

HALIFAX

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORUM

2025 AGENDA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

15:00-16:45 WELCOME *ON THE RECORD*

Mr. Peter Van Praagh, President, HFX

OPENING REMARKS *ON THE RECORD*

Minister David McGuinty, Minister of National Defence, Canada

REMARKS

Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Senator for New Hampshire, United States Senate, United States

HALIFAX CHAT WITH SENATOR JEANNE SHAHEEN *ON THE RECORD*

SPEAKER: Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Senator for New Hampshire, United States Senate, United States

MODERATOR: Mr. Nick Schiffrin, Foreign Affairs and Defense Correspondent, PBS NewsHour, United States

PLENARY 1 *ON THE RECORD*

Democracies Don't Despair—

SPEAKERS: General Jennie Carignan, Chief of the Defence Staff, Canadian Armed Forces, Canada; Dr. Hanna Hopko, Co-Founder, International Center for Ukrainian Victory and Head, ANTS Network, Ukraine; Minister Pål Jonson, Minister for Defence, Sweden; Mr. Garry Kasparov, Chairman, Renew Democracy Initiative, Croatia

MODERATOR: Mr. Nick Schiffrin, Foreign Affairs and Defense Correspondent, PBS NewsHour, United States

16:45-17:15 COFFEE BREAK

17:15-18:15

HALIFAX CHAT WITH JUSTICE ROSIE ABELLA

ON THE RECORD

SPEAKER: Justice Rosie Abella, Professor of Law, Harvard Law School, Canada

MODERATOR: Mr. Robert Fife, Ottawa Bureau Chief, The Globe and Mail, Canada

PLENARY 2 *ON THE RECORD*

Democracies Defend Differences

SPEAKERS: Dr. Jong Choi, Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science and International Studies, Yonsei University, Republic of Korea; Dr. Cochav Elkayam-Levy, Chair, Civil Commission on Oct. 7th Crimes by Hamas Against Women, Children and Families, Israel; Senator John Hoeven, Senator from North Dakota, United States Senate, United States; Mrs. Maryam Kamalmaz, Director for Missing Persons Affairs, Syrian Emergency Task Force, Syria; Mr. David Smolansky, President, Miranda Center for Democracy, Venezuela

MODERATOR: Dr. Janice Stein, Belzberg Professor of Conflict Management and Founding Director, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto, Canada

18:30 SHUTTLE TO PIER 21

LOCATION: Lobby of the Westin Nova Scotian

19:00-21:15 GALA DINNER

LOCATION: Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

PRESENTATION OF THE BUILDER AWARD TO

The Honourable Anita Anand

Minister of National Defence of Canada (2021-2023)

The Honourable Bill Blair

Minister of National Defence of Canada (2023-2025)

21:30 NIGHT OWLS *CHATHAM HOUSE RULE*

Artificial Advantages: China's Intelligent Approach

LOCATION: Harbour B

SPEAKERS: Mr. Ming-chi Chen, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan); Dr. Christopher Porter, Head of International Security Cooperation, Google Cloud, United States; Professor Steve Tsang, Director, China Institute, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, United Kingdom

MODERATOR: Ambassador Mark Lippert, Vice Chairman, HFX Board of Directors, United States

Iran Gone; Alas, Hamas: The New Old Middle East

LOCATION: Atlantic Ballroom

SPEAKERS: Prime Minister Ehud Barak, Tenth Prime Minister, Government of Israel, Israel, Major-General (Res.); Amos Gilead, Executive Director, Institute for Policy and Strategy, Reichman University, Israel; Mrs. Maryam Kamalmaz, Director for Missing Persons Affairs, Syrian Emergency Task Force, Syria; Mrs. Tawakkol Karman, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and Founder, Women Without Chains, Tawakkol Karman Foundation, Yemen; Dr. Nancy Okail, President and CEO, Center for International Policy, United States

MODERATOR: Mr. Keith Sharman, Producer at 60 Minutes, CBS News, United States

Ukraine: End the War by Winning the War

LOCATION: Elements

SPEAKERS: Ambassador Andriy Shevchenko, Head of Mission in Ukraine, Ukrainian World Congress, Ukraine; Ms. Olena Tregub, Executive Director, NAKO, Ukraine; Secretary Paweł Zalewski, Secretary of State, Ministry of National Defence, Poland

MODERATOR: Mr. Tim Mak, Founder, The Counteroffensive and The Arsenal, Ukraine

2025 AGENDA (continued)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

6:00-8:00 BREAKFAST

LOCATION: Seaport Social Restaurant at the Westin Nova Scotian

8:00-9:15

PRESENTATION *ON THE RECORD*

THE 2025 JOHN MCCAIN PRIZE FOR LEADERSHIP IN PUBLIC SERVICE

PRESENTER: Dr. Evelyn Farkas, Executive Director, McCain Institute at Arizona State University, United States

RECIPIENT: John Alvis (Posthumously)

American Civilians Working Abroad To Advance Democracy

HALIFAX CHAT *ON THE RECORD*

America and the World, America in the World

SPEAKERS: Senator Angus King, Senator from Maine, United States Senate, United States; Senator Thom Tillis, Senator from North Carolina, United States Senate, United States; Senator Peter Welch, Senator from Vermont, United States Senate, United States

MODERATOR: Congresswoman Jane Harman, Chair, Commission on the National Defense Strategy, United States

9:15-9:45 COFFEE BREAK

9:45-10:45 PLENARY 3 *ON THE RECORD*

Democracies Discover Dreamers

SPEAKERS: Her Excellency Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, Fourth President, Republic of Croatia, Croatia; Dr. Rachel Kleinfeld, Senior Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, United States;

Minister Andris Sprūds, Minister of Defence, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Latvia, Latvia

MODERATOR: Mr. Ravi Agrawal, Editor-in-Chief, Foreign Policy Magazine, United States

10:45-11:15 COFFEE BREAK

11:15-12:15 PLENARY 4 *ON THE RECORD*

Democracies Design Doodads

SPEAKERS: Mr. James Appathurai, Interim Managing Director, NATO DIANA, Canada; Major-General (Res.) Amos Gilead, Executive Director, Institute for Policy and Strategy, Reichman University, Israel;

Ms. Kateryna Mykhalko, Director-General, Tech Force in UA, Ukraine; Minister Hanno Pevkur, Minister of Defence, Estonian Ministry of Defence, Estonia; Senator Mike Rounds, Senator from South Dakota, United States Senate, United States

MODERATOR: Ms. Jamie Tarabay, Reporter, Bloomberg News, Australia

12:15-13:30 MID-DAY MEAL

LOCATION: Atlantic Ballroom

13:30-14:45

HALIFAX CHAT WITH MR. DAVID ZAPOLSKY

ON THE RECORD

SPEAKER: Mr. David Zapolsky, Chief Global Affairs & Legal Officer, Amazon, United States

MODERATOR: Ms. Jamie Tarabay, Reporter, Bloomberg News, Australia

PLENARY 5 *ON THE RECORD*

Democracies Deliver Dollars

SPEAKERS: Minister Ruben Brekelmans, Minister of Defence, Netherlands; Senator Chris Coons, Senator from Delaware, United States Senate, United States; Minister David McGuinty, Minister of National Defence, Canada; Ms. Nancy Southern, Chair and CEO, ATCO Ltd., Canada

MODERATOR: Mr. Michael Serapio, Anchor, CPAC, Canada

14:45-15:15 COFFEE BREAK

15:15-16:30 PLENARY 6 *ON THE RECORD*

Democracies Defeat Dictators

INTRODUCED BY: Mrs. Tawakkol Karman, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and Founder, Women Without Chains, Tawakkol Karman Foundation, Yemen

SPEAKERS: Dr. Comfort Ero, President and CEO, International Crisis Group, United Kingdom; Mr. Andrius Kubilius, Commissioner for Defence and Space, European Commission, Lithuania; Ms. Olena Tregub, Executive Director, NAKO, Ukraine

MODERATOR: Mr. Vladimir Kara-Murza, Vice President, Free Russia Foundation, Russia

16:30-17:00 COFFEE BREAK

17:00 HALIFAX CHAT WITH MR. EHUD BARAK

ON THE RECORD

Prime Minister Ehud Barak, Tenth Prime Minister, Government of Israel, Israel

18:15-18:45 PRE-DINNER RECEPTION

LOCATION: VIA Rail Station

19:00-21:00 DINNER SESSIONS

CHATHAM HOUSE RULE

America Unusual, Allies Indebted, Enemies Emboldened: Everything Everywhere All At Once

SPEAKERS: Mr. Max Boot, Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations, United States; Ms. Rosa Brooks, Scott K. Ginsburg, Professor of Law and Policy, Georgetown University Law Center, United States

HOST: Mr. Tom Clark, Consul General, Consul General of Canada in New York, Canada

Back to Basics: Securing Our Democracies

SPEAKERS: General Onno Eichelsheim, Chief of Defence, Netherlands Armed Forces, Netherlands; Mr. Ken Wollack, Vice Chair, National Endowment for Democracy, United States

HOST: Dr. Rachel Kleinfeld, Senior Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, United States

Cool New Tech, Hot New Energy, Brave New World

SPEAKERS: Colonel Lina Kongshavn, National Liaison Representative to NATO ACT, Royal Norwegian Air Force, Norway; Ms. Madeleine Redfern, Chief Operating Officer, CanArctic Inuit Networks Inc., Canada; Mr. Laurent Ruseckas, Executive Director, Global Gas, S&P Global Commodity Insights, United Kingdom

HOST: Mr. Dean Fealk, Board Member, HFX Board of Directors, United States

CRINKs Inseparable

SPEAKERS: Lieutenant-General Derek Macaulay, Deputy Commander, United Nations Command, Canada; Mr. Chad O'Carroll, Founder, NK News/NK Pro, United Kingdom

HOST: Ambassador Paula Dobriansky, Senior Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, United States

Defending Democracy in the Cyber Space

SPEAKER: Ms. Alexandra Veitch, Senior Director, YouTube Government Affairs and Public Policy, Google, United States

HOST: Mr. Nick Schiffrin, Foreign Affairs and Defense Correspondent, PBS NewsHour, United States

Disinformation Disappoints: The Beginning of the End of Social Media

SPEAKERS: Mr. JJ. Omojuwa, Chief Strategist, Alpha Reach, Member, HFX Board of Directors, Nigeria; Lieutenant General Jamie Speiser-Blanchet, Commander, Royal Canadian Air Force, Canada

HOST: Mr. Dixon Osburn, Executive Director, Institute for Strategic Dialogue - US, United States

2025 AGENDA (continued)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22 (continued)

19:00-21:00 DINNER SESSIONS

CHATHAM HOUSE RULE

Grey Zone Matters

SPEAKERS: Brigadier-General Rejanne Eimers, Deputy Chief of Staff of Communication and Engagement, 1 German-Netherlands Corps, Netherlands; Mr. Tom Hamilton, Chief of Defence Intelligence, Australian Ministry of Defence, Australia; Major General Steve Hunter, Commander, Canadian Special Operations Forces Command, Canada
HOST: Dr. Roland Paris, Director, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa, Canada

Just Another Country: America Surrenders its Moral Authority

SPEAKERS: Mr. Mark Hetfield, President, HIAS, United States; Mr. Ali Nazary, Head of Foreign Relations, National Resistance Front of Afghanistan, Afghanistan; **BHOST:** Ms. Heather Hurlburt, Associate Fellow, Chatham House, United States

Like Good Neighbours, Canada and Mexico Will Be There

SPEAKERS: Senator Peter Boehm, Senator, Senate of Canada, Canada; Mr. Ariel Moutsatsos, Washington D.C. Bureau Chief and Senior Correspondent, Televisa N+, Mexico
HOST: Colonel (Ret.) Katherine Graef, United States Army, United States

Making Space

SPEAKERS: Mr. Peter Beyer, Member, Bundestag, Germany; Mr. Mike Greenley, Chief Executive Officer, MDA Space, Canada; Colonel Nicole Petrucci, Director, Plans, Programs and Requirements, US Space Force, United States
HOST: Ambassador Julie Smith, U.S. Permanent Representative to NATO (2021-2024), U.S. Mission to NATO, United States

Military Tech, the Revolution: Boom!

SPEAKERS: Admiral Giuseppe Cavo Dragone, Chair of the Military Committee, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Italy; Ambassador Andriy Shevchenko, Head of Mission in Ukraine, Ukrainian World Congress, Ukraine
HOST: Dr. Janice Stein, Belzberg Professor of Conflict Management and Founding Director, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto; Chair, HFX Board of Directors, Canada

The Neighbourhood's EU Future

SPEAKERS: Mr. Igor Bandović, Director, Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, Serbia; Mr. Stephan Mayer, Member, Deutscher Bundestag, Germany; Mr. Andrei Sannikov, Chairman, European Belarus Foundation, Poland
HOST: Dr. John K. Glenn, Adjunct Faculty, George Washington University, United States

Real Power: Multilateralism's Comeback

SPEAKERS: Dr. Nils Schmid, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Defence, German Ministry of Defence, Germany; Dr. Joel Ng, Senior Fellow and Head, Centre for Multilateralism Studies, Singapore
HOST: Ms. Jacqueline O'Neill, Director, Transnational Conflict Analysis and Support, Global Affairs Canada, Canada

Smart Power: The AI Fight for the Future

SPEAKER: Mr. David Zapolsky, Chief Global Affairs & Legal Officer, Amazon, United States
HOST: Ms. Shari Bryan, Executive Director, Mines Advisory Group – US, United States

Syria's One Chance, One Opportunity

SPEAKERS: Dr. Sharvan Ibish, Executive Director, Bahar Organisation, Syria; Mr. Mouaz Moustafa, Executive Director, Syrian Emergency Task Force, United States; Dr. William Wiley, Founder and Executive Director, Commission for International Justice and Accountability, Canada
HOST: Mr. Les Campbell, Democracy Development Consultant, National Democratic Institute, Canada

Taiwan: Time to Tend to

SPEAKERS: Ambassador Kelly Craft, 30th United States Ambassador to the United Nations, United States Mission to the United Nations, United States; Mr. Jeffrey Ngo, Senior Policy and Research Fellow, Hong Kong Democracy Council, United States
HOST: Dr. Ian Brodie, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Calgary, Canada

Today's Rules-Based Order: Rules? There Ain't No Rules

SPEAKERS: Dr. Alyssa Ayres, Dean, Elliott School of International Affairs, The George Washington University, United States; Dr. Jong Choi, Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science and International Studies, College of Social Sciences, Yonsei University, Republic of Korea
HOST: Dr. Luis Rubio, Chairman, México Evalúa; Member, HFX Board of Directors, Mexico

Troops as Cops: Bad at Both

SPEAKERS: Dr. Mara Karlin, Professor, Johns Hopkins University (SAIS); Brookings Institution, United States; Mr. Christopher Purdy, CEO, Chamberlain Network, United States
HOST: General (Ret.) Wayne Eyre, Former Chief of the Defence Staff (2021-2024), Retired Canadian Armed Forces; Senior Fellow and Visiting Professor, University of Ottawa, Canada

Ukraine: Europe's Last Test

SPEAKERS: Congresswoman Jane Harman, Chair, Commission on the National Defense Strategy, United States; Dr. Hanna Hopko, Co-Founder, International Center for Ukrainian Victory and Head, ANTS Network, Ukraine; Mr. Andrius Kubilius, Commissioner for Defence and Space, European Commission, Lithuania
HOST: Mr. François Lafond, President, Blue Networks and Opportunities, France

Ukraine: Freedom's Inspiration

SPEAKERS: Mr. Anders Carp, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Saab AB, Sweden; Major Anna Novak, Head of the Logistics Department (G4), Unmanned Systems Forces Command, Armed Forces of Ukraine, Ukraine
HOST: Mr. Damon Wilson, President and CEO, National Endowment for Democracy, United States

What's the Deal with China?

SPEAKERS: Ms. Tencho Gyatso, President, International Campaign for Tibet, Tibet; Dr. Lobsang Sangay, Lecturer on Law and Senior Fellow, Harvard Law School, United States; Professor Steve Tsang, Director, China Institute, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, United Kingdom
HOST: Colonel Nanda Kellij, Director and Colonel, Dutch Ministry of Defence, Netherlands

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

7:00 5K RUN

WITH: General Jennie Carignan, Chief of the Defence Staff, Canadian Armed Forces

8:30-9:45 BREAKFAST SESSIONS

CHATHAM HOUSE RULE

"Hi North!" "Hello World!"

LOCATION: Harbour B

SPEAKERS: The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence (2023-2025), Department of National Defence of Canada, Canada; Ms. Heather Conley, Nonresident Senior Fellow, American Enterprise Institute, United States; Ms. Madeleine Redfern, Chief Operating Officer, CanArctic Inuit Networks Inc., Canada

MODERATOR: Mr. Joe Gould, Defense Reporter, POLITICO, United States

2025 AGENDA *(continued)*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 *(continued)*

Security Spending Splurge: Gamble Guaranteed

LOCATION: Elements

SPEAKERS: The Honourable Stephen Fuhr, Secretary of State (Defence Procurement), Government of Canada, Canada; Minister Hanno Pevkur, Minister of Defence, Estonian Ministry of Defence, Estonia; Mr. Eliot Pence, Founder, Dominion Dynamics, Canada

MODERATOR: Mr. Vago Muradian, Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Defense & Aerospace Report, United States

Ukraine Succeeds, Ukraine Surprises: The Global Race to Learn the War's Lessons

LOCATION: Atlantic Ballroom

SPEAKER: Ms. Kateryna Mykhalko, Director-General, Tech Force in UA, Ukraine; Dr. Hanna Hopko, Co-Founder, International Center for Ukrainian Victory and Head, ANTS Network, Ukraine

MODERATOR: Mr. Oleksiy Sorokin, Deputy Chief Editor, The Kyiv Independent, Ukraine

10:00-11:15

PRESENTATION ON THE RECORD **2025 PEACE WITH WOMEN FELLOWSHIP**

INTRODUCED BY: Minister David McGuinty, Minister of National Defence, Canada

SPEAKER: Lieutenant Colonel Annukka Ylivaara, Assistant Secretary General, The Security Committee, Finland

PLENARY 7 ON THE RECORD **Democracies Demand Decency**

SPEAKERS: Ms. Rushan Abbas, Executive Director and Chairwoman of the Executive Committee, Campaign for Uyghurs and World Uyghur Congress, United States; Senator Kevin Cramer, Senator from North Dakota, United States Senate, United States; Minister Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Canada; Minister Pedro Sánchez, Minister of Defense, Colombia

MODERATOR: Ms. Susan Bonner, Host, Your World Tonight, CBC Radio, Canada

11:15-11:45 COFFEE BREAK

11:45-13:00

PRESENTATION ON THE RECORD **15@15: YOUTH BUILDING DEMOCRACY**

PLENARY 8 ON THE RECORD **DEMOCRACIES DECIDE DESTINY**

SPEAKERS: Admiral Giuseppe Cavo Dragone, Chair of the Military Committee, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Italy; General Seán Clancy, Chair of the EU Military Committee, European Union; Dr. Tamara Cofman Wittes, President, National Democratic Institute, United States; Ms. Lesia Orobets, Founder, Price of Freedom, Ukraine

MODERATOR: Mr. Damon Wilson, President and CEO, National Endowment for Democracy, United States

13:00-14:00 CLOSING LUNCH

LOCATION: Atlantic Ballroom



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