

PROGRAM UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2008 - MARCH 2008

The Program Update is also available as a .pdf document [here](#).

RECENT EVENTS

You can view the complete list of events by going to the program's [Associated Events](#) page.

The Putin Succession: What's at Stake and What to Expect

The CSIS Russia and Eurasia Program held a panel on February 28 on the Russian presidential elections to discuss the implications of a Medvedev presidency and the future role of Vladimir Putin. Director and Senior Fellow Andrew Kuchins, Senior Fellow Sarah Mendelson, and Anders Åslund, Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute of International Economics, offered their insights into the presidential succession and its consequences for U.S.-Russia relations. To read a transcript, please click [here](#); for audio, please click [here](#).

Ukraine: A Net Assessment of 16 Years of Independence

The U.S.-EU Partnership Committee for Ukraine, in an event sponsored by CSIS and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, held a discussion on February 26 to release a major CSIS report "Ukraine: A Net Assessment of 16 Years of Independence." Featuring comments by former U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and former German Defense Minister Volker R  he, other speakers included U.S.-EU Partnership Committee members Jan Petersen, former Foreign Minister of Norway, and Bronislaw Geremek, former Foreign Minister of Poland. The speakers' remarks focused on Ukraine's successes and shortcomings since independence. To read the report or purchase a copy, please click [here](#). For audio or video, please click [here](#).

Book Launch: *The New Cold War: Putin's Russia and the Threat to the West*

The CSIS Russia and Eurasia Program held a book launch on February 19 for *The New Cold War: Putin's Russia and the Threat to the West*. Edward Lucas, Central and Eastern Europe Correspondent for *The Economist*, traces the resurgence of an authoritarian and increasingly threatening Russia. Sarah Mendelson chaired the event, and commentary was provided by Janusz Bugajski, Director and Senior Fellow, New European Democracies Project and Andrew Kuchins. To listen to the audio of this event, please click [here](#).

RECENT COMMENTARY

Senior Adviser Steven Pifer published [Critical Questions: Ukraine-Russia Tensions](#) on March 4, 2008.

Director and Senior Fellow Andrew Kuchins published [Critical Questions: The Russian "Election"](#) on February 29, 2008.

Senior Fellow Sarah Mendelson published [Critical Questions: The Russian "Election"](#) on February 29, 2008.

Adjunct Fellow Alexandros Petersen published a commentary, "[Why Georgia's Election Matters](#)," on February 6, 2008.

PUBLICATIONS

A complete list of publications can be viewed through the [Associated Publications](#) page of the program website.

Sarah E. Mendelson co-authored an article with Theodore P. Gerber, “[Us and Them: Anti-American Views of the Putin Generation](#),” in the Spring 2008 issue of *The Washington Quarterly*.

Andrew Kuchins co-authored an article with Clifford Gaddy, “[Putin’s Plan](#),” in the Spring 2008 issue of *The Washington Quarterly*.

Sarah E. Mendelson co-authored an article with Theodore P. Gerber, “[Public Experiences of Police Violence and Corruption in Contemporary Russia: A Case of Predatory Policing?](#)” in *Law and Society Review*, March 2008.

Sarah Mendelson co-authored an article, “[The Putin Generation](#),” (in German) with Theodore P. Gerber in *Die Welt* on February 17, 2008. The article is available in English [here](#).

Alexandros Petersen published an article, “[Armenia’s Western Evolution](#),” in the *Moscow Times* on February 12, 2008.

Andrew Kuchins published an article, “[A Look Ahead to Strategic Relations with Russia](#),” in *SIPRI Update: Global Security and Arms*, February 2008.

Alexandros Petersen published an article, “[Georgia: Next Step for Euro-Atlanticism?](#)” in *RUSI Newsbrief*, February 2008.

Alexandros Petersen published an article, “[Swim Together or Sink Together: A New Atlantic Pact](#),” in *Europe’s World*, February 2008 (with James Rogers).

MEDIA

You can view the complete list of links by going to the program’s [Media](#) page.

Director and Senior Fellow Andrew Kuchins was quoted in a March 20 article, “[President Signals Support for Georgia to Join NATO](#),” in the *Washington Post*.

Senior Fellow Sarah Mendelson was quoted on March 17 by *Reuters* in the article, “[Top U.S. Officials Say ‘Impressed’ by Russia’s Medvedev](#).”

Sarah Mendelson was quoted on March 6 by the *Washington Post* in the article, “[Russia Pumps Tens of Millions into Burnishing Image Abroad](#).”

Sarah Mendelson appeared on PBS’s *NewsHour Insider Forum* on March 6, “[Experts Answered Your Questions on Russian Politics](#).”

Andrew Kuchins was quoted by *USA Today* on March 4 in an article, “[Russia Unlikely to Veer from Putin’s Course](#).”

Senior Advisor Steven Pifer was quoted in the *Washington Times* article, “[Ukraine’s Gas Supply Reduced](#),” on March 4.

Steven Pifer was quoted in a March 4 article in the *Associated Press*, “[Russia Cuts Gas to Ukraine](#).”

Sarah Mendelson was interviewed on February 28 on BBC World’s *World News Today*, “[Russia’s Presidential Election](#).”

Andrew Kuchins answered readers’ questions on *BBC Russian* on February 21. The questions and answers are available [here](#) in Russian, and an English translation is available [here](#).

Andrew Kuchins was quoted by *NPR.org* on February 9 in an article, “[Focus Shifts to How Medvedev Will Run Russia](#).”

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