



RUSSIA AND EURASIA PROGRAMME

Azerbaijan: External Relations, Internal Realities

PROGRAMME

11 January 2013
Chatham House, London

9:00 – 9:30 Arrival & coffee

SESSION 1 | Azerbaijan's Domestic Development

9.30–11.15

- What are the strategic priorities of the Azerbaijani government?
- How is Azerbaijan's economy going to develop over the next decade? Is the country – heavily dependent on oil and gas production – capable of adapting to a post-hydrocarbon economy?
- What are the prospects for institutional reform and democratisation? Have the events of the Arab Spring and the Russian elections introduced any changes in Azerbaijan's domestic political environment?

Vugar Gojayev, Human Rights Watch

Leila Alieva, Center for National and International Studies, Baku

Chair: James Nixey, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

11:15–11:30 Coffee

SESSION 2 | Azerbaijan's Foreign Policy

11:30–13:15

- How will relations with the US and the EU develop in the short and medium term? How effective is the Azerbaijani lobby abroad in influencing policy?
- Would Azerbaijan benefit from greater conditionality over the future of its Council of Europe membership?
- What are the prospects for a resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute? How likely is another military conflict?
- How important is Azerbaijan's relationship with Russia and Iran? How has the attempt to normalise relations between Turkey and Armenia impacted on Azerbaijan's foreign policy?

Svante Cornell, ISDP, Stockholm

Gerald Knaus, European Stability Initiative

Rashad Shirinov, Radboud University Nijmegen

Chair: Andrew Monaghan, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

13:15 – 14:15 Lunch