THE EU AND THE NATO ALLIANCE;
Friends, Enemies & Issues

PRESENTING SPEAKERS:

AMBASSADOR JIM COLLINS
AMBASSADOR ROBERT HUNTER
AMBASSADOR ALLAN WENDT
AMBASSADOR RONALD NEUMANN
The Omaha Ambassadors Forum would like to extend its gratitude to the American Academy of Diplomacy for assisting in facilitating this forum.
The focus of the 2015 Omaha Ambassadors Forum this Spring will be on the EU and NATO alliance.

“Russia, America and Europe: Policy Choices for the Atlantic Alliance.” The Ukrainian crisis has made it evident that early visions of Russian-European-American cooperation are not feasible. Which policies now make sense? The Omaha Ambassadors’ Forum will examine the issue from multiple perspectives. Former Ambassador to NATO Robert Hunter will look at the situation from the US and NATO perspective. Former Ambassador to Russia James Collins will examine it from the Russian angle and Allan Wendt, the former Ambassador and Special Representative for Strategic Trade and Technology, will look at the intertwining economic issues of the European Union.
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PRESENTER BIOS
Ambassador James F. Collins is an expert on the former Soviet Union, its successor states, and the Middle East.

Ambassador Collins was the U.S. ambassador to the Russian Federation from 1997 to 2001. Prior to joining the Carnegie Endowment, he served as senior adviser at the public law and policy practice group Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP.

Before his appointment as ambassador to Russia, he served as ambassador at large and special adviser to the secretary of state for the newly independent states in the mid-1990s and as deputy chief of mission and chargé d’affaires at the U.S. embassy in Moscow from 1990 to 1993. In addition to three diplomatic postings in Moscow, he also held positions at the U.S. embassy in Amman, Jordan, and the consulate general in Izmir, Turkey.

He is the recipient of the Secretary of State’s Award for Distinguished Service; the Department of State’s Distinguished Honor Award; the Secretary of State’s Award for Career Achievement; the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service; and the NASA Medal for Distinguished Service.

Ambassador Collins has been active on the boards of nonprofit organizations concerned with U.S. foreign policy and U.S. relations with Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia. He has served as a member of the board of the U.S.-Russia Business Council, the American Academy of Diplomacy, the Open World Leadership Center, and American Councils for International Education. He is also a member of the Ad-
visory Board of the Civilian Research and Development Foundation and the Library of Foreign Literature in Moscow.

Before joining the State Department, Ambassador Collins taught Russian and European history, American government, and economics at the U.S. Naval Academy.
Ambassador Robert Hunter has joined the Center for Transatlantic Relations as Senior Fellow, as well as Visiting Scholar at SAIS, where he will focus on Europe and the Middle East, as one of America’s leading experts and practitioners. Most recently, he was Director of the Center for Transatlantic Security Studies at the National Defense University. From 1998-2011, he was Senior Advisor at the RAND Corporation. He is also Senior International Consultant to Lockheed Martin Overseas Corporation, Chairman of the Council for a Community of Democracies, and serves on the International Security Advisory Board (State Department), the Senior Advisory Group to the US European Command, the Academic Advisory Board of the NATO Defense College, the Executive Committee of the American Academy of Diplomacy, and the Boards of the Atlantic Council and European Institute.

From 1993-1998, Robert Hunter was U.S. Ambassador to NATO and represented the U.S. to the Western European Union. He was a principal architect of the “New NATO,” devised the Partnership for Peace, negotiated the air-strike decisions that ended the Bosnia War, began breaking down barriers between NATO and the EU, and began the reintegration of France into NATO’s integrated military command structure. From 1981-1993, Ambassador Hunter was at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, including as Vice President for International Politics. Throughout the Carter Administration, he served on the National Security Council staff, with responsibility for West European Affairs and then Middle East Affairs, in the latter as White House representative to Arab-Israeli peace talks and originator of the Carter Doctrine. Earlier, he was Foreign Policy Advisor to Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Senior Fellow at the Overseas Development Council, Research Associate at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, and foreign and domestic policy advisor to Vice President Hubert Humphrey.
He served on the LBJ White House domestic staff (education) during the creation of the Great Society, and in the Navy Department (Polaris Project). He has played a senior national policy role in 9 presidential campaigns and written speeches for 3 Presidents and 3 Vice Presidents.

His most recent major publications (of more than 850) are Education Never Ends, Building Security in the Persian Gulf, Integrating Instruments of Power and Influence, and ESDP and NATO: Companions or Competitors?

Ambassador Hunter was educated at Wesleyan University and the London School of Economics (PhD in International Relations; Fulbright Scholar). He has taught at LSE, Georgetown, Johns Hopkins-SAIS, Washington College, and George Washington. He was twice decorated with the Defense Department’s highest civilian honor (Medal for Distinguished Public Service) and by eight foreign governments, including the French Légion d’honneur.
Ambassador Allan Wendt served as the Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia from 1992 to 1995.

Ambassador Wendt is an International Affairs Consultant based in Washington, DC. From 2001 to the present, he has done public diplomacy work for the United States Department of State with French speaking audiences as well as occasional radio interviews on U.S. foreign policy with Radio France Internationale and the BBC World Service. From December 1998 until May 2000, he served at the United States Department of State as Special Representative for Donor Activities in the Office of the Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Kosovo and Dayton Implementation.

Previously, Ambassador Wendt was a member of the International Network Group of de Pury Pictet Turrettini & Co., an investment, asset management, and strategic consulting firm based in Zurich and Geneva.

Ambassador Wendt has been a career Chief of Mission in the U.S. Foreign Service with the rank of Ambassador. He has held senior level positions in Washington dealing with energy, commodities, strategic trade, technology transfer and export controls. He has served overseas in Germany, Vietnam, Belgium, Egypt, and in Slovenia, where he was the first American Ambassador, serving from 1992 to 1995.

From 1975 to 1979, Ambassador Wendt was Director of the Office of International Commodities at the Department of State. From 1981 to 1986, he was Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Energy and Resources Policy. The Secretary of State appointed Ambassador Wendt Senior Representative for Strategic Trade and Technology Policy in May
1987. In July 1988, following confirmation by the Senate, the President accorded him the rank of Ambassador.

Ambassador Wendt holds a Presidential Meritorious Service Award, a Department of State Superior Honor Award, and the Department’s Award for Heroism for his performance at the American Embassy in Saigon during the Vietcong Tet offensive in 1968. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs, and is a Councillor of the Atlantic Council of the United States. He is also on the Board of Advisors of the National Youth Leadership Forum on Defense, Intelligence and Diplomacy. His foreign languages are French, German and Spanish.

Ambassador Wendt holds a Master of Public Administration (economics) from Harvard, a Certificat d’Etudes Politiques from the Institut d’Etudes Politiques in Paris, and a BA magna cum laude from Yale.
Formerly a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Ronald E. Neumann served three times as Ambassador; to Algeria, Bahrain, and finally to Afghanistan from July 2005 to April 2007. Before Afghanistan, Mr. Neumann, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, served in Baghdad from February 2004 with the Coalition Provisional Authority and then as Embassy Baghdad’s principal liaison with the Multinational Command, where he was deeply involved in coordinating the political part of military actions.

Prior to working in Iraq, he was Ambassador in Manama, Bahrain (2001-2004). Before that, Ambassador Neumann served as a Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Near East Affairs (1997-2000) with responsibility for North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. Before that assignment, he was Ambassador to Algeria (1994 to 1997) and Director of the Office of Northern Gulf Affairs (Iran and Iraq; 1991 to 1994). Earlier in his career, he was Deputy Chief of Mission in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and in Sanaa in Yemen, Principal Officer in Tabriz, Iran and Economic/Commercial Officer in Dakar, Senegal. His previous Washington assignments include service as Jordan Desk officer, Staff Assistant in the Middle East (NEA) Bureau, and Political Officer in the Office of Southern European Affairs.

Ambassador Neumann is the author of The Other War: Winning and Losing in Afghanistan (Potomac Press, 2009), a book on his time in Afghanistan. He has returned to Afghanistan repeatedly and is the author of a number of monographs, articles, and editorials. His writings have focused most heavily on Afghanistan, stabilization, and Bahrain. At the Academy he has focused particularly on efforts to expand State and USAID personnel and upgrade their professional formation to enable these institutions to carry out their responsibilities. Ambassador Neumann is on the Advisory Committee of two non-profits working in Afghanistan; the Global Partnership for Afghanistan
(GPFA) and for the School of Leadership, Afghanistan (SOLA).

Ambassador Neumann speaks some Arabic and Dari as well as French. He received State Department Superior Honor Awards in 1993 and 1990. He was an Army infantry officer in Viet Nam and holds a Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal and Combat Infantry Badge. In Baghdad, he was awarded the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal. He earned a B.A. in history and an M.A. in political science from the University of California at Riverside. He is married to the former M. Elaine Grimm. They have two children.
The EU is a unique economic and political partnership among 28 European countries that together cover much of the continent.

The EU was created in the aftermath of the Second World War. The first steps were to foster economic cooperation: the idea being that countries that trade with one another become economically interdependent and so more likely to avoid conflict. The result was the European Economic Community, created in 1958, and initially increasing economic cooperation between six countries: Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Since then, a huge single market has been created and continues to develop towards its full potential.

**FULL LIST OF EU MEMBERS:**

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

**EU ECONOMY**

Operating as a single market with 28 countries, the EU is a major world trading power.

EU economic policy seeks to sustain growth by investing in transport, energy and research – while minimizing the impact of further economic development on the environment.

The EU’s economy — measured in terms of the goods and services it produces (GDP) — is now bigger than the US’s: EU GDP in 2012: €12 945 = $402 million.
NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

NATO’S EXPANDING MEMBERSHIP

Source: NATO
NATO’s essential purpose is to safeguard the freedom and security of its members through political and military means.

NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance based on the North Atlantic Treaty which was signed in April 1949. The organization constitutes a system of collective defense whereby its member states agree to mutual defense in response to an attack by any external party. NATO’s headquarters are in Brussels, Belgium, one of the 28 member states across North America and Europe.

**FULL LIST OF NATO MEMBERS:**
Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, The United Kingdom, The United States

**POLITICAL**
NATO promotes democratic values and encourages consultation and cooperation on defense and security issues to build trust and, in the long run, prevent conflict.

**MILITARY**
NATO is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes. If diplomatic efforts fail, it has the military capacity needed to undertake crisis-management operations.
If you are interested in learning more about Future Omaha Ambassadors forums, please email: OAF@Burlingtonig.com