



Center for a  
New American  
Security

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The German Marshall Fund  
of the United States  
STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION

## The Road to the Warsaw NATO Summit: Looking at Challenges to Europe's South

The German Marshall Fund of the United States  
1744 R Street NW  
Washington, DC 20009

November 4, 2015

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**9:00 – 9:15am Registration and Coffee**

**9:15**

**Welcome**

Derek Chollet, *German Marshall Fund of the United States*  
Julianne Smith, *Center for a New American Security*

**9:20 – 10:50**

**Disorder on the Periphery: Evaluating the Threats Coming From NATO's Southern Flank**

Moderator

Julianne Smith, *Center for a New American Security*

Panelists

Ambassador Claudio Bisogniero, *Embassy of Italy to the U.S.*  
Steven Cook, *Council on Foreign Relations*  
Robert Satloff, *The Washington Institute for Near East Policy*  
Tamara Wittes, *The Brookings Institution*

Allies have drastically different opinions about the importance of security challenges emanating from the Middle East and North African countries on NATO's southern flank. This panel will take a look at the regional landscape and offer their views on where NATO can and should contribute to addressing regional security challenges such as ISIS and other extremist groups, sectarian and geopolitical conflict between Sunni states and Iran, weakening state institutions, and associated migration challenges. Where can NATO provide unique capabilities, expertise, or useful convening? What types of initiatives should NATO consider for the Warsaw Summit?

**10:50 Coffee Break**

**11:00 – 12:15 Small Wars, Big Challenges: Is NATO Ready and Able to Deal with Threats from the Middle East and North Africa?**

Moderator

Derek Chollet, *German Marshall Fund of the United States*

Panelists

Chris Chivvis, *RAND*

Camille Grand, *Fondation pour la recherche stratégique*

Sinan Ülgen, *Carnegie Europe*

The NATO alliance faces pressure to ramp up its defense against conventional and hybrid challenges from Russia in the east at the same time as defense budget cuts have resulted in shortfalls in weapons and training. In this environment, how can alliance members also field the capabilities needed to combat irregular threats coming from NATO's southern flank? What capabilities are needed for those missions, and to what extent are they distinct from more traditional missions? How can the alliance retain what it learned in Afghanistan and apply it NATO's near abroad?

**12:15 – 1:15 Working Lunch and Keynote**

Colin Kahl, Deputy Assistant, *Office of the President* and National Security Advisor, *Office of the Vice President*

**1:15 – 1:30 Closing Remarks**