



e-CAMCA Forum Speaker Bios

Monday, June 21 – Panel Session

Moderator:



Dr. S. Frederick Starr, Chairman, Central Asia Caucasus Institute

Dr. S. Frederick Starr serves as the founding chairman of the Central Asia - Caucasus Institute at the American Foreign Policy Council. Starr is also a Research Professor at Johns Hopkins University-SAIS in Washington and Head of Advisory Council at the Institute for Security and Development Policy in Stockholm.

Starr has focused on the challenge of reopening continental-wide transport passing through Central Asia and Afghanistan, which he sees as a key to success in Afghanistan itself. This issue was the subject of a series of articles between 2000 and 2008 and of a book, *The New Silk Roads*, published in 2007.

Starr is a frequent commentator on the affairs of the region, and the author of numerous articles in journals including *Foreign Affairs*, *The National Review*, *Far East Economic Review*, and op-eds in various leading American and international newspapers. His most recent book, *Lost Enlightenment: Central Asia's Golden Age from the Arab Conquest to Tamerlane*, has been widely acclaimed. In this book on the history of the region between the 8th and 11th centuries, he argues that Central Asia was the center of the world.

Starr was the founding Chairman of the Kennan Institute in Washington, and served as Vice President of Tulane University and President of the Aspen Institute and of Oberlin College (1983-94). He was closely involved in planning the University of Central Asia and the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy and is a trustee of the Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan. He earned his PhD in History at Princeton, MA at King's College, Cambridge, and his BA at Yale, and holds five honorary degrees.

Panelists:



Dr. Dennis de Tray, Board Member, Adviser to the President, Nazarbayev University

After graduating from the University of Chicago with a Ph.D. in economics in 1971 and following a 12-year stint at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California, Dr. de Tray joined the World Bank's Research Department in 1983.

His last assignments at the Bank were as Country Director for Indonesia, 1994-1999, and then Central Asia, 2001-2006. He is a founding father of and now Adviser to the President, and member of the Board of Trustees of Nazarbayev University, an English language university in Astana, Kazakhstan. Since leaving the World Bank, his consulting work has included advising: the U.S. military in Iraq and Afghanistan on counterinsurgency, the governments of Kazakhstan and East Timor, and the Aga Khan Development Network.

He and his wife have lived the last two decades in Central Asia.



Dr. Subir Lall, Deputy Director, Middle East and Central Asia Department, IMF

Subir Lall is Deputy Director in the Middle East and Central Asia Department of the International Monetary Fund. He has been the IMF mission chief for Egypt, Portugal, Germany, the Netherlands, Indonesia, Korea and Malaysia, and deputy division chief (in charge) of the World Economic Studies Division. His country experience has been in Asia, Europe, Middle East and Central Asia, and Western Hemisphere economies, and he has been a co-author of the IMF's World Economic Outlook and the Global Financial Stability Report.

His research interests and publications are in the areas of financial systems and crises, speculative attacks, contagion, financial market microstructure, income inequality, and the impact of technological change on the economy. He served on the Academic Advisory Panel of the World Economic Forum's Financial Development Report. He has a B.A. (first class with Honors) in Economics from the University of Delhi and a Ph.D. in Economics from Brown University, where he was the recipient of the Susan B. Kamins Fellowship.



Dr. Eldor Aripov, Director, Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies, Uzbekistan

Dr. Eldor Aripov is the Director of the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Prior to this, he had an extensive career serving as the Deputy Secretary of National Security Council under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 1st Deputy State Adviser to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Head of the Coordination and Analysis Centre for Foreign Policy Studies.

He holds a Master's degree in International Relations and PhD in Political Science from the University of World Economy and Diplomacy under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan. He has numerous publications on economics, security, and international relations. His area studies expertise is the international relations, regional cooperation, security and stability in Central Asia.



Dr. Taleh Ziyadov, Director General, Baku International Sea Trade Port, Azerbaijan

Dr. Taleh Ziyadov is Director-General of Baku International Sea Trade Port (aka Port of Baku) in Azerbaijan. He specializes in transport and logistics issues in Eurasia. Between 2008 and 2014, he has advised a number of private and public companies as well as international organizations on the matters of trade facilitation along the East-West and North-South transport corridors. He is the author of the book, *Azerbaijan as a Regional Hub in Central Eurasia* (Baku: ADA, 2012), which provides a strategic analysis of the Euro-Asian trade and transportation networks through Central Eurasia, outlining the vision for developing Azerbaijan into a "regional hub" by 2030.

Dr. Ziyadov holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of Cambridge (UK) and Master's degree from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University (Washington, DC).

Previously, he served as Deputy Executive Director of the US-Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce (USACC) in Washington, DC and as Assistant Dean and Senior Research Fellow at ADA University in Baku.



Aziza Umarova, Co-Founder of SmartGov Consulting, CAMCA Network Member, Uzbekistan

Ms. Aziza Umarova is Co-Founder of SmartGov Consulting, a Singapore-based consulting firm specializing in public administration reform in post-Soviet countries.

Her expertise is innovation in the public sector, anti-corruption and integrity, public service delivery, e-Governance and digital strategies. Ms. Umarova has a decade of experience in leading large development projects and previously served as an Advisor on Public Sector Innovation at the United Nations Development Program's (UNDP) Global Center for Public Service Excellence in Singapore. Prior to that, she led the Governance Team at UNDP Uzbekistan.

Ms. Umarova holds an MA from the School of International Relations at the University of St. Andrews, UK (2006), and an MA (2005) and BA (1999) in International Economics from the University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Uzbekistan.