

Southern Energy Corridor Conference Speaker Biographies

Bakhtiyar Aslanbayli

Mr. Bakhtiyar Aslanbayli is a Lecturer of the Baku State University. His main areas of expertise are the security, energy politics and fiscal aspects of the energy projects. He has spoken at numerous institutions, universities, think-tanks and is frequent speaker at international conferences.

In 2001 he was winner of the Scientific Competition on Oil and Gas Researches conducted by the Ministry of Education and National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan. In 2009 he was honored with special Emanuel Nobel Memorial Medal by Baku Nobel Heritage Fund for implementation of World Energy Politics discipline at Baku State University and researches on contemporary energy politics.

Mr. Aslanbayli is the author of one book and more than 50 professional articles and commentaries. He holds BA and MA in International Relations from the Baku State University and is currently PhD researcher at the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Christian Burgsmüller

Dr. Christian Burgsmüller is a career EU diplomat with the European External Action Service (EEAS). Since 2010 he has been serving as Counselor at the EU Delegation to the US in Washington DC where he heads the Energy, Transport and Environment section.

Christian is a lawyer by training and joined the European Commission in Brussels in 2000. Over the following 6 years he held posts both in the Commission's Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry as well as in the Directorate-General for Trade. He finished his Brussels years as coordinator for EU-US trade and investment relations. Continuing his career overseas Christian headed the Political, Economic and Public Affairs section of the EU Delegation to Brazil in Brasilia from 2006 to 2010.

Christian studied law in Freiburg im Breisgau, Geneva and Cologne and holds a Ph.D. in constitutional law from the University of Cologne. He has been a visiting lecturer on EU and German politics at Sciences Po Paris and the University of Sao Paulo.

Avinoam Idan

Avinoam Idan is a Senior Visiting Fellow with the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program Joint Center, based in Washington DC. Dr. Idan is a political geographer, with a regional focus on the Caucasus, Central Asia and Russia. Dr. Idan holds a Ph.D. Degree from the University of Haifa. Prior to his academic work, he served for over thirty years in positions in Israel's Prime Minister's office, including seven years in the Israeli embassy in Moscow during the break-up of the Soviet Union. During this period, Dr. Idan was involved in the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and the states of the Caucasus and Central Asia and the opening of Israeli embassies in the region. Among his publications are "The Foreign Policies of the Post-Soviet Landlocked States," Post-Soviet Affairs, Vol. 27, No. 3 (2011), pp. 49-59 and The Southern Caucasus: New Geo-strategic Order (2005, in Hebrew).

David Koranyi

David Koranyi is the acting director of the Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center of the Atlantic Council. He has been a nonresident fellow at the Johns Hopkins University SAIS Centre for Transatlantic Relations since 2010.

Mr. Koranyi publishes on the geopolitics of energy, Hungarian, European and US foreign and energy policy, European integration and the Western Balkans. He is the editor of a book Transatlantic Energy Futures - Strategic Perspectives on Energy Security, Climate Change and New Technologies in Europe and the United States published in December 2011 by Johns Hopkins SAIS Center for Transatlantic Relations.

Mr. Koranyi served as undersecretary of state and chief foreign policy and national security advisor to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Hungary, Gordon Bajnai in 2009-2010

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He worked in the European Parliament as chief foreign policy advisor and head of cabinet of a Hungarian MEP (2004-2009). Previously he was a political adviser at the Hungarian National Assembly and a junior researcher at GKI Economic Research Institute, in Budapest, Hungary.

Mr. Koranyi is a member of the European Council on Foreign Relations, the Atlantic Council, the Hungarian Europe Society and the International Advisory Board of the XII Project. He was a member of the Hungarian NATO Strategic Concept Special Advisory Group in 2009, the recipient of the German Marshall Fund's Marshall Memorial Fellowship (2010), Marshall Memorial Fellow Selection Board Member (2011), and beneficiary of the French Foreign Ministry's Personalities of the Future Fellowship (2012).

Mr. Koranyi pursued undergraduate studies in political economy and business administration and obtained a master's degree in international relations and economics, with a major in foreign affairs from the Corvinus University of Budapest.

Magsud Mammadov

Magsud Mammadov is the External Relations Manager for the Trans Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline Project. Previously, he served in Dubai, UAE as Deputy Director for the Middle East, State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR); and as an expert on crude oil and oil products export marketing, in SOCAR's marketing and operations department. Prior to his joining SOCAR, Mr. Mammadov has held a variety of positions including research assistant at the International Center for Religion and Diplomacy; analyst for North American and Latin Affairs, Azerbaijan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Mammadov's educational background includes an M.A. in International Relations from the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), The Johns Hopkins University; a Bachelor of Arts from Texas State University.

Jeffrey Mankoff

Jeffrey Mankoff is deputy director and fellow with the CSIS Russia and Eurasia Program. He is the author of *Russian Foreign Policy: The Return of Great Power Politics* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2009) and a frequent commentator on international security, Russian foreign policy, regional security in the Caucasus and Central Asia, ethnic conflict, and energy security. Before coming to CSIS, he served as an adviser on U.S.-Russia relations at the U.S. Department of State as a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow. From 2008 to 2010, he was associate director of International Security Studies at Yale University and an adjunct fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. In addition to his policy research, Dr. Mankoff teaches courses on international security and Central Asia at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

Dr. Mankoff has held academic fellowships at Harvard, Yale, and Moscow State Universities. He holds dual B.A.s in international studies and Russian from the University of Oklahoma and an M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. in diplomatic history from Yale.

Nicolò Sartori

Nicolò Sartori is currently Researcher in the Security and Defence Department at the Istituto Affari Internazionali in Rome, where he works on the evolution of technologies in the public safety and security domain, and on the potential convergences between the security and defence industrial sectors in Europe. He's Ph.D. student at the Department of Politics & International Relations at the University of Kent, with a doctoral thesis on the concept of energy security in the international theory debate.

He holds a BA in International and Diplomatic Studies from the School Roberto Ruffilli in Forlì and an MA in International Relations from the University of Bologna. He served as faculty advisor at the NATO Defense College in Rome, where he also conducted research on NATO's role in energy security. His research interests include Russia's defence and security policy, and international energy security, with a particular focus on Central Asia and the broader Caspian region.

Kate Svyatets

Kate Svyatets is a lecturer at the University of Southern California (USC), teaching environmental economics, law, and policy. She has a PhD from USC in Politics and International Relations (2013), specializing in Russia and post-Soviet countries, energy security, and foreign policy, primarily focusing on U.S.-Russia and U.S.-Azerbaijan relations. She is a board member of the Young Professionals in Energy in Los Angeles.

Orhan Taner

Orhan Taner is the director of the Atlantic Council's Energy and Economic Summit and the Council's Istanbul office. Prior to joining the Atlantic Council, Taner served as CEO and vice chairman of a Turkish conglomerate, with companies operating in the technology, finance, social media, and real estate sectors. During his career as an investment banker, he spent fourteen years with Bankers Trust Company in New York City, where he completed pioneering work in the bank's capital markets, treasury, emerging markets, and venture capital divisions, rising to the position of managing director.

While at Bankers Trust, Taner established Turk Merchant Bank, an Istanbul-based joint-venture investment bank in the late 1980s. In the mid-1990s, he developed an interest in the new economy, which led him to start the Bankers Trust Internet Division in 1995, and eventually the bank's first Corporate Venture Capital Group in 1997. Following his successful career on Wall Street, Taner cofounded and later served as chairman of the Turkish American Business Forum, a not-for-profit business association headquartered in New York City.

Taner graduated with honors from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, where he majored in economics and mathematics. He received his graduate degree in administration, planning, and social policy from Harvard University's Graduate School of Education.

Rudy Van Beurden

Rudy Van Beurden is currently the Communication Manager at Fluxys, responsible for internal and external communications of Fluxys SA. He is also the Managing Director of Huberator, an affiliate company of Fluxys Europe, providing hub services to the Belgian market (Zeebrugge Beach and ZTP).

Additionally he is the non-executive Director of GMSL, a Cambridge (UK) based affiliate company of Fluxys, providing services to the gas and power industry. And finally Van Beurden serves as a member of the EASEE-gas Executive Committee for the Transporters Segment as of 2005.