

The Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) is pleased to announce a significant expansion of the institute's international Advisory Council. Incoming members include the President of Estonia Toomas Hendrik Ilves, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Anne Applebaum, former Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs Carl Bildt, former U.S. State Department Counselor Eliot A. Cohen, Professor of European Studies at the University of Oxford Timothy Garton Ash, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Brian Hook, former Lithuanian Minister of Defense Rasa Juknevičienė, and the Secretary General of the Slovak Atlantic Commission Róbert Vass.

The new members will join a distinguished group that includes former National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, former Czech Foreign Minister and Minister of Defense Alexandr Vondra, Chairman of the Centre for Liberal Strategies in Sofia Ivan Krastev, former Chairman of the National Bank of Poland Leszek Balcerowicz, and many others.

"CEPA is delighted to be joined by such a distinguished group of Atlanticist leaders and public intellectuals," said CEPA President Wess Mitchell. "Atlanticism is under siege in Central and Eastern Europe. With the help of our expanded Advisory Council, CEPA will be more active than ever in fighting for freedom and security in this critical region."

CEPA is the only U.S. think-tank dedicated to the study of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). Over the past decade, it has grown rapidly to become the leading Washington-based voice for strengthening security and democracy in the countries of post-Communist Europe. To commemorate its 10th anniversary, CEPA is launching new initiatives to strengthen strategic thinking and people-to-people contacts in U.S.-Central European relations. The addition of CEPA's newest Advisory Council members will support this effort.

Since its creation in 2005, CEPA has been at the forefront of the transatlantic policy debate on issues of defense, energy and democratic reform in Central and Eastern Europe. Its mission is to promote an economically vibrant, geopolitically stable and politically free CEE with close and enduring ties to the United States. CEPA educates American policymakers about the importance of Central Europe to U.S. foreign policy; fosters networks of mid-career Atlanticists; holds annual seminars in Warsaw, Bucharest and Prague; publishes more than 100 policy papers annually; and convenes the U.S.-Central Europe Strategy Forum – the largest gathering of Atlanticist experts and policymakers in the United States. CEPA's institutional reach extends throughout the CEE region via an extensive network of 15 partner institutes, affiliates, and cooperating civil society organizations.

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