Speaker Biographies

Anders Åslund is specializing on postcommunist economic transformation, especially the Russian and Ukrainian economies. In January 2006, he joined the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington, DC, as a senior fellow. From 1994 till 2005, he worked at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, as a senior associate and Director of the Russian and Eurasian Program. He also teaches at Georgetown University. Dr. Åslund has served as a senior economic advisor to the governments of Russia, Ukraine, and Kyrgyzstan. He has been a Professor at the Stockholm School of Economics and a Swedish diplomat, serving in Kuwait, Geneva and Moscow. He earned his doctorate from Oxford University.

Dr. Åslund is the author of eight books, including Russia's Capitalist Revolution (Peterson Institute, 2007), How Capitalism Was Built: The Transformation of the Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia (Cambridge University Press, 2007), Building Capitalism (Cambridge University Press, 2002), How Russia Became a Market Economy (Brookings, 1995), Gorbachev's Struggle for Economic Reform (Cornell University Press, 1989), and Private Enterprise in Eastern Europe: The Non-Agricultural Private Sector in Poland and the GDR, 1945–83 (Macmillan, 1985). He has also edited twelve books, most recently, Europe After Enlargement, and he has published widely, including in Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, National Interest, New York Times, Washington Post, Financial Times, and Wall Street Journal.

At present, Dr. Aslund is writing a book about how Ukraine became a market economy.

Edward C. Chow is Senior Fellow at the Center for International & Strategic Studies in Washington DC. He is an international energy expert with 30 years of oil industry experience from working in Asia, Middle East, Africa, South America, Europe and the former Soviet Union. He has developed policy and business strategy, and successfully negotiated complex, multibillion dollar, international business ventures. He specializes in investments in emerging economies and international oil & gas. He has advised U.S. and foreign governments, major international oil companies, leading U.S. multinational corporations and European firms.

Mr. Chow spent 20 years with Chevron Corporation in U.S. and overseas assignments. He was head of international external affairs in headquarters in California. He played a leading role in negotiating the international commercial agreement to build a \$2.6 billion oil pipeline from Kazakhstan on the Caspian to the Russian Black Sea coast. While he was Chevron's principal international representative in Washington, he worked closely with the White House, Capitol Hill, federal departments and agencies, foreign governments, international financial institutions, and the foreign policy community on international economic policy affecting worldwide investments. Between 1989 and 1991, Mr. Chow was based in Beijing as Chevron's country manager for China.

Leonard C. Coburn is President of Coburn International Energy Consultants, LLC, a consultant firm that focuses on energy issues in Russia, the former Soviet Union, and the Middle East. From 1978 to 2004 Dr. Coburn held various positions at the U.S. Department of Energy, most recently Director of the Office of Russian and Eurasian Affairs. At this office, Dr. Coburn worked directly with the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Energy in managing the U.S.-Russia Energy Dialogue

and the U.S.-Kazakhstan Energy Dialogue. Dr. Coburn has been active in the International Association for Energy Economics since 1984 and held the positions of President, Past President, President-elect, and Vice President and Secretary. Dr. Coburn received an A.B. in government and economics from Cornell University, a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law, and an L.L.M. from National Law School at George Washington University.

James P. Dorian is a Washington, D.C.-based International Energy Economist specializing in Eurasian oil, gas, and coal issues, alternative duels and advanced energy technologies, and the geopolitics of energy. With twenty-five years experience in analyzing energy markets and policies, Dorian is an expert on energy and economic development strategies of China, the former Soviet Union, and Asia, oil and gas development and investment trends, renewable energy, and the political forces affecting the global energy industry. Prior to his relocation to Washington in 2003, Dr. Dorian was an Energy & Resources Economist with the State of Hawaii Government in Honolulu, Hawaii, where he managed several collaborative projects on energy efficiency and renewable energy involving Hawaii and the Chinese and Philippine governments. Before that, Dorian was a Research Fellow at the East-West Center in Honolulu, where he served as Coordinator of the Center's China Energy Project and the Central Asia and Caucasia Energy and Minerals Project. In 1997 Dr. Dorian was based in Uzbekistan and served as the Chief Energy Sector Specialist of an Asian Development Bank study of economic cooperation prospects in Central Asia and Xinjiang, China. Dr. Dorian has more than 95 scholarly and business-oriented publications, and he earned his doctorate degree in Resource Economics from the University of Hawaii.

Robert Ebel is a senior adviser in the CSIS Energy Program, where he offers views on world oil and energy issues, with particular emphasis on the former Soviet Union and the Persian Gulf. Previously, he served with the CIA for 11 years and spent over 7 years with the Office of Oil and Gas in the U.S. Department of the Interior. He also worked with the Federal Energy Office in the international energy area. Earlier, he worked for ENSERCH Corporation, which he joined as vice president in March 1974, serving for some 14 years, advising the corporation and its subsidiaries on international issues relevant to day-to-day operations.

Ebel has traveled widely in the former Soviet Union and was a member of the first U.S. oil delegation to visit the country in 1960; in 1970, he was part of the first group of Americans to inspect the new oil fields of Western Siberia. In November 1997, he led an International Energy Agency team examining the oil and gas sector of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In August 2002, Ebel participated in the Sudanese peace talks, held in Machakos, Kenya, and from December 2002 through April 2003, he worked with a group of former Iraqi oil officials, under the Department of State "Future of Iraq" project, to produce an assessment of the Iraqi oil sector.

Ebel is a past chairman of the Washington Export Council and past member of the board of American Near East Refugee Aid. He received the Department of State's Distinguished Public Service Award in April 2002. He holds an M.A. in international relations from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University and a B.S. in petroleum geology from Texas Tech. A graduate of the USAF Russian language program, he served in Air Force intelligence during the Korean War.

Andreas Goldthau is working with the RAND Corporation in Washington DC as a Transatlantic PostDoc Fellow in International Relations and Security. Previously, he worked as a Research

Fellow with the Institute for East European Studies at the Free University of Berlin, as a Fulbright Senior Scholar with the Elliott School of International Affairs (GWU), and as a Robert Bosch Visiting Lecturer with Tyumen State University (Russia). His recent articles and contributions include "Rethinking Energy Inc.: five myths on the Russian 'energy superpower'" (Policy Review, 147, 2008); "Rhetoric versus reality. Russian threats to European energy supply" (Energy Policy, 36, 2008); and "Domestic trends in China, Iran and the US: Implications on Navy's strategic planning" (RAND Monograph, 2008, forthcoming).

Andreas holds a joint graduate degree in Political Science from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris and Free University Berlin, a State Certificate in Russian language from Lomonossow University, Moscow, and a PhD from Free University Berlin.

Mikkal Herberg is Research Director of the Energy Security Program at The National Bureau of Asian Research. He is also a Senior Consultant with PFC Energy, an international energy consulting firm located in Washington, D.C.; an Adjunct Faculty member at the University of California, San Diego; and Adjunct Fellow at the Pacific Council on International Policy.

Previously, Mr. Herberg spent 20 years in the oil industry in Strategic Planning roles for ARCO, where from 1997 to 2000 was Director for Global Energy and Economics, responsible for worldwide energy, economic, and political analysis. He also headed country risk analysis, responsible for advising the executive management on risk conditions and investment strategies in countries and regions where ARCO had major investments. His previous positions with ARCO included Director of Portfolio Risk Management and Director for Emerging Markets.

Mikkal Herberg writes and speaks extensively on Asian energy issues to the energy industry, governments, and major research institutions in the Asia-Pacific region and Europe, including the U.S., China, and Japan. He is cited frequently in the media, including *The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post*, National Public Radio, *South China Morning Post*, *Asahi Shimbun*, *Reuters, NIKKEI News*, and *Caijing*.

Fiona Hill is National Intelligence Officer for Russia and Eurasia at The National Intelligence Council and currently on leave as a Senior Fellow at The Brookings Institution. She is a frequent commentator on Russian and Eurasian affairs, and has researched and published extensively on a diverse range of issues related to Russia, the Caucasus region, Central Asia, ethno-political conflicts in Eurasia, and energy and strategic issues. Prior to joining The Brookings Institution, Hill was Director of Strategic Planning at the Eurasia Foundation in Washington, DC. From 1991–1999, she held a number of positions directing technical assistance and research projects at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, including on the ground in Russia. Hill holds an M.A. degree in Russian and Modern History from St. Andrews University in Scotland; and an A.M. in Soviet Studies and Ph.D. in History from Harvard University where she was a Frank Knox Fellow. She has also pursued studies at the Maurice Thorez Institute of Foreign Languages in Moscow.

Jan Kalicki is Counselor for International Strategy at Chevron Corporation and acts as advisor to Chevron's Chairman, Vice Chairman, and other senior executives on regional strategies, international business opportunities and negotiations, and government relations.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. Kalicki served in the Clinton Administration as Counselor to the U.S. Department of Commerce and as the White House's Ombudsman for Energy and Commercial Relations with the New Independent States.

Dr. Kalicki previously served as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer (1972–74), a member of the State Department's Policy Planning Staff under Secretaries Kissinger and Vance (1974–77), and Chief Foreign Policy Advisor to Senator Edward M. Kennedy (1977–84). Dr. Kalicki served as Vice President (1984–88) and then Senior Vice President (1988–93) at Lehman Brothers in New York, where he developed the firm's investment banking businesses in the former Soviet Union and the Middle East. He was appointed Public Policy Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., and has taught at LSE, Harvard, Georgetown, Princeton, as well as at Brown University, where he also served as Executive Director of the Center for Foreign Policy Development and as Assistant to the President (1985–88).

Dr. Kalicki has authored a book and numerous publications on China, Russia, international energy and U.S. foreign, national security and international economic policies. He is editor (with Eugene Lawson) of Russian-Eurasian Renaissance, published in 2003 by the Wilson Center Press and Stanford University Press, and is editor (with David Goldwyn) of Energy and Security: Toward a New Foreign Policy Strategy, published by the Wilson Center Press and Johns Hopkins University Press in 2005. He is a trustee of the World Affairs Council of Northern California and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, and the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Dr. Kalicki was born in London, England in 1948. He earned his A.B. with honors from Columbia College in 1968 and his Ph.D. from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1971. He is married and has three sons.

Roy D. Kamphausen is Vice President for Political and Security Affairs and Director of NBR's D.C. Office. As Vice President for Political and Security Affairs, Mr. Kamphausen manages NBR research programs on political and security issues in Asia. As Office Director, he manages the operations and outreach of NBR's office in Washington, D.C.

Prior to joining NBR, Mr. Kamphausen served as a U.S. Army officer—a career that culminated in an assignment in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) as Country Director for China-Taiwan-Mongolia Affairs. Prior postings included assignments to The Joint Staff as an intelligence analyst and later as China Branch Chief in the Directorate for Strategic Plans and Policy (J5). A fluent Chinese (Mandarin) linguist and Army China Foreign Area Officer (FAO), he served two tours at the Defense Attaché Office of the U.S. Embassy in the People's Republic of China.

His areas of professional expertise include China's Peoples Liberation Army (PLA), U.S.-China defense relations, U.S. defense and security policy toward Asia, and East Asian security issues. His recent research has included a focus on PLA modernization, Taiwan defense and security issues, changing U.S. defense policy and posture in Asia, and the implications of China as a "responsible stakeholder" in East Asian security. He co-authored the chapter "Military Modernization in Taiwan" in Strategic Asia 2005-06: Military Modernization in an Era of Uncertainty with Michael Swaine; wrote the chapter "PLA Power Projection: Current Realities and Emerging Trends" in Assessing the Threat: The Chinese Military and Taiwan's Security (2007), with Justin Liang; and edited the volume Right-Sizing the People's Liberation Army: Exploring the Contours of China's Military (2007), with Andrew Scobell.

Roy received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Wheaton College and holds a Master's in International Affairs from Columbia University in New York. He studied Chinese at the Defense Language Institute and Beijing's Capital Normal University. He is a member of the National Committee on US-China Relations. He is married to Arminda (née Armitage) Kamphausen and together they have three children-Abigail, Hudson, and Delaney.

Yoshikazu Kobayashi is a researcher in the Energy Strategy Department of the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ). He received a BA in social sciences from Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, and an MA in international economics and international relations from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Earlier, he was an analyst at Tonen General Sekiyu, an ExxonMobil-affiliated company in Japan, covering crude oil acquisition, marine transportation, and refining operation planning. At IEEJ he is responsible for following research on oil and gas issues in the Middle East as well as energy security in Northeast Asia.

Mikhail Kroutikhin is a co-founder and leading analyst of RusEnergy, an independent consultancy that since 1999 has been providing information and advisory services to oil and gas investors in Russia and other ex-Soviet nations. He is also editor-in-chief of *The Russian Energy* weekly newsletter, which reaches subscribers by email.

Dr. Kroutikhin graduated from the Moscow State University majoring in Iranian linguistics, but later obtained his Ph.D. in modern history. His 20-year career in journalism included 13 years of reporting from the Middle East in such hot spots as Iran, Lebanon, Syria, and Egypt. Since 1993 he has been analyzing opportunities and specifics of investments in the energy industry in the ex-USSR.

RusEnergy clients include international lending institutions and audit companies, major oil and gas corporations, scientific research organizations, and foreign governments.

Robert Legvold is Marshall D. Shulman Professor in the Department of Political Science at Columbia University, where he specializes in the international relations of the post-Soviet states. He was Director of The Harriman Institute, Columbia University, from 1986 to 1992. Prior to coming to Columbia in 1984, he served for six years as Senior Fellow and Director of the Soviet Studies Project at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. For most of the preceding decade, he was on the faculty of the Department of Political Science at Tufts University. He received his Ph.D. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 1967.

Dr. Legvold's areas of particular interest are the foreign policies of Russia, Ukraine, and the other new states of the former Soviet Union, U.S. relations with the post-Soviet states, and the impact of the post-Soviet region on the international politics of Asia and Europe. His most recent book is a collaborative volume, *Russian Foreign Policy in the Twenty-first Century and the Shadow of the Past* (Columbia University Press, 2007). His most recent essays are, "U.S.-Russian Relations: An American Perspective," Russia in Global Affairs, October–December 2006; "Clinton's Foreign Policy and the Revolution in the East, in Todd G. Shields, et. al., eds., *The Clinton Riddle*, 2004; "All the Way: Crafting a U.S.-Russian Alliance," The National Interest, Winter 2002–2003; and "Russia's Unformed Foreign Policy," Foreign Affairs, September–October 2001.

Dr. Legvold is a trustee of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and a member of various advisory boards, including those of the Committee on International Security Studies of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the International Forum of the U.S.-Russian Business Council, the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University, the Program Board of "Centers for Advanced Study and Education" (Russia), and the Foundation for International Peace and Democracy, led by Mikhail Gorbachev. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Masumi Motomura is Chief Researcher for the Research Department at JOGMEC (Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation). Prior to joining JOGMEC, Mr. Motomura held various research positions at Japan National Oil Corporation (JNOC), including geologist, Director for the Russian and Caspian Division, and Chief Researcher for JNOC's Research and Planning Department. Previously, he was a Visiting Researcher at the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies. Mr. Motomura holds a Master's Degree in Geology from the University of Tokyo.

Julia Nanay is Senior Director at PFC Energy, where she heads up the Russia and Caspian Service. She has been with PFC Energy since the firm was founded in 1985. Over the last 10 years, her focus has been largely on the oil and gas sectors of the Caspian Basin countries, including Iran. She has worked with PFC Energy clients on all aspects of their investment strategies in the region and is very familiar with the political, economic and oil and gas sector issues of these countries. As a regular visitor to the region, Ms. Nanay is known to the companies that work in the Caspian and has met with many senior officials.

Ms. Nanay has 30 years of work experience in the oil and gas business. Prior to PFC Energy, between 1983 and 1985, she was a Vice President of a Jacksonville-based oil refining/marketing concern, the Charter Oil Company. From 1976–1983, she was Assistant to the Vice President for International of a Boston-based oil marketing company, Northeast Petroleum Industries. She has an M.A. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University and a B.A. from UCLA.

Keun-Wook Paik is a London-based specialist on Northeast Asia's oil and gas issues, in particular Sino-Russian oil and gas cooperation, China's Natural Gas Industry, and DPRK offshore oil and gas exploration and development issues. Currently Dr. Paik is senior research fellow, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies (OIES), and associate fellow, Energy, Environment and Development Programme, Chatham House (formerly Royal Institute of International Affairs). Dr. Paik is author of Gas and Oil in Northeast Asia: Policies, Projects and Prospects (London: Royal Institute of International Affairs, 1995), and co-author/supervisor of China Natural Gas Report (China OGP, Xinhua News Agency & RIIA, 1998). The new and comprehensive study on China's Gas Expansion was done in 2004 and the edited & full version titled Implications of China's gas expansion towards Natural Gas Market in Asia was published by Chatham House website. Dr. Paik is the author of the Korea Gas Industry Chapter for OIES book on Gas in Asia (2008 summer), and is currently working on his second book project on Sino-Russian Oil and Gas Cooperation (OIES, 2009).

Dr. Paik has contributed over 35 papers to Energy Policy, Journal of Energy and Development, Geopolitics of Energy, The Pacific Review, Energy Exploration & Exploitation, Oil & Gas Journal,

Petroleum Economist, Pipeline and Gas Technology, FT Asia Gas Report, China Daily Business Weekly, China Brief, The World Today, RIIA Briefing papers, and Asia-Pacific Review.

In 2007, Dr. Paik started the preparation work for a major research project on China's macroeconomy, energy and climate change issues, and OIES is the driving force of this major research project. The preparation work includes the brain-storming meetings with Energy Research Institute, NDRC, and China Institute for International Studies (CIIS), China Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and World Bank in May and November in Beijing. In late May 2007, Dr. Paik was invited by IEA for its brain-storming meeting on IEA's World Energy Outlook 2007 and was also invited to review the WEO 2007 draft in July/August.

Connie Phlipot is a senior Foreign Service Officer now covering Russia and the former Soviet Union on the Secretary's Policy and Planning staff. She recently completed an assignment as Deputy Chief of Mission in Embassy Minsk. She also served in Moscow as Deputy Economic Counselor and in Riga, Helsinki, Rangoon and Rome. In Washington she has worked in the Office of North Central European Affairs, in the Economic Bureau and in the Office of the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security.

Born in Cleveland, Ms. Phlipot earned her B.A. in Russian Area Studies from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. She has done graduate work in Science Policy at George Washington University and received a Masters of Science degree from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. She speaks Russian, Italian, Finnish, Burmese and Belarusian. She is married to Douglas Wake, also a career FSO.

Nina Poussenkova is a senior researcher in the Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences and scholar-in-residence in the Carnegie Moscow Center. She has been involved in the Russian oil industry since 1991: she worked in the Center for Foreign Investment and Privatization, a consulting company specializing in Russian oil and gas sector, and in equity research departments of Salomon Brothers and Lazard Freres investment banks. Dr. Nina Poussenkova was a member of the Scientific Steering Committee of the Industrial Transformation project and a member of the Advisory Board of the Greening of Industry Network. She managed WWF-Russia projects "Contribution of the Leading Russian Companies to Sustainable Development" and "Benchmarking of Russian Refineries." An associate professor, she taught for 7 years in the Graduate School of Financial Management within the Academy of National Economy.

Dr. Poussenkova is among the authors of the four-volume research report "Russian Oil" (Salomon Brothers, 1996). Together with Lev Tchurilov, the last USSR Minister of Oil Industry, and Isabel Gorst, she wrote the book "Lifeblood of Empire: A Personal History of the Rise and Fall of the Soviet Oil Industry" (PIW Publication, 1996). She was involved in the research projects of the James Baker Institute for Public Policy: "Energy Dimension in Russian Global Strategy" (2004) and "The Evolving Role of the National Oil Companies" (2007).

Ji-Chul Ryu, being a Senior Fellow at the Korea Energy Economics Institute (KEEI), is the Executive Director of the Center for Energy Research Northeast Asia (CERNA) within the KEEI. He is an expert in the areas of energy strategic development research, international energy cooperation, and energy planning and modeling. He joined the KEEI in April 1987. From 1996 to

2000 Dr. Ryu was the Vice-President of the Asia Pacific Energy Research Centre (APERC) in Tokyo, Japan. He also served as a Senior Counselor to the Minister of Energy and Resources at the Korean Government in 1991–1992. Dr. Ryu holds a PhD in economics from the Australian National University and a BSc in mathematics and statistics from the Seoul National University.

Matthew J. Sagers, CERA Senior Director, Energy Economics, Eurasia and Eastern Europe, is a well-known expert on the energy and transportation systems, and regional development in the Former Soviet Union, including pipeline constraints and solutions in Eurasia, and is an authority on energy policy in the region. Dr. Sagers heads CERA's Eurasian Transportation Forum, a platform for improving the transportation environment in the region. He is a key contributor to CERA's Russian and Caspian Retainer Advisory Services as well as three unique enhancements: the Eurasian Oil Export Outlook, the Eurasian Gas Export Outlook, and the Russian Domestic Oil Market Outlook. Two of these provide disaggregated regional and national views of Eurasian oil and gas production, consumption, and exports historically from 1990 out to 2030, while the third provided the first-ever analysis and forecast of Soviet domestic oil markets. Dr. Sagers' recent research reports provide analysis of the Russian domestic oil markets, the long-term Russian oil production outlook, the role of smaller gas fields in Russia's long-term gas outlook, the Russian oil refining sector's chances for reform, oil refining and downstream oil markets in Ukraine and Kazakhstan, new pipeline projects in Russia and Europe, quality banking in Russian oil pipelines, and US-Russia energy relations, among other issues. Dr. Sagers also served on several World Bank missions, as well as various governmental study panels and advisory groups focused on oil pipelines in Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan. He also worked on the International Energy Agency's surveys of the Russian and Ukrainian energy sectors.

Prior to joining CERA, Dr. Sagers was Director of the Energy Service at PlanEcon, Inc., where he led that company's analysis of the energy sector in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Previously, Dr. Sagers was Chief of the Soviet Branch in the US Census Bureau's Center for International Research and was an economic advisor to the newly formed Federated States of Micronesia and a professor of geography at Weber State University and University of Virginia. He is the author of *The Chemical Industry in the USSR: An Economic Geography* and *The Transportation of Soviet Energy Resources,* as well as extensive articles, government reports, and other publications. Dr. Sagers holds a BS degree (magna cum laude) from Weber State University and MA and PhD degrees from Ohio State University.

Paul J. Saunders is Executive Director of The Nixon Center. In addition to being the Center's chief operating officer, he directs its U.S.-Russian Relations Program and works on other issues, including energy and climate change, U.S.-European relations, and the role of democracy in U.S. foreign policy. He is also Associate Publisher of the foreign policy magazine, *The National Interest*, published bi-monthly by The Nixon Center, and Publisher of *National Interest online*.

Mr. Saunders served in the Bush Administration from 2003–2005 as Senior Advisor to the Undersecretary of State for Global Affairs. In that capacity, he worked on a broad range of transnational issues, in particular with respect to Russia, Ukraine, the former Soviet Union, as well as Iraq, China and India.

Mr. Saunders served as Director of The Nixon Center from 1997–2003, and was Assistant Director of the Center from its founding in 1994 until 1997. In 2000, he was a Senior Policy Advisor to the Speaker's Advisory Group on Russia, established by the Republican Policy

Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. He has written extensively for major newspapers and journals, and is a frequent commentator in national media, including *CNN*, *Fox*, and *MSNBC*. Mr. Saunders is co-author of "America, Russia and the Greater Middle East Challenges and Opportunities" with Nixon Center Program Director Geoffrey Kemp.

Su Xiaohui is Deputy Secretary-General of China Centre for Energy Strategy Studies. She graduated from the School of International Studies, Peking University in 2004 and joined China Institute of International Studies (CIIS). Her research areas cover issues on arms control, space security and energy security.

Xia Yishan is Chairman of China Centre for Energy Strategy Studies and Senior Research Fellow of China Institute of International Studies (CIIS). After he graduated from the Russian Department of Xinjiang University in 1960, Mr. Xia joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he worked in the Department of USSR and Eastern Europe Affairs and Office of Talks on China-USSR Border. In 1979, he joined CIIS. He was Director of Division of International Politics and Division of Eastern European, Central Asian and Russian Studies. Serving as deputy representative of the Chinese Disarmament Delegation, Mr. Xia participated in Geneva Conference on Disarmament. He also worked in the Chinese embassies in USSR and Russia. His research areas cover issues on Russia and Central Asia, relations between big powers, and energy strategy. Mr. Xia enjoys the government's "distinguished contributor" specialist allowance.