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Panelist Biographies

Vladimir Milov

Vladimir Milov is a Russian opposition politician, publicist, economist & energy expert. Former Deputy Minister of Energy of Russia (2002), adviser to the Minister of Energy (2001-2002), and head of strategy department at the Federal Energy Commission, the natural monopoly regulator (1999-2001).

Author of major energy reform concepts, including the concept of market restructuring and unbundling of Gazprom, which was banned from implementation by President Vladimir Putin. Founder and president of the Institute of Energy Policy, a leading independent Russian energy policy think tank (since 2003).

Columnist of major Russian political and business editions, including Forbes Russia, frequent commentator on Russian political and economic affairs in major Western media outlets (The New York Times, The Financial Times, The Washington Post, The Economist, etc.).

Since leaving Russian Government in 2002, Mr. Milov has become a vocal public critic of Vladimir Putin's dirigiste and authoritarian course. Mr. Milov is also active in the Russian opposition politics, serving as Chairman of the Democratic Choice opposition party, and is also known as co-author of the critical public report on Vladimir Putin's Presidential legacy called Putin. The Results, written together with Boris Nemtsov (several editions published since 2008).

Matt Schrader

Matt Schrader is an Advisor for China at the International Republican Institute's Center for Global Impact. Previously, he was a China Analyst with the Alliance for Securing Democracy at GMF and he was the editor of the Jamestown China Brief at the Jamestown Foundation. He worked at the Crumpton Group and the Global Taiwan Institute in Washington DC, prior to which he lived in Beijing for nine years, working in the finance, PR, and social enterprise spaces. Matt speaks, reads, and writes Mandarin Chinese fluently and has translated three books from Mandarin to English. He holds a master's degree from the Asian Studies program at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service and undergraduate degrees in international affairs and economics from The George Washington University.

Karen M. Sutter

Karen M. Sutter is a Specialist in Asian Trade and Finance at the Congressional Research Service. She has over 30 years of experience working on China, U.S.-Asia policy, and crosscutting economic, political, technological and national security issues in government, business, and the think tank community. She has spoken and written extensively on China and broader Asian issues. She previously served as the Director of Strategy and Analysis for the U.S. Air Force's Office of Commercial and Economic Analysis (OCEA); Special Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for International Markets and Investment, and Senior Policy Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Investment Security at the U.S. Department of Treasury; and Senior Analyst on China at the CIA.

Prior to joining government, Ms. Sutter led the research and consulting division of the U.S.-China Business Council and directed the Asia program at The Atlantic Council of the United States. Earlier in her career, she worked for the National Bureau of Asian Research and the Asia Society. Ms. Sutter has worked and studied in Beijing, Taipei, and Strasbourg, and speaks Chinese (Mandarin) and French. She received an M.A. in International Studies from the University of Washington, where she was a Henry M. Jackson Fellow, and is a graduate of the University of Virginia.