



ISA

INSTITUTE FOR
SECURITY ANALYSIS

Security Summit: Rethinking Armenia's Geopolitical and Defense Trajectory

Summary: The summit, organized by the newly established Institute for Security Analysis, will feature a series of both public and closed-door discussions around national security and state building. Panelists will include personalities from a diverse range of disciplines and backgrounds. The summit will also be accompanied by capacity building workshops, advocacy efforts and stakeholder engagement.

Purpose: Critical security challenges — the 2020 Artsakh War, Azerbaijan's 2022 assault on Syunik and Vayotz Dzor provinces, and the ethnic cleansing of Artsakh's indigenous Armenian population — have exposed the limitations of Armenia's security strategies and highlighted an urgent need for fundamental modernization and institutional innovation.

The Security Summit aims to address these pressing issues head-on. Our goal is to create a dynamic platform where fresh, often unconventional ideas can be exchanged, thereby encouraging collaboration among defense specialists and fostering public engagement across national security discourse.

In the face of escalating regional threats and shifting power configurations, the Security Summit is committed to catalyzing grassroots and society-wide support dedicated to safeguarding Armenia's sovereignty and rapidly enhancing defense and security reforms. By bringing together policy experts, defense specialists, statesmen and active citizens, we aim to clarify — and actualize — smart and alternative options for extracting Armenia from its current crisis.

Join us in forging innovative solutions and strategies that will empower Armenia to navigate and overcome its security challenges and ensure a secure and resilient future.

Conference Agenda

Day 1

Welcome Remarks

Ara Araz

Board Member, Institute for Security Analysis

Panels

Security and Geopolitics

Panel I: Armenia's Road to 2020: Nurturing Failure, Azerbaijan's Aggression, and Russia's Role (4:05)

Dr. Stepan Astourian, Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis at the American University of Armenia

Dr. Eduard Abrahamyan, Institute for Security Analysis

Panel II: The Emerging Geopolitical Order in the Caucasus: The Rise – and Threat – of Eurasianism (5:15)

Dr. Eduard Abrahamyan, Institute for Security Analysis

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Glen Grant, National Security Expert

Break (6:30)

Politics

Panel III: Hybrid War: Disrupting Security, Society and Politics (6:45)

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Glen Grant, National Security Expert

Panel IV: Strategic Disaster: The Dangers of Appeasement (7:45)

Dr. Thomas Young, Defense Security Cooperation University and Naval Postgraduate School

Colonel Vladimir Milenski, Bulgarian Army

Day 2

Next Steps and Policy Solutions

Panel V: Salvaging Statehood: A Crisis Roadmap for the Armenian Republic (4:00)

Dr. Thomas Young, Defense Security Cooperation University and Naval Postgraduate School

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Glen Grant, National Security Expert

Panel VI: Next Steps: A Legal Strategy for Artsakh (5:15)

Talin Hitik, Lawyer and International Law Expert

Break, 6:30

Panel VII: Shaping a Reform Agenda: A Whole-of-Society Approach to Territorial Defense (6:45)

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Glen Grant, National Security Expert

Hratchya Arzumanyan, National Security Expert

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