



4th Global Baku Forum: “Towards a Multipolar World”

09th of March

Arrival of the Participants and registration (Fairmont/Four Seasons Hotel)

18:30 – 20:15 Nizami Ganjavi’s 875th Anniversary Celebration - “Seven Beauties” Ballet (by invitation)

Venue: *Azerbaijan State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre*

20:30 – 22:00 Welcome Dinner hosted by the Nizami Ganjavi International Center (by invitation)

Venue: *Fairmont Hotel (Nizami Ganjavi Ballroom)*

10th of March The Global Challenge Today

08:30 – 09:15 Registration (Four Seasons Hotel Baku)

09:15 – 10:30 Opening Session (Four Seasons Hotel, Segah ballroom)

Moderator: **Ismail Serageldin**, Director Library of Alexandria, Co-Chair Nizami Ganjavi International Center

Speakers:

- **Ilham Aliyev**, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- **Rosen Plevneliev**, President of the Republic of Bulgaria
- **Bujar Nishani**, President of the Republic of Albania
- **Giorgi Margvelashvili**, President of the Republic of Georgia
- **David Cameron**, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Message presented by Irfan Siddiq, Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan
- **Justin Trudeau**, Prime Minister of Canada (video message)
- **Irina Bokova**, Director-General of UNESCO
- **Vaira Vike-Freiberga**, President of Latvia (1999-2007), Co-Chair NGIC

10:30 – 11:00 Family Photo (by invitation only)

11:00 – 12:30 The State of the World Today and What we need for tomorrow to tackle most pressing issues.

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Ballroom*

Moderator: **James Bolger**, Prime Minister of New Zealand (1990-1997)

Speakers:

- **Mladen Ivanic**, Member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Bujar Nishani**, President of the Republic of Albania
- **Giorgi Margvelashvili**, President of the Republic of Georgia
- **Filip Vujanovic**, President of Montenegro
- **Gjorge Ivanov**, President of the Republic of Macedonia
- **Gro Harlem Brundtland**, Prime Minister of Norway (1981; 1986-89; 1990-96)
- **Ehud Barak**, Prime Minister of Israel (1999-2001)
- **Tarja Halonen**, President of Finland (2000-2012)



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Present world leaders present their visions of the most pressing challenges for the world today, and what key aspects for change they are seeking, and working towards.

Speakers will focus on: Regional Security (Syria/Iran/Afghanistan), Radicalisation, Migration, Interfaith dialogue, global inequality, youth and gender, energy security)

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Rast Banquet Room (by invitation)/Segah Foyer (Buffet)*

14:00 – 15:30 Taking Global Responsibility for Syria: Towards an action plan

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Ballroom*

Moderator: **Peter Semneby**, Swedish Ambassador to Syria

Speakers:

- **Franco Frattini**, MFA of Italy (2002-2004; 2008-2011), President SIOI
- **Jean Chretien**, Prime Minister of Canada (1993-2003)
- **Viktor Zubkov**, Prime Minister of Russia (2007-2008; 2012)
- **Amine Gemayel**, President of Lebanon (1982-1988)
- **Hikmet Cetin**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey (1991-1994)

The last few years have shown that no single great power has the means to put an end to a conflict of the dimensions of Syria's. The Syrian conflict stands as a testimony of the progressive multi polarization of international politics, and highlights the failure of the international community, or even a coalition of Western powers; it also underscores the necessity to compromise with the interests of new or resurgent diplomatic players. Now entering its fifth year, the Syrian civil war appears intractable, thus requiring that every power takes responsibility to achieve a peaceful settlement and contribute to sustainable post-conflict nation-building.

1. Is the conflict nearing its end? Are the Peace Talks in Vienna actually making progress or is it just a diplomatic show with no substantial achievements?
2. Given the multiple intricacies of the conflict, what would/should a peace agreement entail? And who would/should be in charge of its supervision?
3. In retrospect: looking at the hardships faced by countries that underwent an Arab Spring revolution, should Western governments have reacted differently and resisted the overthrowing of previous Arab leaders? Is there a lesson that can be learned by the international community about the challenges and unknown risks that Arab Spring-like revolutions could bring in the future?
4. What commitments need to be sought from leaders in order to pacify the region?

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break



16:00 – 17:30 Plenary session: Ukraine as a watershed for regional security.

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Ballroom*

Moderator: **Francis O'Donnell**, Ambassador, Iris Institute of International & European Affairs

Speakers:

- **Daniel Ionita**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania
- **Viktor Yushchenko**, President of Ukraine (2005-2010)
- **Bronislaw Komorowski**, President of Poland (2010-2015)
- **Vaira Vike-Freiberga**, President of Latvia (1999-2007), Co-Chair NGIC
- **Bertie Ahern**, Prime Minister of Ireland (1997-2008)

As it enters its second year of war in the East, Ukraine is now faced with a sharp reduction of international attention in the wake of global terror attacks. Yet, having fallen from the list of key conflicts to watch in 2016, the Ukrainian conflict poses today the same threats to international security it posed a year ago, having shaped the relations between the European Union, the United States, and Russia. In a time where cooperation will prove so important for global stability, Western and Eastern powers have yet to resolve a conflict at the heart of Europe.

1. What are the internal and external aspects of Ukrainian security?
2. What are the roles and challenges for the international community, such as the OSCE/UN and the EU?
3. What does it take to build commitment for regional security?
4. Is there a prospect for a new Iron Curtain splitting the Eurasian continent? Is it a realistic outcome? Perhaps the only possible outcome?

20:00-22:30 Gala Dinner (by invitation)

Venue: *Jumeirah Hotel*

11th of March

09:00 – 10:30 Iran and Afghanistan: Keys to regional Caspian and Central Asian security and prosperity. What's next?

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Ballroom*

Moderator: **Franco Frattini**, MFA of Italy (2002-2004; 2008-2011), President SIOI

Speakers:

- **Mohammad Sarwar Danish**, Vice President of Afghanistan
- **Eka Tkeshelashvili**, Deputy Prime Minister of Georgia (2010-2012)
- **Fouad Siniora**, Prime Minister of Lebanon (2005-2009)
- **Shaukat Aziz**, Prime Minister of Pakistan (2004-2007)
- **Mohammed Al-Dairi**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Libya

With the success of the international nuclear deal reached with the P5+2 (Germany and the European Union), the Islamic Republic of Iran has regained its position within the international community, which now enables it to legitimately take on the part of regional power it aspires to be. This change in regional dynamics could lead to both opportunities and challenges, in particular in the Caspian region.



At the same time, instability in Afghanistan remains a key challenge for security and prosperity in Central Asia. Now that the multilateral coalition has departed the country without fully achieving its goals, expectations that a functioning democracy will nonetheless blossom in the decades to come are high. Yet, it seems that the country might have to face its destiny on its own—or possibly along with its neighbours—as the international community has been prompt to abandon the Afghan case after a decade-long debacle.

1. Will the Iran deal lead to a less or more volatile regional situation?
2. Can the Caspian Region, with Iran as a player, become a symbol and magnet of peace and prosperity?
3. Does the agreement point to a trend for multilateral diplomacy in the fight against nuclear proliferation?
4. What is the role of Western players? How should other internationals be engaged in the region?

Afghanistan:

1. After the withdrawal of U.S. and international coalition forces, what are the prospects?
2. Is the new Afghan presidency up to the challenge of country-building?
3. How to further more partnerships and cooperation in the neighbouring region?

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30

Pep-talks on critical issues; Parallel panels

A pep-talk is an opportunity for a short speech intended to encourage people to work harder on a certain task. The following sessions are intended to provide for sharp, straightforward recommendations and actions to be discussed with the audience.

Panel A:

Radicalization and Migration as a global security challenge: how to progress to committed joint action?

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Ballroom*

Moderator: **Zlatko Lagumdžija**, former Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Speakers:

- **Peter Medgyessy**, Prime Minister of Hungary (2002-2004)
- **Petru Lucinschi**, President of Moldova (1997-2001)
- **Abdullah Badawi**, Prime Minister of Malaysia (2003-2009)
- **Petre Roman**, Prime Minister of Romania (1989-1991)
- **Tzipi Livni**, Foreign Minister of Israel (2006-2009)

Paris, Beirut, Tunis, Ouagadougou, Jakarta, San Bernardino and Istanbul are just a few appalling instances where the actions of radicalised groups and individuals have highlighted the global threat that radicalisation embodies and how all countries need to cooperate with each other to deal with the sources of this phenomenon in order to eradicate it. Both a product of globalisation and a factor of multipolarisation, radicalisation is a shared burden that cannot be resolved unilaterally and needs to be tackled at the global level.



As of today, there is no state that is not faced with the singular challenge of radicalisation, a challenge that endangers the freedom and lives of citizens all around the globe. Associated, and perhaps interrelated with it, is the tendency of migration, posing key questions to global leaders.

1. What are the real sources of Radicalisation and how can they be overcome?
2. How can the world prepare itself for increased migratory flows?
3. Who are the drivers and who are the victims of radicalisation?
4. How can leadership at all levels transform radicalisation? What are the specific issues global leaders should tackle to prevent it?
5. Why is there no unified global action on this global challenge so far? What hinders the potential for such action?

Panel B: The future of energy, the future of global governance?

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Rast Ballroom*

Moderator: **Friedbert Pflüger**, German Deputy Minister of Defense; Director, European Centre for Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS), King's College London

Speakers:

- **Mirko Cvetkovic**, Prime Minister of Serbia (2008-2012)
- **Valdis Zatlers**, President of Latvia (2007-2011)
- **Natig Aliyev**, Minister of Industry and Energy of Azerbaijan Republic
- **Olusegun Obasanjo**, President of Nigeria (1976-79;1999-2007)
- **Obiageli Ezekwesili**, Former Vice-President of the World Bank

In the context of growing multipolarisation, what will be the trends with regards to energy security? With increased energy efficiency, growing alternative energy resources and more suppliers with lower prices, what will be the balance of power? Will the energy supply issue continue to dominate international politics?

1. Is the current trend for a decrease in oil prices announcing the end of an era? Are fossil fuels really obsolete? Is the world ready to give up on them? If so, why and when? If not, are we heading towards a world where fossil and next-gen fuels coexist?
2. Why are countries and companies still and mainly investing in fossil fuels instead of next-gen fuels? What can be done to reverse that state of affairs? By whom? What can be learned and transposed from the top performers in eco-friendly energy policies?
3. *What are the main trends in the geopolitics of energy?*
What can leaders do to slow down energy consumption worldwide? Can members of an interconnected world live with low energy consumption?

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch and networking opportunities

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Shur Room (by invitation), Segah Foyer (Buffet)*



14:00 – 15:30

Parallel thematic Panels

Panel A: Shifting from an unequal, divided world to a sharing society: how?

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Rast Room*

Moderator: **Alexander Likhotal**, President of Green Cross International

Speakers:

- **Noeleen Heyzer**, Under Secretary General of the United Nations (2007-2015)
- **Ivo Josipovic**, President of Croatia (2010-2015)
- **Benjamin Mkapa**, President of Tanzania (1995-2005)
- **Emil Constantinescu**, President of Romania 1996-2000
- **Ismail Serageldin**, Director Library of Alexandria, Co-Chair NGIC

In an increasingly interconnected world, capitalism is less and less seen as the optimal socioeconomic organising principle; instead, alternative, more sustainable models based on sharing are being adopted to build tomorrow's fairer and more cohesive societies.

1. New types of economy as a way towards fairer societies:
Are the collaborative economy, sharing economy and social & solidarity economy alternatives to old and obsolete economic models? What are they main features and how can they work?
2. What kind of models can contribute to foster more equitable, cohesive and sustainable societies by addressing the shortcomings of capitalist economies?
3. What is the role of global leaders in this process? (How) can they be helpful or are they an obstacle to change?

Panel B: Global promotion of human rights and rising awareness on gender issues

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Ballroom*

Moderator: **Kateryna Yushchenko**, First Lady of Ukraine (2005-2010)

Speakers:

- **Jean Omer Beriziky**, Prime Minister of Madagascar (2011-2014)
- **Farida Allaghi**, Libyan Ambassador to EU
- **Sadiq Al-Mahdi**, Prime Minister of Sudan (1966-1967; 1986-1989)
- **Stanislav Shushkevich**, President of Belarus (1991-1994)
- **Andres Pastrana**, President of Colombia (1998-2002)

Along with the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals, gender equality awareness and empowerment of women have become global concerns, thus strengthening actions and initiatives aiming at countering gender prejudices and stereotypes that undermine girls and women. Such a fight fits more largely into the global promotion of human rights, whose universal nature is nonetheless increasingly challenged by the growing assertiveness of rising powers. While multipolarisation has a responsibility in this contestation of human rights' universality, it also offers a great opportunity to elaborate an updated, more protective and comprehensive international regime for human rights.

1. Human rights versus stability of the state: is there a balance that needs to be struck?
2. What should the press of the 21st century be like? With which boundaries?
3. The path towards global empowerment of women:
Why are developing countries better at empowering women? What are the main factors?



15:30 – 16:30 Plenary session “Youth talks, we listen”

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Ballroom*

Four Youth Leaders present challenges and how they see it, and Leaders Respond

16:30 – 17:30 Confronting the challenges: Parallel Thematic Panels

Panel A: Interfaith Dialogue as a venue to resolving present conflicts

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Rast Room*

Moderator: **Ismail Serageldin**, Director Library of Alexandria, Co-Chair NGIC

Speakers:

- **Abdulaziz Altwajri**, Director General ISESCO
- **Petar Stoyanov**, president of Bulgaria (1997-2002)
- **Abdul Salam Majali**, Prime Minister of Jordan 1993-95; 1997-98
- **Carlos Westendorp**, Former MFA of Spain, SG of the CdM
- **Vaira Vike-Freiberga**, President of Latvia (1999-2007), Co-Chair NGIC

Discussion of Results from the NGIC regional meeting in Rome 26-28, January; Presentation and Dialogue.

As highlighted by the discussions during the regional high-level meeting organised by the *Nizami Ganjavi International Center* in Rome in January, interfaith dialogue could emerge as an effective tool to address radicalisation and its roots as well as civilian conflicts where religious arguments are fuelling the strife.

1. Can religion bridge cultures and nations in a common understanding of shared values?
2. Is there a possibility to initiate interfaith dialogue as a way to prevent radicalisation?
3. (How) can government leaders help/serve nations in a common understanding of shared values.

Panel B: Migration, multiculturalism and the issue of integration:

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Room*

Moderator: **Antonio Zanardi Landi**, Diplomatic Advisor to the President of Italy (2013-2015)

Speakers:

- **Linda Lanzillotta**, Vice president of the Italian Senate
- **Jean Baderschneider**, Senior VP, Exxon Mobile (2000-2013)
- **Rosalía Arteaga Serrano**, President of Ecuador (1997)
- **Lothar de Maiziere**, Prime Minister of Germany (1990)
- **Rexhep Meidani**, President of Albania (1997-2002)
- **Novruz Mammadov**, Deputy Head of the Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The challenges of multiculturalism in a connected world: melting pot or salad bowl?

The global *rendezvous* between different and unique cultures is not the only offspring of a globalisation-fuelled multipolar world. Indeed, a decline of Western pre-eminence is also perceived within and between societies at the global level.



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1. Why is this new connected world clenching national and cultural identities?
2. Can intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity awareness favour inclusion?
3. Is the current migrant crisis unveiling the so-called “clash of civilizations” as exposed by Samuel Huntington? Are Western societies strong enough to withhold the aftershocks?
4. Is the refugee crisis transforming the European traditions of welcome and hospitality? For better or for worse?
5. Why does burden-sharing appear to be only upon Western countries? What and how can others contribute?

What does integration mean in the 21st century? Is integration still relevant in a connected world or do we need to adapt to new societal models marked by constant migrant flows?

17:30 – 18:30 **Concluding Plenary session: How to avoid conflicts in the emerging multipolar world of the 21st Century?**

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Segah Ballroom*

Speakers:

- **Mladen Ivanic**, Member of the Presidency of Bosnia & Herzegovina
- **Vaira Vike-Freiberga**, President of Latvia (1999-2007), Co-Chair NGIC
- **Ismail Serageldin**, Director Library of Alexandria, Co-Chair NGIC
- **Jean Chretien**, Prime Minister of Canada (1993-2003)

1. What kind of dialogue is needed for peace-building within the global community?
2. How can future wars be avoided, and present wars be resolved, and transformed into opportunities?
3. What should be the values of the Global Order in a Multipolar World? How to promote it?

18:30 – 19:00 **Press Conference**

20:30-22:00 **Dinner**

Venue: *Four Seasons Hotel: Rast room*