domestic politics and social policy. Besides journalism, he has experience working in the field of international development in Lao PDR and Kyrgyzstan. He holds a Master of International affairs degree from Columbia University.



Hana SOKOLOVIĆ (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

News reporter, presenter and editor for N1 Bosnia and Herzegovina Television

Hana Sokolović is news reporter, presenter and editor for N1 Bosnia and Herzegovina Television, an exclusive affiliate of CNN for the Balkans. Her education and previous engagement were not oriented towards journalism, but a combination of choices resulted in a great success in this field. She chose to follow a master's degree in psychology and wrote a thesis on how the media influences the political and social attitudes and values of its consumers. She was a speaker at the EU Western Balkan media days in 2018 and participated in the Western Balkans Regional Academy organised by the Bulgarian School of Politics.



Aristea STAKIĆ (Serbia)

Journalist and editor at the Media Public Broadcasting Service of Vojvodina

Aristea Stakić is journalist and editor at the Media Public Broadcasting Service of Vojvodina, JMU RTV Radio Television of Vojvodina in Serbia. She is also producer and co-editor of tv show "In the Lack of Evidence" and political show "Politbiro". She went on journey from local through private to regional media and ended up, for now, in public service. Today, she has 19 years of journalism experience and has worked in 5 different media teams. She was the first journalist to announce the news of the visa waiver for Serbia. Her motto is Freedom/democracy is a constant struggle.



Oliver STANOEESKI (North Macedonia)

Advisor at the Ministry of Interior of North Macedonia

Oliver Stanoeski holds a PhD in the field of peace and development. Currently he works as an adviser in the Ministry of Interior. He previously worked in academia, NGOs and the local-self-government. He is a former Konrad Adenauer Stiftung scholar, member of the alumni association at the School of Public Policy "Mother Theresa" and of the Regional Academy for Democracy. Oliver is one of the founders of the political party Citizen Option for Macedonia (GROM).

Kristina TABAKOVA (Bulgaria)

PR manager and Head of the Bulgarian office for MEP Ivo Hristov



Kristina Tabakova holds a master's degree in "Energy Business" from the University of National and World Economy in Sofia. She started her professional career as a PR specialist and project manager for the R.E.D. project – platform that aims to encourage youth political participation and civic engagement. Kristina was campaign manager during local, parliamentary and presidential elections. She previously worked as PR manager for All Channels Communication Group. Kristina has been a parliamentary assistant and PR manager for MEP – member of the ITRE, the TRAN, the Delegation for relations with the PRC and Vice-Chair of the Delegation to the EU – Montenegro SAPC. Recently, she became PR manager and Head of the Bulgarian office for Mr. Ivo Hristov, MEP.

Leonardo TACCETTI (Italy)

International Relations Consultant for the Italian Government



Leonardo Taccetti is currently working as an International Relations consultant in the Digital Transformation Team under the Presidency of the Council of Ministers in Italy. He contributes to the analysis of the current digital divide in Italy and to future policies' proposals. Previously, Leonardo worked as a Blue Book Trainee at the European Commission for the Directorate General Communication Network, Content and Technology. He also worked as an Associate Researcher at the European Institute for Asian Studies where he wrote policy papers focused on EU-Asia relations, particularly on the economic and political development of China and Central Asia.

Elena UNGUREANU (Romania)

Counsellor for the Government of Romania



Elena Ungureanu is a counsellor for the Romanian Government and a psychologist. Previously, she worked as a project manager for the General Directorate of Social Assistance of the Child and the Help Autism Association Romania. She was also an advisor in the Ministry of Communications and Information Society. Elena graduated with a master's degree in "Human Relations and Communication" and went on to study "International Relations and Diplomacy" at the Romanian Diplomatic Institute.



Diana Pamela VILLA ALVAREZ (Italy)

PhD candidate in Design

Diana Pamela holds a MSc in Service Design and is a PhD candidate in Design at Politecnico di Milano. She is currently investigating the practice of Design in Policy to support innovation. Her research is focused on prototyping policy making. Diana has worked in Italy, Germany, the Netherlands and Colombia. Driven by social innovation, she has worked with youth and children, as well as refugees. Furthermore, she has led multidisciplinary teams and worked for European research and innovation projects, the manufacturing industry, design consultancy, education and the public sector.



Artak VOSKANYAN (Armenia)

Project Coordinator at UNDP

Artak Voskanyan has been working for the UN Office in Armenia since 2016 and is currently project coordinator for the UNDP "Enhancing Human Security in Communities of Armenia" project. He obtained his master's degree on State and Municipal Management at the State University of Economy of Armenia and later graduated from the Yerevan School of Political Studies of the Council of Europe. He previously worked as an expert on the Standing Committee on Defense and Security in the Armenian Parliament. He is one of the co-founders of the Bright Armenia Political party, which is currently presented in the Parliament.



Natalia ZVIAGINA (Russia)

Office director of Amnesty International – Moscow

Natalia Zviagina is the office director of Amnesty International in Moscow. She was a legal and research program coordinator at the Interregional Human Rights Group and a Moscow Helsinki Group's expert on freedom of peaceful assemblies. She worked as director of the regional office of "Transparency International – Russia". She coordinates the working group on migration within the EU–Russia civil society forum and is a leading trainer for the Council of Europe's project "Public monitoring commissions: new generation". She holds a master's degree in public policy and political analysis from the Higher School of Economics in Moscow and she followed a fellowship program at the Centre for Applied Human Rights at the University of York.

TEAM

Agency for Legislative Initiatives/Ukrainian School of Political Studies

Svitlana Matviienko

Chairwoman of the Board, Agency for Legislative Initiatives, Director, Ukrainian School of Political Studies

Uliana Poltavets

Deputy Chairwoman of the Board, Agency for Legislative Initiatives, Programme Director, Ukrainian School of Political Studies

Anastasiia Borodina

Financial Director

Olesya Kyrychenko

Financial Manager

Iryna Podlesna

Chief Accountant

Iryna Cherpak

Operations Manager

Mariia Hereles

Communications Manager

Kateryna Kutsil

Programme Assistant

Oleksandr Zaslavskyi

Director of the Analytical Department

Mariia Sokolova

Analyst

Volodymyr Skrypets

Analyst

Council of Europe / Association of Schools of Political Studies

Michael Remmert

Head of Education Policy Division, Co-ordinator of the Schools of Political Studies

Yuliya Kochneva

Senior Project Officer, Schools of Political Studies Network

Nils Muiznieks

President, Association of Schools of Political Studies

Jack Hanning

Secretary General, Association of Schools of Political Studies

Lana Cop

Association of Schools of Political Studies

Clara Garcin

Association of Schools of Political Studies



**#ASPS #USPS
#COE #CIVICROUNDTABLE**

FACEBOOK:

/ASSOCIATION-OF-SCHOOLS-OF-POLITICAL-STUD-
IES-214414861919642/

/USPSTUDIES

/COUNCILOFEUROPE

WWW.SCHOOLSOFPOLITICALSTUDIES.EU

WWW.USPS.ORG.UA

WWW.COE.INT

