

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

DR OTHON ANASTASAKIS

Director of South East European Studies at Oxford (SEESOX), St Antony's College & Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford

Othon Anastasakis is the Director of South East European Studies at Oxford (SEESOX); former Director of the European Studies Centre, St Antony's College, Oxford. He is also an Adjunct Professor at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada. He teaches South East European politics and EU politics in Oxford. Previously he was Researcher at the London School of Economics; Expert & Advisor on European Union matters at the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He received his BA in Economics from the University of Athens, his MA in Comparative Politics and International Relations from Columbia University, New York and his PhD in Comparative Government from the London School of Economics. His most recent books include *Balkan Legacies Of The Great War: The Past Is Never Dead* (with David Madden and Elizabeth Roberts, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016); *Defining A New Reform Agenda: Paths To Sustainable Convergence In South East Europe* (with Peter Sanfey and Max Watson, SEESOX, 2013); 'Sustaining Rapprochement? Greek-Turkish Relations, Low Politics and Regional Volatility' Special issue in *South East and Black Sea Studies* (with Nora Fisher Onar Vol. 13, No 3, 2013); *Reforming Greece: Sisyphean Task Or Herculean Challenge?* (with Dorian Singh, SEESOX 2012); *From Crisis To Recovery: Sustainable Growth In South East Europe* (with Jens Bastian and Max Watson, SEESOX 2011); *In The Shadow Of Europe: Greeks And Turks In The Era Of Post-Nationalism* (with Kalypso Nicolaidis and Kerem Oktem, Brill, 2009); *Greece In The Balkans: Memory, Conflict And Exchange* (with Dimitar Bechev and Nicholas Vrousalis, Cambridge Scholars Press, 2009). He has also published many articles in journals and chapters in books on comparative democratisation in South East Europe, EU-Balkan relations and EU conditionality, Turkey's European and Balkan foreign policy. He is also Region Head (on South East Europe) at Oxford Analytica. He is the Principal Investigator of the SEESOX Greek Diaspora Project.

DR JESSIE HRONEŠOVÁ

Manager for the Western Balkans at Aktis Strategy Ltd; SEESOX Associate

Jessie Hronešová is currently managing the project portfolio for the Western Balkans for the London-based international development consultancy Aktis Strategy, with a special focus on radicalization, independent media and strategic communications. In her doctoral work she focused on reparations, community-building and transitional justice in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) from the perspective of victim and veteran associations. She authored several studies on identity politics (including *Post-War Ethno-National Identities of Young People in Bosnia and Herzegovina*, 2012) and retributive transitional justice in several academic journals. Jessie previously worked at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for BiH, the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network in Sarajevo and Belgrade and for the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague. She is a regular contributor to SEESOX's research portfolio in the Balkans.

SIR DAVID MADDEN KCMG

Senior Member and Distinguished Friend of St Antony's College, University of Oxford

David Madden joined the UK Diplomatic Service in 1970, and has extensive experience of working in places on the brink of break-up (Yugoslavia in the 1980s), those divided (Berlin in the 1970s, Cyprus, Bosnia and Herzegovina), and those where there are regional tensions. As British High Commissioner in Cyprus (1994-1999), he played a full role in negotiations on a Cyprus settlement and EU accession. As British Ambassador in Greece (1999-2004), he helped the Greek government achieve a break-through against terrorism. He has a degree in the History of Art from the Courtauld Institute and is a published author (*The Mystery Of Edwin Drood*, Unthank Books, 2011; and *Balkan Legacies Of The Great War: The Past Is Never Dead* (with Othon Anastasakis and Elizabeth Roberts, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016). He is Trustee of Compassion in World Farming.

DR ADIS MERDZANOVIC

Former Junior Research Fellow at South East European Studies at Oxford (SEESOX), St Antony's College, University of Oxford

Adis Merdzanovic is a former postdoctoral Junior Research Fellow at South East European Studies at Oxford (SEESOX) at the European Studies Centre of St Antony's College, University of Oxford. He obtained his PhD in political science from the University of Zurich and was previously a Swiss Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars in Washington, D.C. His research focuses on the democratisation of divided post-conflict societies with a particular emphasis on political and constitutional orders in the Western Balkans. His current project, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, investigates challenges of liberalism in the Western Balkans in lights of the region's European Union membership perspective. Recently, he published his monograph *Democracy by Decree: Prospects and Limits of Imposed Consociational Democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina* (Ibidem, 2015).