

“For Estonia. 90 years of foreign policy and diplomacy.”

Conference to mark the 90th anniversary of Estonian diplomacy and foreign policy
Teachers' House, Tallinn, 24-25 October 2008

Friday, October 24

10.30 Opening: [Urmás Paet](#), the Estonian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Panel I: Estonia's return to the world stage: The possibilities and choices of the early 1990s

1. [Toomas Hendrik Ilves](#) *Estonian diplomacy: choices and concepts*
2. [Kristina Spohr-Readman](#) *Between political rhetoric and the calculations of realpolitik: Western diplomacy and the Baltic struggle for independence in the Cold War's endgame*
3. [David Manning](#) *Freedom restored: a British diplomat's memories of 1990-1991*
4. [Ulrich Brandenburg](#) *Rediscovering Estonia: a German view*

12.30 – 14.00 buffet lunch

14.00 – 16.00 Panel I continues

5. [Edward Lucas](#) *The leap to freedom: a journalist's view*
6. [Brit Løvseth](#) *Reflections on some important milestones of the early 1990s in Estonia.*
7. [Niall Leonard](#) *Estonia and EU accession - what happened in 1996?*
8. [Aleksi Makarkin](#) *The impact of the Baltic countries' accession to NATO on Russian public opinion.*
9. [Robert Nurick](#) *NATO and the Baltic states: some thoughts about the U.S. debate*

Moderator: [Harri Tiido](#)

16.00 – 16.30 coffee break

16.30 – 18.00 Panel II and Panel III:

Panel II: the Baltic Sea region (3rd floor)

1. [Matti Klinge](#) *The formation of a Baltic regional identity*
2. [Lars Grundberg](#) *Some impressions from the first ambassador, 1991 - 1995*
3. [Urmás Paet](#) *Baltic Sea strategy*

Moderator: [Andres Kasekamp](#)

Panel III: the Evolution of Estonian Diplomacy from the 1920s

1. [Karsten Brüggemann](#) *Carpe diem: Estonian diplomacy during the War of Independence*
2. [John Hiden](#) *Estonia: winning recognition, 1918-1921*
3. [Eero Medijainen](#) *The lessons of Estonia's interwar foreign policy*

Moderator: [Matti Maasikas](#)

18.30-20.30 Dinner hosted by Foreign Minister Urmas Paet, *by invitation only*

21.00 Late night discussion in a relaxed atmosphere: “Russia and the West: what happens next?”

Moderator: [Jüri Luik](#)

Saturday, October 25

10.00-11.45 Panel IV: Contemporary challenges

1. [Sven Mikser](#) *Idealism versus realpolitik*
2. [Milan Jazbec](#) *Estonia and Slovenia twenty years on - the way ahead*
3. [Michel Foucher](#) *The European Union and Russia, a French perspective*
4. **Discussants:**

[Robert Nurick](#)

[Ulrich Brandenburg](#)

[Jüri Luik](#)

Moderator: [Kadri Liik](#)

12.00 – 12.45 Quiz

12.45 Close: [Matti Maasikas](#), Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Snacks and wine

