



Group of Experts

On 31 March 2020 NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg appointed a group of experts to support him in his NATO 2030 initiative and provide independent advice on how to further strengthen NATO's political dimension.

CHAIRS



Dr. Thomas de Maizière (Germany) has served as German Minister of Interior (2009-2011; 2013-2018) and Minister of Defence (2011-2013). He also served as Head of the Federal Chancellery and Minister for Special Affairs from 2005-2009.

Prior to joining the Federal Government, he served in the government of Saxony, first as Adviser and Head of the State Chancellery, and later as Minister of Finance, Justice, and interior, sequentially. Before this, he worked in the Ministry of Culture and State Chancellery of Mecklenburg-West Pomerania. He also worked for the Mayor of West Berlin and was a member of West German negotiating delegation for the German Unification Treaty. A member of the Bundestag, he has represented Meissen since 2009.

Dr. de Maizière received his Doctor of Law from Wilhelms University in Münster in 1986.



Dr. Wess Mitchell (United States) is currently the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA), Senior Advisor at the U.S. Institute of Peace, and Non-Resident Fellow in the Applied History Project at Harvard University Kennedy School of Government's Belfer Center. Previously, from 2017 to 2019, he served as Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs.

Prior to joining the State Department, Mitchell co-founded and served as President and CEO of the Center for European Policy Analysis. He is the author of numerous reports and articles on transatlantic relations as well as several books, including *Unquiet Frontier: Vulnerable Allies*, *Rising Rivals* and *The Crisis of American Power* (2016) and *The Grand Strategy of the Habsburg Empire* (2018).

Mitchell received his doctorate in Political Science from the Otto Suhr Institut für Politikwissenschaft at Freie Universität in Berlin, a master's degree from the Center for German and European Studies at Georgetown, and a bachelor's degree in history from Texas Tech University.

MEMBERS



Dr. John Bew (United Kingdom) is Foreign Policy Special Adviser to Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Professor in History and Foreign Policy at the War Studies Department at King's College London, where he leads the Grand Strategy Programme, which seeks to bring more historical and strategic expertise to statecraft, diplomacy and foreign policy.

Bew also leads Policy Exchange's Britain in the World Project, which was launched by the Secretary of State for Defence in March 2016. He was awarded the 2015 Philip Leverhulme Prize for International Studies and in 2013-4 held the Henry A. Kissinger Chair in Foreign Policy at the Library of Congress in Washington DC - the youngest person to ever do so. Prior to this he was a Lecturer in Modern British History, Harris Fellow, and Director of Studies at Peterhouse, Cambridge University.

He is a contributing writer at the New Statesman and the author of numerous academic articles and five books on history and contemporary statecraft, including *Realpolitik: A History* (2016), and *Citizen Clem: A Life of Atlee* (2016).

He received his doctorate, M.Phil. and B.A. from Pembroke College, Cambridge.



Ms. Greta Bossenmaier (Canada) was National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister of Canada from 2018-2019. Prior to this, she served as Chief of the Communications Security Establishment, Canada's signals intelligence agency, which is also responsible for the country's cybersecurity.

During her nearly 35 years in government service, Ms. Bossenmaier held positions as Senior Associate Deputy Minister for International Development; Deputy Minister, Afghanistan Task Force, Privy Council Office, and Associate Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. She began her career as a scientist at the Operational Research and Analysis Establishment of the Department of National Defence.

She received her M.S. in Operational Research from Stanford University and Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Manitoba.



Dr. Anja Dalgaard-Nielsen (Denmark) is currently Director of the Institute for Strategy at the Royal Danish Defence College and Professor at the Centre for Risk Management and Societal Safety at the University of Stavanger. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Copenhagen Future Studies Institute and is chief editor of *Scandinavian Journal of Military Studies*.

Previously she served as Executive Director in the Danish Security and Intelligence Service (PET), where she led the strategic terrorism threat analysis and early preventive efforts against radicalization. Prior to joining PET, she headed the unit for political violence, terrorism and radicalization at the Danish Institute for International Studies.

Dr. Dalgaard-Nielsen received her Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, M.A. in political science from the University of Aarhus, and an M.A. of public management and governance from Copenhagen Business School.



Ms. Marta Dassù (Italy) is the Senior Director of European Affairs at The Aspen Institute and Editor-in-Chief of Aspen Institute Italia's journal, *Aspenia*. She currently sits on the Board of Directors of IAI (Istituto Affari Internazionali) and the Board of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, and is member of the Advisory Council of the European Policy Centre in Brussels.

Previously, she served as Italy's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs from November 2011 to February 2014. She is co-author of *Anglo Nostalgia: The politics of emotion in a fractured West* (2019) and author of *Mondo Privato e altre storie* (2009). She is a regular contributor for the daily Italian newspaper *La Stampa*.

She received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Florence.



Ms. Anna Fotyga (Poland) is a member of the European Parliament from Poland. She has been Chair of the Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE) of the Foreign Affairs Committee since 2014.

Prior to becoming an MEP, she served in various positions in the Polish national government, including as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chief of Staff of the President, and as a member of the National Security Council. Prior to joining the federal government, she served in the Polish national parliament and was deputy mayor of Gdańsk.

She received her B.A. in economics from the University of Gdańsk.



Ambassador Tacan Ildem (Turkey) served as NATO Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy (2016-2020).

Prior to this, he served as a Turkish diplomat, most recently as Permanent Representative of Turkey to the OSCE in Vienna from 2011 until 2016. During this time he served as Chairperson of the OSCE Security Committee and as the coordinator for further strengthening OSCE capacities across the conflict cycle for the “Helsinki +40” process. Previously, he served as Director General for International Security Affairs at the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey’s Permanent Representative to NATO and Ambassador of Turkey to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

He received his education from Ankara University Political Science Faculty, with a specialisation in international relations.



Mr. Hubert Védrine (France) has been President of the François Mitterrand Institute and Hubert Vedrine Conseil, a consulting firm, since 2003. Prior to this, he was the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France from 1997-2002 in the government of Lionel Jospin.

He was a close advisor to President François Mitterrand, serving as his Diplomatic Advisor from 1981-1988, Spokesperson from 1988-1991, and Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic from 1991-1995. He began his career in the Ministry of Culture before joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has authored over 19 books.

He received his B.A. in History from Sciences Po and later graduated from the École nationale d’administration.



Ms. Herna Verhagen (the Netherlands) has been CEO of PostNL, a mail, parcel and e-commerce corporation headquartered in the Netherlands since 2012. She had served on the Board of PostNL since 2011. She is also a member of the supervisory board of Rexel S.A and ING Group, as well as a member of the executive committee and general board of the Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers (VNO-NCW).

She began her career as a sales manager at the legal predecessor to PostNL in 1991. She progressed through numerous positions including Marketing and Sales Director, Coordinating Managing Director Mail NL in the Mail division and Managing Director Group HR of TNT before joining the board.

She received her master’s degree in Law from Nijmegen University and a master’s degree in Human Resources from Tilburg University.