Jordi Bacaria

Jordi Bacaria is Director of CIDOB and Professor of Applied Economics at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), where he was dean of the Faculty of Economics (1986-1988), director of the Institute for European Studies (1988-1992, 1994-2000) and coordinator of the Doctoral Program in International Relations and European Integration (2000-2009). He is also director of the journal *Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica* published in Mexico and a member of FEMISE (Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Economic Science Institutes). From 2000 to 2013, he was co-director of the Institute for European Integration Studies in Mexico, an institution funded by the European Commission and the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico. He is the author of over a hundred publications (articles, book chapters and books) on economic integration, Latin America, Mediterranean economy, monetary institutions and public choice.

Ethan Chorin

Ethan Chorin (Arabic, French, Farsi) is CEO of Perim Associates. He is the author of two books, Exit the Colonel: the Hidden History of the Libyan Revolution (PublicAffairs, 2012), and Translating Libya (Darf, 2015). From 2008 to 2011, he was Sr. Manager for Government Relations and Head of Corporate Social Responsibility at Dubai Ports World (DP World). As a Foreign Service Officer from 2004 to 2008, Chorin was posted to Libya, Washington D.C., and the United Arab Emirates. Chorin holds a PhD from U.C. Berkeley in Agricultural and Resource Economics (2000), an MIPS from Stanford and a BA from Yale, cum laude, with distinction in Near Eastern Languages. A two-time Fulbright fellow (Jordan, Yemen), Chorin received a Meritorious Honor Award from the U.S. Department of State for his support to U.S. business in Libya, and a Sinclaire Award for language achievement. Chorin's work on Libya, the Gulf, Iran, and Africa has written for numerous publications, including The Financial Times, The New York Times, Forbes, Foreign Policy, Prospect, Words Without Borders and Jane's Islamic Analyst. Chorin has appeared on CNN, BBC, NPR, CBS, Canal+, and others. Chorin has been Nonresident Fellow at the Dubai School of Government, Social Enterprise Fellow at Yale University School of Management, a Director at the Berkeley Research Group and a member of the Obama Campaign Foreign Policy Group.

Nicolás De Pedro

Nicolás de Pedro is a research fellow at CIDOB where he is in charge of the Russia and Eurasia Program. He is a core group member of the EU-Russia Experts Network on Foreign Policy (EUREN) initiated by the EU Delegation to Russia. Nicolás has participated in international Electoral Observation Missions of the Organization for Security and Co-operation (OSCE) in Russia (2011), Kyrgyzstan (2009, 2010), Tajikistan (2010), and Ukraine (2010, 2014). Furthermore, he has carried out fieldwork and traveled extensively throughout the Central Asian region and Xinjiang (China), including a twenty-four-month stay in Kazakhstan (2005-07) funded by a grant from the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has worked as a consultant on Russian and Eurasian issues for the European Parliament, the Institute for Statecraft (IfS), the Open Society Initiative for Europe (OSIFE), the Club of Madrid, and the European Union-Central Asia Monitoring (EUCAM) Project. He is an associate professor of international relations at Blanquerna (Universitat Ramon Llull) and at the Institut Barcelona de d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI). In 2014 he was a visiting professor at the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (Almaty). He can be followed on Twitter: @nicolasdepedro.

Chris Donnelly

As a graduate of Manchester University and reserve officer in the British Army Intelligence Corps, Chris Donnelly helped to establish, and later headed, the British Army's Soviet Studies Research Centre at RMA Sandhurst. Between 1989-2003, as Special Adviser to four NATO Secretaries General, he was closely involved in dealing with the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the reform of the newly emerging democracies in Central and Eastern Europe. He left NATO in 2003 to set up and run the UK Defence Academy's Advanced Research and Assessment Group. In 2010 he became co -Director of The Institute for Statecraft (2 Temple Place, London WC2R 3BD www.statecraft.org.uk), dealing with new security threats and responses – specifically, new forms of conflict and warfare and how to transform institutions so that they are fit for today's rapidly changing security environment. Chris Donnelly has written three books as well as many articles on questions of defence, security, strategy and statecraft. He has held appointments as specialist Adviser to three UK Defence Secretaries (both Labour and Conservative) and was a member of PM Thatcher's Soviet advisory team. He has also served as Specialist Adviser on the House of Commons Public Administration Select Committee and currently serves in this role on the Defence Committee. He also: is adviser to the Foreign Minister of Lithuania; is a Security and Justice Senior Mentor in the UK's Stabilisation Unit; is Trustee of the London-based charity Forward Thinking; serves as Honorary Colonel, SGMI; and, sits on the official team responsible for scrutinizing the current reform of the UK's Reserve Forces for the Defence Secretary.

Francis Ghilès

Graduate with honours in Political Science from Grenoble, he has been awarded postgraduate degrees from St Antony's College, Oxford and the University of Keele. Specialises in security, financial and energy trends in Europe and the Western Mediterranean. He has written on international capital markets for Euromoney and the Financial Times. He was the FT's North Africa Correspondent from 1981 to 1995. Francis Ghilès is also a freelancer for newspapers including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Le Monde, El Pais and La Vanguardia. He is a frequent commentator in the broadcasting media, notably the BBC World Service. He has acted as adviser to Western governments (UK, France and the US) and to major European, American and Japanese corporations working in North Africa. His interests are focused on analysing emerging trends concerning gas and linking them with the political priorities of Spain, Europe and the USA.

Daniel Iriarte

Daniel Iriarte is a journalist, editor and commentator in the international news desk of the Spanish daily El Confidencial. Former correspondent in Istanbul of the Spanish newspaper ABC. He worked as a reporter or special envoy in around fifty countries in North Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and South and Southeast Asia, covering events such as the Arab Spring, the Kurdish crisis, the forgotten conflicts of the Caucasus, the emergence of Islamic State or the wars in Libya and Syria. He contributed to several books on international politics, and is currently preparing a volume on the last decade's authoritarian drift in Turkey.

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Dominik P. Jankowski is a security policy expert, diplomat, think-tanker and social media aficionado. Currently he serves as head of the OSCE and Eastern Security Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland. Previously he served as chief specialist for Crisis Management at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, expert analyst and head of the International Analyses Division at the National Security Bureau of the Republic of Poland and senior expert at the J5-Strategic Planning Directorate of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces. In 2016 he managed a Twitter campaign for the NATO Summit in Warsaw (Twitter account @NATOSummits). He is a member of the Munich Young Leaders (joint initiative of the Körber Foundation and the Munich Security Conference) as well as "Le Réseau Nucléaire et Stratégie – Nouvelle Génération" (joint initiative of the Foundation for Strategic Research - FRS and the French Institute of International Relations - Ifri). He graduated from the Warsaw School of Economics, the National Defence University in Warsaw, and the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. He was a research fellow at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz. He can be followed on Twitter: @dpjankowski.

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Marcel H. Van Herpen is a security expert, specializing in Russia and Eastern Europe. He is director of the Cicero Foundation, a think tank. His most recent book is *Putin's Propaganda Machine – Soft Power and Russian Foreign Policy* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2016).