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INTERVIEW REQUESTS

Our analysts are available for interviews in support of our media colleagues. Please contact PR@geopoliticalfutures.com with your request and let us know your topic and approximate time frame. We have a digital studio available for live TV and video hits in Austin, TX. Request information at PR@geopoliticalfutures.com.

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“Geopolitical Futures is a company that tracks and forecasts the course of the international system.”

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SOCIAL MEDIA - When tagging Geopolitical Futures or George Friedman on social media, please use the following:

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SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

George Friedman and our other analysts are available for a limited number of speaking engagements. Please contact PR@geopoliticalfutures.com with your request and be sure to give us the location and date of your event. Speaking and travel fees may apply.

George Friedman



Dr. George Friedman is Founder and Chairman of Geopolitical Futures, a company dedicated to forecasting the course of the international system (www.geopoliticalfutures.com). He is an internationally recognized strategist on global affairs who has been called “the creator of the field of geopolitical forecasting.”

Dr. Friedman is a New York Times bestselling author. His most recent book, *THE STORM BEFORE THE CALM: America’s Discord, the Coming Crisis of the 2020s, and the Triumph Beyond*, published February 25 and a National best seller, describes how “the United States periodically reaches a point of crisis in which it appears to be at war with itself, yet after an extended period it reinvents itself, in a form both faithful to its founding and radically different from what it had been.” Friedman predicts the decade 2020-2030 is such a period which will bring dramatic upheaval and reshaping of American government, foreign policy, economics, and culture.

His most popular book, *The Next 100 Years*, is kept alive by the prescience of its predictions. Other best-selling books include *Flashpoints: The Emerging Crisis in Europe*, *The Next Decade*, *America’s Secret War*, *The Future of War* and *The Intelligence Edge*. His books have been translated into more than 20 languages.

A very popular keynote speaker on international geopolitics, Friedman’s experience in military modeling, philosophy, intelligence and international affairs places him in high demand at numerous conferences and industry-specific events. He has briefed for numerous major military and government organizations and is frequently invited to speak internationally.

Prior to founding Geopolitical Futures, Friedman was Chairman of Stratfor, the geopolitical intelligence publishing and consulting firm he founded in 1996. He left Stratfor in 2015.

Friedman received his bachelor’s degree from the City College of the City University of New York and holds a Ph.D. in government from Cornell University. He lives in Austin, Texas.

Allison Fedirka



Allison Fedirka is Director of Analyst Operations for Geopolitical Futures. In addition to writing analyses, she helps train new analysts, oversees the intellectual quality of analyst work and guides the forecasting process.

Prior to joining Geopolitical Futures, Ms. Fedirka worked for Stratfor as a Latin America specialist and subsequently as the Latin America regional director. She lived in South America – primarily Argentina and Brazil – for more than seven years and, in addition to English, fluently speaks Spanish and Portuguese.

Ms. Fedirka has a bachelor's degree in Spanish and international studies from Washington University in St. Louis and a master's degree in international relations and affairs from the University of Belgrano, Argentina. Her thesis was on Brazil and Angola and south-south cooperation. She lives in the Washington, DC area.

A sample of topics in Allison's area of expertise:

- Crisis in Venezuela
- Brazil's political and economic recoveries
- Mexico's foreign policy and US relations
- Argentina's economic reform/recovery efforts
- Re-emergence of the Monroe Doctrine
- Western hemisphere trade blocs (USMCA, Mercosur, Pacific Alliance)

Dr. Antonia Colibasanu, PhD



Antonia Colibasanu is Geopolitical Futures' Chief Operating Officer. Dr. Colibasanu joined Geopolitical Futures as a senior analyst in 2016 and frequently speaks on international economics and security topics in Europe. Since 2012 she has served on the educational board of the International Academy of Advanced Studies in Greece, a summer program that brings together students from Eurasia and the Middle East.

Prior to Geopolitical Futures, Dr. Colibasanu spent more than 10 years with Stratfor in various positions, including as partner for Europe and vice president for international marketing. Dr. Colibasanu is also an associate professor at the Romanian National Intelligence Academy and Bucharest University. Prior to joining Stratfor in 2006, Dr. Colibasanu held a variety of roles with the World Trade Center Association in Bucharest.

Dr. Colibasanu holds a Doctorate in International Business and Economics from Bucharest's Academy of Economic Studies, where her thesis focused on country risk analysis and investment decision-making processes within transnational companies. She also holds a Master's degree in International Project Management. She is an alumna of the International Institute on Politics and Economics at Georgetown University.

A sample of topics in Antonia's area of expertise:

- Power struggles in the Balkans
- The future of the European Union after Brexit
- Poland and Ukraine's complicated history
- Germany leading EU on relations with the Balkans
- Energy security reshaping geopolitics

Dr. Alex Berezow, PhD



Alex Berezow is an analyst for Geopolitical Futures covering the impact of science, technology, and public health on geopolitics. Dr. Berezow is a prolific science writer who has written over 1,000 articles, many of which appeared in major news outlets. He is also a monthly columnist for the Puget Sound Business Journal and a member of the USA Today Board of Contributors.

Currently, Dr. Berezow is also Vice President of Scientific Communications at the American Council on Science and Health, a consumer advocacy non-profit whose mission is to debunk “junk science,” promote evidence-based policy, and separate exaggerated health scares from legitimate health threats. He is also a Non-Resident Fellow at the Council on Strategic Risks. Previously, he was founding editor of RealClearScience (of the RealClearPolitics family of websites), and he served as assistant editor of RealClearWorld, where he specialized in European affairs.

Dr. Berezow holds a PhD in microbiology from the University of Washington.

A sample of topics in Alex’s area of expertise:

- Science, technology and public health disinformation
- Global public health threats
- Infectious disease (e.g., COVID-19 pandemic)
- Relationship between demographics and public health
- Biotechnology and biological processes

Ryan Bridges



Ryan Bridges is a geopolitical analyst whose area of expertise is Europe and issues surrounding the European Union. He tracks and forecasts the impact of the EU and the interaction of nations within Europe on global trends. He joined Geopolitical Futures in 2017.

Prior to Geopolitical Futures Mr. Bridges worked for seven years as an editor at Stratfor. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas, where he studied political science with a minor in philosophy.

Mr. Bridges lives and works from Germany and also travels extensively in the region. He speaks some German.

A sample of the topics in Ryan's area of expertise:

- Brexit and the Irish border
- Germany's economic vulnerability
- German politics
- EU political, economic and military integration
- French political unrest and the yellow vest protests

Dr. Hilal Khashan



Dr. Hilal Khashan is a senior analyst for Geopolitical Futures covering Middle Eastern affairs. Dr. Khashan is a Professor of political science at the American University of Beirut. He is the author of six books, including *Hizbullah: A Mission to Nowhere*. (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2019.) He is currently writing a book titled *Saudi Arabia: The Dilemma of Political Reform and the Illusion of Economic Development*.

He is also the author of more than 110 articles that appeared in journals such as *Orbis*, *The Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *The Brown Journal of World Affairs*, *Middle East Quarterly*, *Third World Quarterly*, *Israel Affairs*, *Journal of Religion and Society*, *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, and *The British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*. Dr. Khashan has a BA in Political Science from the University of Florida and an MS and PhD in Political Science from Florida State University.

A sample of topics in Hilal's area of expertise:

- The Houthis and Yemen's civil war
- Arab Turks and their relationship to Istanbul
- Power players in Libya's civil war
- Saudi Arabia's security dilemma
- Hezbollah's rise and the Lebanese Army

Phillip Orchard



Phillip Orchard is an analyst at Geopolitical Futures. His focus is on the geopolitics of Southeast Asia and Latin America. Mr. Orchard spent more than six years working and writing from abroad where he's had formative, immersive experiences with the problems arising from mass political upheaval, civil conflict and human migration. He joined Geopolitical Futures in 2017.

Prior to joining the company, Mr. Orchard spent nearly six years at Stratfor, working as an editor and writing about East Asian geopolitics.

Mr. Orchard holds a master's degree in Security, Law and Diplomacy from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, where he focused on energy and national security, Chinese foreign policy, intelligence analysis, and institutional pathologies. He also earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Texas. He speaks Spanish and some Thai and Lao.

A sample of topics in Phillip's area of expertise:

- U.S.-China trade war
- Chinese politics and economic reform
- China's expansion into the South and East China Seas
- The U.S.-North Korea nuclear standoff
- Southeast Asia's balancing act between China and the U.S.
- Japanese, Indian and Australian roles in Indo-Pacific competition

Caroline Rose



Caroline Rose is an analyst for Geopolitical Futures covering the geopolitics of the Middle East and European nations.

Ms. Rose has a Masters of Science (MSc) in the History of International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Just before joining GPF she served as a Research Associate for LSE's International Drug Policy Unit (IDPU), where she researched the nexus between illicit economies and armed insurgencies.

She earned her undergraduate degree from American University's School of International Service and has worked previously at both Brookings Institute and the Atlantic Council. Her studies and projects at these institutions covered a range of topics, from Russian and Chinese cyber warfare, evolving American interest within a changing international order, and grand security strategies against state-led revisionism in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and the Pacific. Throughout she's written for a diverse array of publications including Limes in Italy.

A sample of topics in Caroline's area of expertise:

- Coronavirus outbreak's impact on Iran
- Brexit's real impact on the UK
- Power players in Libya's civil war
- Turkey's interests in the Eastern Mediterranean
- Israeli-Palestinian relations

Ekaterina Zolotova



Ekaterina Zolotova is an analyst for Geopolitical Futures covering Eurasia. She has a particular focus on the geopolitics of Russia, its economy and its impact on regional and global strategy. She writes about the trends in the region including political implications in Ukraine and other former Soviet Union states.

Prior to Geopolitical Futures, Ms. Zolotova participated in several research projects devoted to problems and prospects of Russia's integration into the world economy. Ms. Zolotova has a specialist degree in international economic relations from Plekhanov Russian University of Economics.

In addition, Ms. Zolotova studied international trade and international integration processes. Her thesis was on features of economic development of Venezuela. She speaks native Russian and is fluent in English. She lives and works in Moscow.

A sample of topics in Ekaterina's area of expertise:

- Resource dependency of the Russian economy
- Weaknesses of Russian social sector
- Relations between Russia and Ukraine
- Union State of Belarus and Russia.
- Multilateral cooperation with Central Asian states