



## **THREE SEAS ONE OPPORTUNITY: WELCOME TO WARSAW**

Warsaw | April 27, 2025

HOTEL POLONIA PALACE

The Three Seas region faces challenges that are redefining its future. The ongoing war in Ukraine, rising geopolitical tensions around the Black Sea, disrupted supply chains, the establishment of new trade routes, and the dynamics of transatlantic relations have transformed the Three Seas Initiative (3SI) from a visionary infrastructure project into a key pillar of regional stability.

As the world undergoes a period of uncertainty, the Three Seas nations have a unique opportunity to strengthen their position through economic cooperation, investments in strategic infrastructure, and coordinated security efforts. As the host of the 2025 Three Seas Summit, Warsaw will be the focal point of crucial discussions about the region's future in April 2025.

In this context, the THREE SEAS ONE OPPORTUNITY: WELCOME TO WARSAW conference will serve as an expert prelude to the official discussions at the Three Seas Summit. Participants will engage in in-depth discussions, exchange experiences, and develop concrete recommendations for both the Summit and future regional strategies.

The Opportunity – Institute for Foreign Affairs has been inspiring Three Seas discussions for years, connecting experts and setting the course for change.

Join us in Warsaw!

PLENARY SESSION			
08:45 – 09:30	Registration and Morning Coffee		
09:30 – 09:45	<b>Opening of the Conference</b>	Małgorzata Samojedny, The Opportunity	Main Hall
	<i>Official welcome by the organizers, an introduction to key conference topics.</i>		
09:45 – 11:15	<b>Opening Panel: The Global Dimension of the Three Seas Initiative</b>	<u>Moderator:</u> Małgorzata Samojedny, The Opportunity  <u>Speakers:</u> Fatih Ceylan, Ankara Policy Center Francesco Talò, Italy's Special Envoy to the IMEC Maria Gavouneli, ELIAMEP Swasti Rao, JGU Zoran Dimitrovski, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of the Republic of North Macedonia	Main Hall
	<i>Experts will summarize a decade of the initiative, focusing on its key achievements and areas requiring intensified cooperation. The discussion will cover infrastructure, energy, digitization, and, in light of emerging threats, the growing importance of defense cooperation.</i>		
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break		
PARALLEL WORKSHOP SESSIONS AND YOUNG EXPERTS DAY			
<i>Participants will choose thematic tracks focused on the challenges of the Three Seas maritime basins. Each track consists of three sessions, each lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes.</i>			
11:30 – 16:15	<b>Track 1: The Baltic – Northern Fortress</b>		<b>Room 1</b>
	Exploring the role of the Baltic Sea as a key energy corridor and an area of increasing NATO and Russian military activity.		
11:30 – 12:45	<b>Session 1: Baltic Shield – Defense and Deterrence</b>	<u>Moderators:</u> Dimitrios Dalaklis, WMU Louis Wierenga, Baltic Defence College	
	<i>Growing NATO military presence, modernization of Baltic states' armed forces, hybrid threats, and cybersecurity. Protection of critical infrastructure.</i>		
12:45 – 13:30	Lunch Break		

13:30 – 14:45	<b>Session 2:</b> <b>The Northern Energy Axis – LNG, Offshore, and New Technologies</b>	<u>Moderators:</u> Zuzanna Nowak, The Opportunity Ireneusz Łazor, IPE	
	Development of LNG terminals in Poland and the Baltic states, investments in renewable energy, and the region’s energy transformation and its impact on energy security.		
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee Break		
15:00 – 16:15	<b>Session 3:</b> <b>The Baltic as an Innovation Hub</b>	<u>Moderators:</u> Tomoyuki Hashimoto, Vilnius University/SGH Thomas O’Donnell, Wilson Center	
	Advancements in AI, cloud and quantum technologies, and digital solutions for business and administration. The Baltic as a hub for innovation in the Three Seas region, from smart infrastructure to new digital economy models.		
11:30 – 16:15	<b>Track 2: The Black Sea – The Frontline</b>		<b>Room 2</b>
	Analyzing the increasing importance of the Black Sea region in the context of the war in Ukraine, security challenges, and economic cooperation, including the Middle Corridor Initiative.		
11:30 – 12:45	<b>Session 1:</b> <b>In the Shadow of Wars – The New Security Architecture</b>	<u>Moderators:</u> Rumena Filipova, IGA Elene Kintsurashvili, GMF	
	Border security, NATO and EU roles in regional stabilization, hybrid threats.		
12:45 – 13:30	Lunch Break		
13:30 – 14:45	<b>Session 2:</b> <b>Trade Routes Under Fire – Logistics and Economy</b>	<u>Moderators:</u> Areg Kochinyan, RCSP Sergej Sumlenny, ERIC	
	Impact of the war on maritime transport, alternative supply routes (Balkan corridor), and the future of regional trade. The Middle Corridor Initiative as a key route linking Europe with Asia via the Caspian Sea and the South Caucasus.		
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee Break		
15:00 – 16:15	<b>Session 3:</b> <b>Russian Blockade – What’s Next? Energy and Resources</b>	<u>Moderators:</u> Galiya Ibragimova, freelance expert Vadym Halaichuk, Verkhovna Rada	
	Energy security of Black Sea nations, diversification of supply sources, and the roles of Romania and Bulgaria in the evolving resource landscape.		

11:30 – 16:15	Track 3: The Mediterranean – The Southern Gateway		Room 3
	Discussing the role of the southern Three Seas nations in migration, logistics, and cooperation with Middle Eastern and African partners, with reference to the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC).		
11:30 – 12:45	Session 1:  The Burning Southern Front – Migration and Border Security	Moderators:  Aleksandra Spancerska, PISM Róbert Gönczi, MRI	
	Migration crisis, the Three Seas region’s role in border protection, and pressures on EU nations.		
12:45 – 13:30	Lunch Break		
13:30 – 14:45	Session 2:  The New Silk Road – Can the Balkans Become Asia’s Gateway?	Moderators:  Tolga Sakman, DIPAM Stefan Vladislavjev, BFPE	
	Chinese and Turkish investments in the region, competition for influence in the Balkans.		
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee Break		
15:00 – 16:15	Session 3:  Southern Ports – The Future of Logistics and Transport	Moderators:  Sotirios Theofanis, MARLOGMIND PC Joost Hintjens, University of Antwerp	
	The role of Adriatic and Aegean ports in Central European supply chains, considering the IMEC as a key trade and connectivity project.		
11:30 – 16:15	Young Experts Day Competition		Main Hall
	A competition for aspiring young experts to test their skills and knowledge at an international conference, consisting of three sessions with breaks following the event schedule.		
PLENARY SESSION			
16:15 – 16:30	Coffee Break		
16:30 – 17:30	Closing Panel:  United by Fear, Divided by Strategy	Moderator:  Marek Stefan, Układ Sił  Speakers:  Albert Świdziński, Strategy&Future Emmanuel Dupuy, IPSE Ian Brzeziński, Atlantic Council Velina Tchakarova, FACE	Main Hall
	The Three Seas region is facing new challenges such as Russian aggression, tensions in the Middle East, and migration and energy crises. A shared fear of external threats brings the countries of the region closer together, yet differences in national interests and international		

	<i>alignments lead to tensions and fragmentation. We will explore what implications this may have for the future of the Three Seas as a platform for political, infrastructure and defense cooperation.</i>		
<b>17:30 – 17:45</b>	<b>Closing Remarks and Young Experts Day Results</b>	Małgorzata Samojedny, The Opportunity	Main Hall

#### ORGANIZER



## OPPORTUNITY

Institute for Foreign Affairs

#### STRATEGIC PARTNER

## UKŁAD SIŁ

#### OFFICIAL SIDE EVENT OF THE THREE SEAS SUMMIT



## Three Seas Summit

WARSAW, POLAND 2025 

#### HONORARY PATRONAGE



## Ministerstwo Obrony Narodowej

---

## INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS



EMBASSY OF ESTONIA  
WARSAW

## SUBSTANTIVE PARTNERS



## YED COMPETITION PARTNER



## MEDIA PARTNERS



## PARTNERS



**FIFIELSKI JASIŃSKI**

kancelaria adwokacka