



On Friday, March 19th, nearly 30 eminent policy experts from around Washington DC will join nearly 300 students at the Georgetown Hotel and Conference Center for a keynote and series of panel discussions on a range of important issues in international affairs. The event, titled the Georgetown International Diplomacy and Security Conference, will run from 12:30 PM to 8 PM at night, and include an evening reception for all panelists and guests.

Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering will be keynoting the conference. Over the course of his career, he served as the US Ambassador to the Russian Federation, India, Jordan, El Salvador, Israel, Nigeria, and the United Nations, and was termed by TIME Magazine as the "five star general of the diplomatic corps."

Following the keynote speaker, each hour block will feature two panels running concurrently. Speakers on these panels have vast practical and policy experience in their field, such as Ex-USAID Administrator Prof. Andrew Natsios (Human Dimension in East Africa), Asia-Pacific expert Prof. Robert Sutter (Future of Trade Relations in Asia-Pacific), and Locke Lord Strategies' Mark Siegel (Islam and the West), who is Pakistan's chief lobbyist in the United States.

The schedule is as follows:

Keynote, 12:45-1:45 PM: Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering

Session 1, 2:00-3:00 PM:

1 – The Future of Trade Relations in the Asia-Pacific

Featuring Michael Green, Nancy Tucker, Michael Yahuda, Catharine Dalpino, and Robert Sutter

2 – The Geopolitics of Energy Security in the Next Decade

Featuring Christine Parthemore, Paul Sullivan, Joanna Lewis, and Theodore Moran

Session 2, 3:10-4:10 PM:

1 – Islam and the West: Religion, Culture, and Politics

Featuring Mark Siegel, Shireen Hunter, Merve Kavachi, and John Voll

2 – The Human Dimension in East Africa

Featuring Andrew Natsios, Gwendolyn Mikell, William Bellamy, John Norris, and Carol Lancaster

Session 3, 4:20-5:20 PM:

1 – Smart Power and the Russian “Reset”

Featuring Angela Stent, Barry Blechman, Martha Brill Olcott, Jeffrey Lewis, and Robert Lieber

2 – Challenges in the Persian Gulf

Featuring Trita Parsi, Ken Gude, Paul Pillar, Will Davis, and Jean-Francois Seznec

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