

Participant Bios
Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin
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H.E. Pjer Šimunović
Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to the United States of America

Pjer Šimunović is Croatia's Ambassador to the United States since September 2017. Before assuming his Ambassadorship, together with a career in international affairs journalism and academic research he served in various high-level positions in the Croatian Government, in the fields of national security, defense and diplomacy.

He was Director of the Office of the National Security Council, Ambassador to Israel, Defense State Secretary in charge of defense policy, National Coordinator for NATO and Assistant Foreign Minister, heading Division for International Organizations and Security, Political Counselor at the Embassy in Paris, and Deputy Director of Analytical Department in the Foreign Ministry. During his career in journalism, he worked with the BBC World Service in London, with the magazine *Europ* in Paris, and with the Croatian daily 'Večernji list' in Zagreb, covering the collapse of Communism, crisis and war in the former Yugoslavia, and European and Transatlantic affairs.

A regular speaker on the security issues at many international conferences and seminars, he is the author of a range of studies and articles published in the leading international journals, dealing with the arms trade and defense industry, post-Communist national security, NATO enlargement, defense transformation, international peace-keeping and stabilization operations, counter-terrorism (including: 'Making of an Ally – NATO membership conditionality implemented on Croatia', *The Journal of Transatlantic Studies*, Spring 2015; 'A framework for success – contextual factors in the UNTAES operation in Eastern Slavonia', *International Peacekeeping*, Spring 1999; 'The Russian military in Chechnya - a case study of morale in war', *The Journal of Slavic Military Studies*, March 1998).

Ambassador Šimunović holds an M.A. degree from the Department of War Studies, King's College London, and a B.A. degree in the Comparative Literature and Italian Language and Literature from the University of Zagreb. He is born in Split, Croatia, in 1962. Ambassador Šimunović is decorated with the title of Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur de la République française.