

Book of Participants

“NON-TRADITIONAL RISKS AND CHALLENGES TO CENTRAL ASIAN SECURITY” SEMINAR

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Abdilov Nursultan is a recent graduate of the Master’s program in Peace and Conflict Transformation at University of Tromso in Norway. Previously, he studied at the OSCE Academy, MA program in Politics and Security and American University of Central Asia’s BA program in International and Comparative Politics.

Aminjonov Farkhod is Professor-Researcher at Narxoz University and Deputy Director of the Central Asia Institute for Strategic Studies based in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Previously, he worked as a Senior Research Fellow at the Eurasian Research Institute of Akhmet Yassawi International Kazakh–Turkish University, where he contributed to Institute’s work on energy, finance, and security. Farkhod Aminjonov holds a Ph.D. in global governance from Wilfrid Laurier University/ Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo, Canada. Dr. Aminjonov has experience conducting research within a number of collaborative projects with the Canadian, German, Norwegian, U.S. and Turkish think tanks. He also has a track record of publications (journal articles, reports, policy papers, etc.) and a teaching experience in Canada and Kazakhstan. Dr. Aminjonov is an expert on energy security and trans–boundary water management with a particular focus on Central Asia and the broader Eurasian region.

Baimyrzaeva Mahabat, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Management and Policy at Middlebury Institute of International Studies. She holds PhD from University of Southern California, MA in Public Administration and International Management Graduate Certificate from University of Hawaii, and diploma in International Law from International University of Kyrgyzstan.

Previously she worked at government, nonprofit, academic, and international organizations, including as a Civil Society Expert at National Democratic Institute for International Affairs and Director of the Bureau of Legal and Social Assistance for Refugees in Kyrgyzstan.

Her areas of expertise include institutional and organizational change/reforms, capacity building, and strategic planning using socially innovative and design thinking approaches. She integrates insights from multiple disciplines, including organizational management, cognitive/behavioral sciences, complexity studies, public policy and administration, international law and development.

Dr. Baimyrzaeva authored multiple peer-reviewed publications including a book on governance reforms in Kyrgyzstan and globally. She also delivers presentations, workshops, and trainings in policy analysis, applied research methods, strategic leadership, governance reforms, and culture change to government and nonprofit professionals in Central Asia and in the US.

Balgansuren Orgil is a freelance researcher and consultant. Previously, he worked as a team leader at large-scale agricultural programme of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in Mongolia. He has thematic expertise in global, regional and national strategies on sustainable economic and social development, climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, food security and poverty reduction. He has Asia and the Pacific regional experience. He researched and published articles in local journals in the areas of agricultural insurance, biofuels and cash crop policies.

He holds Master of Science degree with Merit in Climate Change and International Development from the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom, Master degree in Cooperation and Development from the University of Pavia, Italy and Bachelor of Business Administration from the Bangkok University, Thailand. In addition, he has a certificate from OSCE Academy on Conflict Sensitive Development.

He received number of awards, notably the Chevening award from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom and the Policy-oriented Research Scholarship from the Foundation Assistance International and Cooperation and Development Network of Pavia, Italy.

Eraliev Sherzod is a PhD student at the University of Tsukuba, Japan. His research focuses on Russia's migration policies vis-à-vis labour migrants from Central Asia. Originally from Uzbekistan, he graduated from the University of World Economy and Diplomacy in Tashkent (BA in International Relations, 2005). Sherzod also has a Master's degree in International Politics from the University of Manchester (UK, 2009). He has worked as a journalist for a national newspaper in Uzbekistan and has an extensive work experience with international organizations such as the UNDP, ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross).

Indeo Fabio, PhD in Geopolitics. Currently he is non-resident research fellow at Center for Energy Governance and Security (EGS South Korea) and analyst on Central Asia security at the NATO Defense College Foundation in Rome (Italy).

Research interests: Geopolitics in Central Asia: regional security; role of the external players (Russia, China, NATO, United States, EU); energy security and geopolitics of pipelines.

He cooperated with relevant national and international think-tanks (ISPI, EUCAM, Nato Defense College, CeMiSS, Eucam) giving lectures and publishing several papers and articles, among them: Samarkand Conference: building regional security in Central Asia, in "Strategic Trends", Nato Defense College Foundation, November 2017; Turkmenistan 2015: Existing Challenges to the Permanent Neutrality and the Strategic Development of the Multivector Energy Policy, in M.Torri, N. Mocci (eds.), Asia Maior 2015, Viella, Roma, 2016; China as security provider in Central Asia: a realistic

perspective?, Central Asia Security Policy Brief, No.17, OSCE Academy, Biskhek, 2015; Central Asia Beyond 2014: Building Regional Security Architecture, ISPI Analysis, No. 262, 2014; Convergence or alienation of EU and US security interests in Central Asia?, in S. Panarin, D. Polyvyanny (eds.), "Security in the West, in the East, and in Russia: Perceptions, Concepts,Situations", Ivanovo State University Publishers, Moscow 2013.

Iqbal Mohammad Wasim is a PhD candidate and teaching assistant at Kasetsart University (KU), Bangkok, Thailand. He has a strong background in climate change and water resources engineering and management, and ample experience of research in this area. His Doctoral is focused on studying climate change impacts and drought analysis and forecasting for agricultural water management. Parallel to his Doctoral studies, Mr. Iqbal was also honoured with a two-year research fellowship in University of Central Asia through its Mountain Society Research Institute (MSRI) to conduct through climate-change and drought related studies on Amu River Basin. He received his Master's degree in Water Engineering and Management from Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand in 2010, and holds a B.Sc in Civil Engineering from Herat University, 2005. He has had extensive working experience with various international and national organization such as UNFA (international consultant), Oxford Policy Management (country researcher), Ministry of Energy and Water of Afghanistan (senior advisor) etc. Mr. Iqbal is member of various bodies at National and International level on Water and Environmental Sciences, and Disaster Risk Reduction. He is the Author of 13 research papers in journals of national and international repute.

Jumakulov Zakir is a project manager at Center for Social Collaboration and Communication (CSCC), Sovereign Wealth Fund Samruk-Kazyna, Kazakhstan.

Zakir has MPP degree from Michigan State University. For five years since 2012, Zakir's research interest was human capital development and educational policy at Nazarbayev University. Besides the research activities, Zakir was also coordinating the annual regional forum of higher educational leaders. For the last four month, since he joined analytics and consulting unit of CSCC, Zakir have been involved in researching labour conflicts and defining the potential protests taking place among workers. The flagship research project of CSCC is Rating of Social Stability that measures the social stability of more than 270 companies that employ 270 thousand employees in all over Kazakhstan.

Kabatova Karlygash is a researcher and activist interested in how society development and sexuality education interrelate. In 2017 together with a colleague, she has completed a study on the emergence of sexuality education in the Kazakhstani educational system. This was continued by a study of access of Kazakhstani youth to informal sources of sexuality education while at the Central Asia-Azerbaijan Fellowship Program at the George Washington University.

Currently Karlygash works on developing an online resource for youth sexuality education and is a member of the Astana-based PaperLab Research Group. Her recent work experience includes organizing open expert discussions at PaperLab, student recruitment for the University of Central Asia, and

data analysis for the Norwegian Helsinki Committee's human rights project.

Karlygash holds a Master of Arts degree in Politics and Security (Central Asia) from the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. She is a graduate of the Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan's Public Policy Initiative Fellowship Program for young researchers and the Bolashak Scholarship Program.

Kakar Rahimullah holds BA in Politics and International Relations from the International Islamic University (IIUI) Islamabad, Pakistan and MA in Politics and Security from the OSCE Academy in Bishkek.

He has been working at the Administrative Office of the President of Afghanistan, Presidential Palace, at the Policy and Analysis Department. His daily activities have been covering formulating internal and external policy briefs. Internal policy formulations cover the office daily, weekly, monthly and annual work and action plan, communication and work code of conduct. External policy formulation covers writing policy briefs for other government agencies and non-governmental agencies. For instance, Trump new South Asian Policy. In this case his department distributes questionnaires among government officials, university students and civil society activists. In addition to this, Rahimullah is also a part time lecturer at a private university.

Karibayeva Akbota is a senior student majoring in Political Science and International Relations at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nazarbayev University (NU), Astana. Throughout her undergraduate study, she discovered academic interest towards the effect of exogenous factors on

the development of domestic institutions, as well as the questions related to international and regional security, especially that of Eurasia and Central Asia in particular.

Apart from studying, searching for ways to develop her professional skills of negotiation and public speaking, she engaged in promoting the Model United Nations (MUN) club at NU. As the president of the club, she organized weekly simulations of the UN entities, and was one of the pioneers of the first annual NUMUN conference in Astana. Currently, she continues to actively participate in local and international MUN conferences to further expand my knowledge of global politics and meet interesting like-minded people.

Karymshakov Kamalbek is Assistant Professor at Finance and Baking department of Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan). He received his PhD in Economics from Yeditepe University (Istanbul, Turkey). He also had post-doctoral research fellowship at Free University of Berlin in 2010- 2011. From 2016 he is appointed as vice-director of Central Asian Research Center (ORASAM) at Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. His research interests are labour migration, economic integration, institutional economics and Central Asian economies. However, in recent years his main research interest is labour migration and remittances.

Khalmatova Umida is a seminar instructor and a PhD candidate at the University of World Economy and Diplomacy (UWED, Tashkent). She conducts seminars in subjects including 'Regional Studies,' 'Conflict Studies,' and 'Information Analysis.' Her research focuses on the politicization of the issue of water resources in Central Asia

with thesis discussing the main obstacles hindering the states from cooperation and suggesting measures to diminish the risk of potential conflict over water resources.

She has published several articles in national and international books and journals. Umida holds BA and MA degrees in International Relations from UWED. She has also conducted research at the University of Tsukuba, Japan, as an exchange student.

Kobakhidze Maia has PhD in Philology, sub direction- Typological Linguistics. Currently employed by European Union Mission, as an Interpreter during the official meetings in Kakheti Regional Development Centre, Georgia.

Visiting lecturer at the Iacob Gogebashvili Telavi State University, lecture Courses in lingvoculturology and General English as well as the Head of Toefl Intensive Course at English Language Academy, based on the Centre of International Education, at San Diego State University Georgian Faculty. Previously worked in OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission to Georgia, on the position of Senior Assistant to Election Analyst, As well as Long term observers' assistant-interpreter in the same missions, in addition, she has attended various trainings/courses, organized by the National Centre of the Teachers' Professional Development; Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and International Specialized Course on Election Observation Mission and Assistance, organized by Austrian Study Centre, in Austria.

Malic Snezana is a Researcher/External Associate at Human Security Research Center in Serbia and previously Intern researcher at the Belgrade Centre For Security Policy, Serbia (2012–2013).

She is currently enrolled in MA Programme in Political Science and International Relations at the ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY, Istanbul, Turkey. She holds BA in Security Studies from the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Security Studies, Serbia. She was also an Exchange student on the Open Society Foundation scholarship at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, United States, (2011).

Reshetnyak Anastassiya holds MA in Social Sciences (Major – Regional Studies) from al-Farabi Kazakh National University, 2016. After several internships (Institute for Political Decisions; UNICEF Kazakhstan) and working as a teacher in private school, the last 2 years she is serving as a Research Fellow (since January 2018 – Senior Research Fellow) at the Department of Foreign Policy and International Security of one of the eldest and well-known think tanks in Central Asia – Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Anastassiya's sphere of interests includes the issues of cooperation and security in Central Asia, especially non-traditional threats such as terrorism and violent extremism, information security.

Stanizkai Abdul Majeed has a bachelor degree in Bsc. Economics (2013-2017) from Institute of Management Sciences, Peshawar. ACCA Diploma in Accounting and Business (June 2012). A diploma, DBA (Diploma in Business administration) (2010-2011) from Capital Degree Collage Peshawar.

Alongside this he has experience of working with various national organization such as; Chak-e-Wardak project, C.P.H.A, CPPR Center for Public Policy Research amd AHG Afghanistan Holding Group.

Abdul Majeed is also involved in volunteer works; during his bachelor studies at the Institute of Management Science he volunteered for IM|Volunteers.

Stanikzai Abdul Waheed, after doing his BBA (2008 – 20012) from IQRA University, he earned his MBA-HRM (2013 – 2015) from Institute of Management Sciences, Peshawar. His final research project was on "Prevalence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Its Impact on Job Satisfaction and Perceived Job Performance Evidence from Afghanistan".

Abdul Waheed also has extensive experience of working with various national and international organizations such as; Chak-e-Wardak Hospital Project, C.P.H.A., HealthNet TPO, Afghan Women Judges Assocation (AWJA) of Supreme Court of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (on a project of UNWomen) in and outside of Afghanistan from last 11 years

in various positions. He is currently working as program manager with Basic Education and Employable Skills Training (BEST) and serves as Lecturer at the Bakhtar University, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Sulaimanova Burulcha is Assistant Professor at Economics Department of Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. her PhD thesis is on “Labour migration in Kyrgyzstan: causes and consequences” at Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. Her primary research interest on migration and remittances. In particular, her current studies include gender aspects of migration, migration impact on economic growth; and education-job mismatch issues in Kyrgyzstan labor market.

Suleimenova Zulfiya is currently enrolled as PhD student in Security and International Studies Programme of National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Tokyo, Japan. She worked with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of Kazakhstan, and Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). Her major specialization is environmental and water security in Central Asia. She authored a working paper on Water Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus for UNESCAP, and co-authored a number of other United Nations publications. In 2013, Zulfiya won the Community of Debuts international award of Interstate Fund for Humanitarian Cooperation of CIS, offered to specialists working in environmental protection.

Tokobaev Nurlan holds PhD degree in the field of Economics at the International Ataturk Alatoo University in 2016. Previously he completed his Diploma degree in Economics and Management at the Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transport and Architecture in 2010.

Nurlan Tokobaev was a project manager of "Economic and environmental aspects of food security of Central Asian countries and Armenia" which organized by World Bank and Lomonosov Moscow State University.

Nurlan has also been a coordinator for international project "Active, Young - the Value for Employers" (2013), "Community Leaders"(2016) and "Community Leaders Unit" (2017).

He is currently employed as a lecturer at the Eastern University in Bishkek.

Yin Simon (Shuxi Yin) holds BA degree from Peking University in China, and MA degree from Harvard University in the USA and PhD from the University of Tuebingen. His major research interest is international relations.

Wheeler Richard is the Managing Director of the Center for Energy Security Dialogue, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization headquartered in California, USA. Mr. Wheeler worked for nearly a decade in the upstream oil and gas industry in both external relations and project management roles on exploration and development projects on three continents.

He also served in Vienna as the senior energy security advisor for the OSCE. He is a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy and the Association of Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN). His works include book chapters on Energy Security and Intergovernmental Organizations (OGEL 2, 2014) and Multilateral Engagement with Central Asia on Energy Issues (Lexington Books, 2018); he also co-authored Gas Exports to the Countries of the European Union and Asia Pacific Region (ICEED Journal of Energy and Development, 2015) with R. Subhankulova and K. Furmanov. He is currently a PhD candidate at Vrije Universiteit Brussel's Institute for European Studies (IES); Mr. Wheeler obtained his MA in Russian Studies at Georgetown University's Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies (CERES). He speaks fluent Russian and has lived and worked in the Central Asian region for about ten years.