

International Conference: A Vision of Development Cooperation for a Changing World

October 16, 2013

14:30 – 16.00 Discussion Panel 3: Shared values and cooperation with the Eastern Partnership countries



Ms. Natalia Gherman, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova. She has wide experience from domestic and foreign politics. Right after graduating from the State University of the Republic of Moldova in 1991, she was appointed the Second Secretary of the Department of International Organisations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Moldova. From 1994 till 1997, she was the Deputy Head of the Permanent

Delegation of the Republic of Moldova to the OSCE. After that, she obtained an MA degree in War Studies at the King's College at the London University (United Kingdom). For four years since 1997, she served as the Deputy Head of the Department of European Security and Political-Military Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and later became the Deputy Head of the Mission of Moldova to NATO. Since 2002 till 2006, she was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Moldova to the Republic of Austria and the Permanent Representative to the OSCE. Till 2008, she acted as Ambassador to Sweden, Norway and Finland. She is the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration since 2009.



Olga Stuzhinskaya, the Founder and Director of the Brussels-based Office for a Democratic Belarus that seeks to strengthen ties between Belarus and the European Union (EU). Through its programmes, the Office promotes European values and best practices in Belarus and fosters approximation with European standards for the benefit of civil society and professional groups.

Stuzhinskaya serves on the Steering Committee of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum that was launched in 2009. The EU's Eastern Partnership initiative aims at closer political and economic ties with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Stuzhinskaya is the co-author of the concept and one of the founders of the newly established international non-profit association - The Eastern Partnership Advancement Centre - which will serve as a hub for information and coordination of the Eastern Partnership activities by civil society organisations, professional associations, government agencies and EU agencies across the EU's eastern neighbourhood.



Ľubomír Reháč, the Political Director of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic. He has long-time diplomatic experience. After graduating from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (Russia), he was an assistant to the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Russia and later held a position at the Embassy in Portugal. As a chargé d'affaires in Minsk being the only Slovak diplomat he represented the local EU Presidency. In 2011, he was appointed the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in Kazakhstan and Kirgizstan. Since October 2012, he holds the position of the Political Director at

the MFEA.



Alexander Duleba, Director of Research Centre of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA) since 2000. He has dedicated his life to research on international relations; Slovak foreign policy; East-European Studies; domestic and foreign policy of Russia, Ukraine and former USSR countries; and foreign and security policy of the EU. Since 1991, he participated in more than 20 research projects for the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV), NATO, and a great number of foreign universities and institutes. He

is an author or a co-author of tens of studies, book chapters, and journal publications published in Slovakia as well as abroad. Besides the research, he is interested in Slovak university education and since 1999 is a member of the Unit Commission of Postgraduate Studies at the Philosophical Faculty of the Comenius University in Bratislava with respect to the course on Theory of Politics, and since 2005 of the Science Council at the Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations of the University of Matej Bel in Banská Bystrica. Moreover, he is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Brussels-based EU-Russia Centre institute; the International Advisory Committee of *Journal of International Relations and Development*; and the editorial office of *International Issues* quarterly. He is a graduate from the Kyiv State University (Ukraine), postgraduate from the Comenius University Bratislava (Slovakia); and a Candidate of Sciences of the Slovak Academy of Science.



Moderator: Peter Hulényi, the director of the Department of Development and Humanitarian Aid, is a career diplomat working for the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MFEA) for almost 20 years. Graduated from the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava (Master in the Automatic Control Systems) and the Comenius University (Bachelor in Journalism), he went through various diplomatic positions at the MFEA headquarter and abroad. He was posted as a second secretary to the Slovak Embassy in Ottawa and as a deputy head of the Slovak Mission to OSCE in Vienna, he also served as a head of Economic Cooperation Unit and as a director of the Diplomatic

Academy of the MFEA.

Seconded by the UNDP and the Canadian International Development Agency CIDA, in 2002 he was entrusted to build foundations of an institutional and strategic framework for Slovak official development assistance (ODA) system. After having completed this task he became the first director of newly established Development Aid Department at the MFEA. Since 2002 his professional carrier is closely linked with SlovakAid, being a member of ODA Steering Committees, Project Commissions and Supervisory Board and closely cooperating with SlovakAid partner countries. He has broad publication activities in the area of development cooperation.