



## **PROPAGANDA AND ITS TOOLS IN POST-SOVIET BLOC: HOW TO FIGHT IT** **May 22-24, 2019, Prague**

### **Registration form:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAKFrpfVoLtXnRcX6FSJTtrndmddz8GC\\_Lwoaa2NFJNCu80Q/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAKFrpfVoLtXnRcX6FSJTtrndmddz8GC_Lwoaa2NFJNCu80Q/viewform?usp=sf_link)

### **CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

#### **WEDNESDAY, May 22, 5:30pm, U.S. Ambassador's Residence** **ID necessary**

Welcome Drinks at the Residence of the U.S. Ambassador  
(on invitation only)

**Kelly Adams-Smith** – Chargé d’Affaires, welcome remarks

**Tereza Engelová** – President of Czech IVLP Alumni Club

**Helena Langšádlová** – Czech MP, opening speech

**Massimo Cugusi** – ENAM, board member, former Secretary General of ENAM

#### **THURSDAY, May 23, Sněmovní 7 Conference Venue**

Czech IVLP: Short Welcome

9:00 – 9:05

by **Tereza Engelová** – Czech IVLP Alumni Club President

Opening speeches: **30 Years On: Western Perspective**

9:05 – 10:10

*Presenter: Tereza Engelová, Czech IVLP Alumni Club President*

**Scott Jasper** 9:05 – 9:20

Dr. Scott Jasper, CAPT, USN (Ret) is a Lecturer at the National Security Affairs department and the Institute for Security Governance at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in Monterey, California. Captain Jasper retired from the United States Navy as a Captain in 2004 and earned his Doctorate from the University of Reading in the United Kingdom.

*Topic: Cyber-Enabled Information Operations*

**Benjamin Herman** 9:20 – 9:35

Ben is the General Counsel of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. He graduated from Brown University in 1991 with a degree in Russian Studies, earned a Master's degree in Czech language and literature from UC Berkeley in 1994, and graduated from Stanford Law School in 1998.

**Mads Danielsen** 9:35 – 9:50

Recent graduate of the University of Oslo with a degree in Political Science. Senior exec. officer at Arena Centre for European Studies. Head of Norwegian Young Social Democrats. Expert on Eastern Europe with deep interest in propaganda issues. Holder of European Commission's „European Youth Award“. Columnist in *Aftenposten*. Actor in *Okkupert* political thriller TV series.

**ROUNDTABLE: Q&A** 9:50 – 10:10

## Case Studies: Lithuania and the Czech Republic

### Lithuania – Russian TV ban: Legal Steps and Ethical Dilemma

10:10 – 11:00

*Presenter: Lenka Kabrhelová, former Czech Radio correspondent in Russia and US*

**Evaldas Klimas** 10:10 – 10:25

Associate professor at Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania, specializing in defending the public interest.

*Topic: Legal evaluation of the measure adopted against the television channel NTV Mir Lithuania by the Radio and Television Commission of Lithuania on 18 May 2016 and its compatibility with EU law.*

**Mantas Martišius** 10:25 – 10:40

Vice-chairman of the Radio and Television Commission of Lithuania. He is also an Associate professor at the General J. Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania and Faculty of Communications of Vilnius University. His scientific and educational activity mainly consists of lecturing on information wars, propaganda, the impact of information in the global world, theories of propaganda, theories of communications, media, and commercial communications.

*Topic: Ethical dilemma of banning a channel in a democratic society where freedom of speech is a cornerstone.*

**ROUNDTABLE: Q&A** 10:45 - 11:05

**Coffee break** – 25 min

### Czech Republic – Debunking Fake News

11:30 – 13:00

*Presenter: Robert Čásenský, Editor-in-Chief of Reporter magazine*

**Petr Nutil** 11:30 – 11:45

The founder of *Manipulátoři.cz*, a project that debunks fake news and propaganda in the Czech media and social networks.

*Topic: Practical information on how Manipulatori.cz works and guidance for starting similar projects in other countries.*

**Marek Wollner** 11:45 – 12:00

Editor-in-chief of the main investigative program *Reporters of the Czech TV*.

*Topic: Growing attacks on public broadcasters in the Czech Republic.*

**Eric Best** 12:00 – 12:15

American journalist based in the Czech Republic since 1991. Publisher of Fleet Sheet Final Word. He received State award from Czech president Milos Zeman in 2018. He is often quoted by media which are labeled as “alternative” or pro-Kremlin.

*Topic: My view on propaganda*

**Jiří Kopal** 12:15 – 12:30

Lawyer; IVLP board member; European Values Think Tank – Chairman of Supervisory Board.

*Topic: Minimalist legal approach towards propaganda.*

**ROUNDTABLE: Q&A** 12:30 – 13:00

**Lunch break** – 60 min

13:00 – 14:00

## **Georgia – Living Next to Big Bears**

14:00 – 15:05

*Presenter: Ondřej Soukup, Hospodářské noviny daily*

**Etuna Tsotoniashvili** 14:00 – 14:15

Communications Manager at Civil Development Agency (CiDA), former newspaper editor, with demonstrated history of working in the areas of public relations, communications in civil society, and media and corporate responsibility.

*Topic: Media guidelines for countering Russian propaganda.*

**Levan Nanobashvili** 14:15 – 14:30

Attorney. Visiting Lecturer at Georgian Institute of Public Affairs and the University of Georgia. Lawyer with the experience working on freedom of expression and media law issues.

*Topic: Legal problems related to disinformation and fake news.*

**Martin Hála** 14:30 – 14:45

Martin works for Sinopsis, which is a joint project between the Institute of East Asian Studies at Charles University in Prague and a nonprofit association AcaMedia. It aims to present a regular overview of developments in China from the perspectives of Czech, Chinese, and international observers.

*Topic: Chinese propaganda in Georgia and the Czech Republic. Activities of CEFC in both countries and its comparison.*

**ROUNDTABLE: Q&A** 14:45 -15:10

**Coffee Break** – 25 min

## **Hungary – Media Disinformation As a Pavement to Autocracy**

15:35 – 16:45

*Presenter: Jiří Hošek, Seznam.cz, former Czech Radio correspondent in Germany and UK*

**Ferenc Hammer** 15:35 – 15:50

Associate Professor at ELTE Institute for Media Studies. Ferenc teaches and conducts research in the fields of cultural sociology, media studies and the history of the Cold War. His research

interests and methods are associated with practices, time-spaces, acts and objects of everyday life.

*Topic: Decline of media freedom in Hungary. Relationship between delegated dictatorship, social polarization and the digital public sphere.*

**György Kovács** 15:50 – 16:05

Lawyer, board member of the Hungarian Fulbright Association and ENAM

*Topic: Freedom of expression as protected by the EU Fundamental Rights Charter. How fake news and propaganda affect these rights.*

**Krisztina Nagy** 16:05 – 16:20

Assistant professor at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Department of Business Law.

*Topic: Propaganda as a tool of "illiberal media policy."*

**ROUNDTABLE: Q&A** 16:20 – 16:45

## **The Prague Manual**

*Presenter: Jiří Kopal, Czech IVLP board member*

**Veronika Víchová** 16:45 – 17:15

Veronika works for the Kremlin Watch, a non-governmental think tank whose aim is to defend liberal democracy, the rule of law and the trans-Atlantic alignment of the Czech Republic.

*Topic: How to Understand Russian State Capture Effort in Europe – The Prague Manual.*

Q&A 17:15 – 17:30

**Buffet dinner** – 60 min (for international participants only)

**Optional evening program** 18:30 – 20:00

Prague guided tour with stops for beer.

**FRIDAY, May 24, Czech Parliament, Konírna, entrance from Malostranské náměstí 7/19. ID necessary**

## Welcome Speeches

9:00 – 9:15

**Helena Langšádlová** – Politician, member of the Czech Parliament

**Tereza Engelová** – President of Czech IVLP Alumni Club

## Case Studies: **North Macedonia and Serbia**

9:15 – 10:15

*Presenter: Václav Sochor, Czech IVLP Alumni Club Vice-President, former BBC reporter and Editor-in-Chief of Radio Česko*

**Ida Manton** 9:15 – 9:30

Ida studied at Ss. Cyril & Methodius University in Skopje and holds a Master's degree in Diplomacy and International Relations from Leiden University and Clingendael in The Netherlands. Currently teaches International Negotiations, Diplomacy and Contemporary Practice at various academies and universities in North Macedonia and abroad, including The Hague, Warsaw, and Prague.

*Topic: Propaganda wars about the change of the name of the country at the time of NATO accession. How the propaganda exploits and deepens the divisions of North Macedonian society.*

**Dragan Stavljanin** 9:30 – 9:45

Serbian journalist and reporter at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. He is the author of radio and internet series on frozen conflicts in the Caucasus.

*Topic: The situation in the Balkans and the media bedeviled and belated transition in Serbia.*

**ROUNDTABLE: Q&A**, joined by the Macedonian film maker **Samir Ljuma** 9:45 – 10:15

## **Panel: The Biggest Challenges for Ex-communist Bloc 30 Years On**

10:15 – 11:00

*Presenter: Tereza Engelová, Czech IVLP Alumni Club President, and Václav Sochor, Czech IVLP Alumni Club Vice-President*

**Mantas Martišius** – Lithuania

**Ferenc Hammer** – Hungary

**Levan Nanobashvili** – Georgia

**Robert Břešťan** – Czech Republic

**Benjamin Herman** – USA

**Mads Danielsen** – Norway

**Ida Manton** – Macedonia

**Coffee break** – 30 min

11:00 – 11:30

## **Propaganda and Cyber Security**

11:30 – 13:00

*Presenter: Tereza Engelová*

**Michael Myklín** 11:30 – 11:50

Michael works for strategic information and analysis department of the Czech National Cybersecurity Centre.

*Topic: Transformation of Soviet offline propaganda machine into digital powerhouse of deception.*

**Jakub Kalenský** 11:50 – 12:10

Senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center. Jakub helps to raise awareness about pro-Kremlin disinformation campaigns. Between 2015 and 2018, Mr. Kalenský worked for the European Union's East StratCom Task Force as the team lead for countering disinformation.

*Topic: The strategy and the tactics used by the pro-Kremlin disinformation campaign. Different messages for different audiences.*

**František Vrabel** 12:10 – 12:30

CEO of Semantic Visions, a Prague-based data analytics and risk assessment firm whose clients include critical state institutions, leading corporations and renowned nonprofit organizations. Semantic Visions has developed and operates a ground-breaking complex Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) system, which delivers solutions for a new class of tasks like dealing with propaganda.

*Topic: The role of technology in countering Russian propaganda*

**ROUNDTABLE: Q&A 12:30 – 13:00**

**Closing Remarks**

13:00 – 13:10

by **Helena Landšádlová** and **Tereza Engelová**

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