



## **2023 WEST COAST SECURITY CONFERENCE WELCOMING REMARKS DAY 3**

**Date:** November 15, 2023

*Disclaimer: This briefing note contains the encapsulation of views presented by the speaker and does not exclusively represent the views of the Canadian Association for Security and Intelligence Studies.*

### **KEY EVENTS**

On November 15, 2023, Mr. John Pyrik presented the opening address for this year's West Coast Security Conference. The key points discussed were the introduction of speakers for the international perspectives panel of the CASIS conference and their contribution to the field of intelligence.

### **BACKGROUND**

Mr. Pyrik began by suggesting that the international perspectives panel would appeal to those interested in abstract, strategic, and theoretical concepts, while the regional perspectives panel would appeal to those interested in practical and tactical concepts. He introduced some of the regional perspectives as arctic security, maritime security, regional cooperation, and the presence of fentanyl in Mexico.

He noted the contributions to the field of intelligence using a network that illustrated 5,000 articles published in the past 70 years on topics of war, history, and the process of intelligence, which encompasses intelligence approaches, methodology, and mechanics. He further iterated the contribution of the speakers' work on these topics by mentioning that collectively, over 40 books and over 280 articles were written by the speakers on the topic of intelligence.

Mr. Pyrik introduced the speakers on the international perspectives panel—Ms. Jennifer Irish, Prof. Julian Richards, Dr. Loch Johnson, Mr. Barry Zulauf, and Dr. David Strachan-Morris. He stated that Ms. Irish would start the conference by drawing from her experience and time at the Privy Council Office and Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre as well as discussing the current trends in security and intelligence. Dr. Richards would then talk about the security and intelligence landscape in Britain post-Brexit. He noted Dr. Johnson's large number of published materials, including over 200 articles that discuss

intelligence priorities. Mr. Pyrik then introduced Mr. Zulauf, the Analytic Ombudsman for the U.S. intelligence community with the task of looking for and analyzing incidents of politicization and bias among intelligence practitioners. Mr. Pyrik stated that it would be interesting to hear whether having an analytic ombudsman in Canada would be productive. Lastly, he stated that Dr. Strachan-Morris would talk on the use of intelligence by non-state actors.

### KEY POINTS OF DISCUSSION

- The presentation topics on international perspectives would appeal to those interested in abstract, strategic, and theoretical concepts. The presentation topics on regional perspectives would appeal to those interested in practical and tactical concepts.
- The speakers of the international perspectives panel included Ms. Jennifer Irish, Dr. Julian Richards, Dr. Loch Johnson, Mr. Barry Zulauf, and Dr. David Strachan-Morris.
- All speakers contributed to the publishing of books and/or articles related to topics of war, history, and process of intelligence which encompassed intelligence approaches, methodology and mechanics the craft.

### FURTHER READING

Pyrik, J. (2015). Communicating Risk. In: Arcos, R., Pherson, R.H. (eds) *Intelligence Communication in the Digital Era: Transforming Security, Defence and Business*. Palgrave Pivot. [https://doi.org/10.1057/9781137523792\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1057/9781137523792_4)



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Published by the Journal of Intelligence, Conflict, and Warfare and Simon Fraser University

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