

CONCEPT

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and its four partner countries in the Indo-Pacific – Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and New Zealand – have entered a period of increased engagement. This engagement is taking shape in the context of the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine, NATO's growing awareness of the security challenges posed by the People's Republic of China, and important structural changes in the international system, including the return of strategic competition between the United States and China and Russia. It is occurring not only in bilateral NATO-partner relations, but also between NATO and these Indo-Pacific countries as a group, known informally as the Indo-Pacific Partners.

To increase understanding of Indo-Pacific partner perspectives on NATO as well as the dynamics of NATO and Indo-Pacific partner relations, the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) convened a study group which brought together experts from Australia, Europe, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, and North America.

The report, based on the deliberations of the study group, will be jointly launched in Brussels by the Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy (CSDS) and USIP. The event will present the findings of the report and will also discuss the opportunities and complexities of the relation between NATO and its Indo-Pacific partners.

PROGRAMME

Public event

08:30 - 08:40 REGISTRATION & WELCOME COFFEE

08:40 - 08:45 **WELCOME REMARKS**

Luis Simón

Director, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy - VUB

08:45 - 09:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

Chair

Luis Simón

Director, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy - VUB

Speakers

Benedetta Berti

Head of Policy Planning in the Office of the Secretary General, NATO

Mirna Galic

Senior Policy Analyst, China and East Asia, United States Institute of Peace (USIP)

Alexander Mattelaer

Associate Professor, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy - VUB

Tomasz Szatkowski

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to NATO

09:30 - 10:00 **Q&A**

10:00 End