

The 16th Annual Baltic Sea Region Forum

The NATO 2024 and Arctic Europe

Monday, 20 May 2024

11:30-18:45

10:30-
11:30

Registration

11:30-
11:50

Opening

Kari Liuhto, Director of Centrum Balticum Foundation, Professor of Turku School of Economics at the University of Turku, Finland

Minna Arve, Chair of Board of Directors of Centrum Balticum Foundation, Mayor of City of Turku, Finland

Markus Granlund, Dean, Turku School of Economics at the University of Turku, Finland

11:50-
12:05

Video greetings

12:05-
12:45

Keynotes

Tuomas Tiilikainen, Commander of the Finnish Navy, Finland

Ben Hodges, Commander of United States Army Europe (2014-2017), USA

12:45-
13:15

Networking and coffee

13:15-
14:45

Military challenges in Arctic Europe

Chair: **Maria Stenroos**, Defence Correspondent, Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE, Finland

Panelists:

Niklas Eklund, Professor, Department of Political Science, Umeå University, Sweden

Mykhailo Gonchar, President of Center Strategy XXI, Advisor to the Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine (1996-2000), Ukraine.

Paal Sigurd Hilde, Professor, Institute for Defence Studies, Norwegian Defence University College, Norway.

Harri Mikkola, Programme Director of Finnish Foreign Policy, Northern European Security and NATO Research Programme, Finnish Institute of International Affairs, Finland.

Meelis Oidsalu, Editor for Defence and Governance Issues, Postimees Media, Former Undersecretary for Defence, Ministry of Defence, Estonia

Michael Paul, Senior Fellow, International Security Division, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Germany.

Jyri Raitasalo, Brigade Commander, Karelia Brigade, The Finnish Defence Forces.

**14:45-
15:30**

Networking and coffee

**15:30-
17:00**

A future of transatlantic cooperation

Chair: **Veijo Hyvönen**, Editorial Editor, Turun Sanomat, Finland

Panelists:

Benita Heiskanen, Professor, John Morton Center for North American Studies, University of Turku, Finland.

Gunilla Herolf, Senior Associate Research Fellow, Swedish Institute of International Affairs, Sweden.

Vira Konstantynova, Foreign Policy Adviser to the Chairman of the Parliament of Ukraine (2019-2021), Ukraine.

Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, MEP, Vice-Chair of Delegation for Relations with the United States, European Parliament.

William Pomeranz, Director, Kennan Institute, USA.

Jari Sinkari, Director General, Department for the Americas and Asia, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland.

Heidi Steiger, Audit, Risk & Cyber Chair, Fidelity Strategic Advisors, Boston, USA.

**17:00-
18:30**

Media's role in contributing to security

Chair: **Jussi Orell**, Editor-in-Chief, Turun Sanomat, Finland

Panelists:

Ekaterina Glikman, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Novaya Gazeta Europe, Latvia.

Mika Hentunen, Asia Correspondent, Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE, Finland.

Anne-Françoise Hivert, Journalist, Le Monde, France.

Ruslanas Iržikevičius, Director, Media Support Fund, Lithuania.

Markku Mantila, Editor-in-Chief, Ilkka-Pohjalainen, Finland.

Francesca Marretta, Press Officer, EU Crisis Management Missions, Ukraine.

Matti Posio, Editor-in-Chief, Lännen Media, Finland.

18:30-

Concluding remarks

18:45

Juha Vauhkonen, Rear Admiral (ret.), Former Director of Finnish Defence Intelligence,
Finnish Defence Forces, Finland

19:30-

Reception offered by the City of Turku

21:00

Turku City Hall, Aurakatu 2, Turku

