



**UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
(U.S. HELSINKI COMMISSION)**

“AI, UAVs, Hypersonics and Autonomous Systems:

Emerging Technologies and Euro-Atlantic Security”

A Field Hearing of the United States Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

9:00am, Wednesday, January 22, 2020

University of Texas at Arlington - Nedderman Hall

416 Yates Street, Arlington, TX 76010

Fort Worth, Texas

Opening Statement of Representative Marc Veasey

Good morning to everybody. It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you all to this field hearing of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which is informally referred to as the U.S. Helsinki Commission.

I have the honor of serving as a Commissioner, under the leadership of Congressman Alcee Hastings of Florida, and I would like to thank Chairman Hastings for asking me to convene this hearing today.

Because some of you may be less familiar with the Helsinki Commission than our usual audience in Washington, DC, I'd like to start by telling you a bit about our Commission.

Forty four years ago, President Gerald Ford joined 35 other heads of state, including longstanding American adversaries, to sign one of the most significant international agreements of the 20th Century—the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, better known as the Helsinki Accords.

The accords committed the United States, Europe, and the Soviet Union to respect human rights, to manage the spread of dangerous weapons, to foster economic opportunity, and to ending the territorial disputes in Europe that had already twice plunged the world into war.

Our Commission was created to uphold exactly these commitments, and since its inception, it has provided a crucial voice for defending freedom, opportunity, and human rights through the engagement of the United States in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe – also known as the OSCE – where these commitments are negotiated to this day.

Composed of Members of Congress from both parties and chosen from the House and Senate, the Helsinki Commission represents our democracy's commitment to preserving and advancing the peace, freedom, and prosperity across the world that previous generations of Americans sacrificed so much to achieve.

That is why I am honored to have been appointed to serve on the Helsinki Commission. The world has changed dramatically since it was established, but the need to defend the principles of peace and security, freedom, opportunity and human rights is greater than ever.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Let me now offer a few thoughts on the purpose of this event, and why we are having it here in Texas.

The subject matter for today's hearing relates to the impact of emerging technologies on Euro-Atlantic security, and I am looking forward to learning a great deal from our witnesses today on this subject.

New threats that we are concerned with range from hypersonic weapons, to drones, autonomous weapon platforms, artificial intelligence, directed energy, and others.

These technologies have the potential to unlock some important capabilities to ensure the defense of our homeland and support our Allies and friends abroad.

However, these very same technologies are also under development by some of our strategic competitors – Russia chief among them – and so I also look forward to hearing our experts' views on how our potential adversaries are looking to use some of these same technologies to threaten us and our Allies.

Finally, I will also look forward to our witnesses' views on how we should best approach our international engagement on these technologies, including through diplomatic efforts, and understanding what national and legal regimes apply or are under consideration. In particular, today's discussion should help us better consider whether the OSCE and its affiliated security institutions can offer a space to establish norms for emerging technologies.

So that's what we want to get out of today's event.

But why are we here, in Arlington, Texas, rather than in Washington D.C., where Congressional hearings typically take place?

The answer to that question could not be more clear to those of us here in this room, but for the benefit of those who may be watching this on livestream or reading our transcript:

I asked Chairman Hastings for the privilege of convening this hearing here precisely because of the unique confluence of technical know-how, academic expertise, and defense-industrial presence right here in Texas.

This spirit of innovation and expertise, alongside cutting edge industry and an innovative private sector, is why the Army decided to establish the headquarters of its Futures Command in Austin, Texas, in 2018.

In fact, after this hearing, I'll be spending some time this afternoon visiting Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, to be briefed on the increased capabilities and technological advances provided by the F-35 Lightning II aircraft, as well as how it provides increased opportunities for inter-service and international cooperation. I'll also be visiting the production line where the F-35 is assembled and getting a first-hand look at this 5th generation fighter jet.

So we are here because of all the expertise available to us. But we are also here, away from Washington, because of how essential it is that Americans throughout our nation have an opportunity to engage in policy discussions paramount to our shared values in the transatlantic space. This hearing offers a connection outside of the Beltway to America's international commitments as a participating state of the OSCE. We all should have a stake in meeting commitments to our local and international communities.

With all that being said, let me express my gratitude to the experts who have taken time out of their busy schedules to be with us today to provide their testimony for the record. I'd like to very briefly introduce them now, and I think you will quickly see that they represent a clear demonstration of the incredibly high caliber of locally-sourced national security expertise we have available to us here in Texas.

- We will first hear from Kelley Saylor, who is an Analyst in Advanced Technology and Global Security at the U.S. Congressional Research Service. For those who may not know, the CRS is a tremendous resource to all of us in Congress who depend on their expertise on almost any issue that comes before us. Ms. Saylor has extensive experience working on these issues both in and out of government, including service in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. I also note her strong Texas connection: she received her Master's degree from Baylor University. Ms. Saylor, thank you for being here.
- Our next speaker will be Dr. William Inboden, who serves as the Executive Director and William Powers, Jr. Chair at the William P. Clements, Jr. Center for National Security at University of Texas-Austin. Among Dr. Inboden's many other roles, he also serves as Associate Professor at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, Distinguished Scholar at the

Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law, and Editor-in-Chief of the Texas National Security Review. He has served as Senior Director for Strategic Planning on the National Security Council at the White House, and in the Department of State's Policy Planning Staff, as well as serving as a staff member in both the United States Senate and the House of Representatives.

- Our third witness today will be Professor Chris Jenks, Director of the Criminal Clinic and Associate Professor of Law at the Deadman School of Law at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas. A noted expert on the law of armed conflict and lethal autonomous weapons, Professor Jenks served more than 20 years in the US Army, first as an Infantry Officer in Germany, Kuwait and as a NATO peacekeeper in Bosnia and later as a Judge Advocate. He has also served details at the Department of State and at the Department of Justice, and was recently called to serve as Special Assistant to the Department of Defense General Counsel.

As a last note before giving our witnesses the floor, I'd like to offer the Commission's thanks to the University of Texas, Arlington, for allowing us to use this great facility; what better place to talk about technology and its implications than right here in Nedderman Hall, home to the University's engineering departments?

Let me inform the witnesses that their full statements will be entered into the record; I have asked them to summarize their testimony for the purposes of our discussion today.