

Strategic Foresight Analysis ACT Workshop on Regional Perspectives

BUDAPEST 6 - 8 NOVEMBER, 2018

CHALLENGES TO THE LIBERAL WORLD ORDER

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The Liberal World Order at an Inflection Point

- Rise of Regional Hegemons: Russia and China
- The Return of Geopolitics
- Clashes of Interests, Competitive Behavior: Lessons from History
- The Liberal Order
- The U.S. Role
- Europe's Role

The Liberal World Order as an Existential Threat to Russia and China

- The Spread of Democracy as Containment
- Peer Competitors – Not Stakeholders
- Revisionist Challenges
- Unipolarity Rejected
- Spreading Uncertainty, Exploiting Divisions

Western Passivity and Weaknesses

- Failed Expectations: The Arc of History
- Tribalism and Nationalism
- The Narrowing of America's National Interests
- The End of Europe's Integration Project
- The Erosion of Institutionalized Diplomacy

The Return of Nuclear Weapons

- American Nuclear Strategy and Low-Yield Nuclear Weapons
- Russian Nuclear Strategy and 'escalate to de-escalate' and tactical superiority
- The Near Death of Arms Control: INF and New START

The Future: Looking Ahead

- Russian Strategic Culture
- American Strategic Culture
- The Changing Nature of War

Russian Strategic Culture

- Restorer of Russia, Leader of Eurasia
- Limiting the Sovereignty of Neighboring States
- Inventing a New National Narrative: Anti-West
- Rhetoric Hiding Fundamental Vulnerabilities

American Strategic Culture

- Leadership, Investment, Engagement as Sources of National Security
- Retrenchment and Transactionalism
- Loss of European-focused Elites

The Changing Nature of War

- Russia is at War with the West – Have We Noticed?
- Disinformation, Election Interference: The West is the Enemy
- Putin: Maintaining Capacity to Act Across the Non-Military and Military Spectrum