

Nancy Dupree
“The Grandmother of Kabul”



“To revive a nation as culturally rich as Afghanistan, the complexities of its social, economic, geographic and political environment have to be studied on many levels, including research into the past”

Nancy Dupree, 2005

The recent reaffirmation by Foreign Ministers of NATO’s enduring commitment to the people of Afghanistan affords a timely opportunity to reflect upon what has been accomplished, what has been learned, and what can be improved. A crucial element in this dialogue is the consideration of how the history and cultural heritage of Afghanistan is understood, preserved, and incorporated into the larger discussion about that country’s future. This extraordinary panel discussion gathers distinguished speakers from across the political, military and archival spectrums to share their unique experiences and perspectives about:

“The Importance of History in Conflict Resolution in Afghanistan”.

13h-14h

9 December 2015

Brosio Room

(in NATO HQ Press Hall)

NANCY DUPREE



A celebrated author, historian, archivist, activist, and adventurer, Nancy Dupree dedicates her life to documenting and preserving Afghanistan's cultural heritage. She is committed to educating Afghan people to rediscover their history as a tool of empowerment to move beyond conflict and toward a sustainable peace. With her late husband Louis Dupree, she built and protected the most comprehensive center of historical information on Afghanistan. This archive would later become the Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University (ACKU) that has since collected approximately 90,000 documents, books and multimedia related to Afghanistan's history and struggle for independence. While not a political figure, Nancy has been called the "Grandmother of Kabul" as a sign of respect; and treated as a dignitary and friend by Afghan Presidents and political leadership.

MARRIËT SCHUURMAN



Appointed as the NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security in October 2014, Mariët Schuurman is the high-level focal point for all aspects of the NATO/EAPC Policy and Action Plan Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and related Resolutions. She facilitates coordination and consistency in NATO's policies and activities related to the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Ambassador Schuurman is a career diplomat who has served in many different countries and regions and in a variety of priority policy areas of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prior to her nomination as Special Representative, Ambassador Schuurman was the representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

LEE LITZENBERGER



Lee Litzenberger assumed his duties as the Deputy Permanent Representative and Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S. Mission to NATO in September 2014. From August 2013 to August 2014, he was the NATO Deputy Senior Civilian Representative in Kabul, Afghanistan. Prior to his arrival in Kabul, Mr. Litzenberger served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade, Serbia, from 2010-2013. He has also served multiple tours in Washington, D.C. in the Department of State's bureaus for Near Eastern Affairs and Political Military Affairs, as well as in the Office of the Deputy Secretary of State.

MAJOR GENERAL

JOSEPH T. GUASTELLA, JR



Major General Joseph T. Guastella, Jr. is the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations and Intelligence, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe. He is responsible for ensuring Allied Command Operations Conventional and Nuclear Forces are ready to carry out collective defence for the NATO Alliance. He supervises and directs SHAPE's Comprehensive Crisis and Operations Management Centre. A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, General Guastella has served multiple combat tours, flying more than 4,000 hours in the F-16 Fighting Falcon and A-10 Thunderbolt II. He has commanded at all levels of the U.S. Air Force including the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.

NICK WILLIAMS



Nick Williams is, by profession, a UK Ministry of Defence official but has spent half of his career either in NATO or in support of military operations in Iraq, the Balkans and Afghanistan. In November 2009, he completed almost three years in Afghanistan working with International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), first as political adviser to ISAF forces in the south, based in Kandahar, and latterly as Deputy NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Kabul. He is currently the Head of the Afghanistan Team within the Operations Division of the International Staff at NATO Headquarters in Brussels.

