



Wilton Park
USA

Modern Deterrence Series

British Defence Staff US and Wilton Park USA Partnership

Summary

This discussion series will explore the changing nature of deterrence in a world of rising nuclear, conventional, and multi-domain threats. A quarter-century since the end of the Cold War, the question of deterrence is no longer simply historical or theoretical. New and re-emerging challenges highlight the renewed relevance and urgency of effective deterrence and assurance, underscoring the need for Western expertise and thinking to be refreshed. This dialogue series will pay particular attention to the distinct and unique circumstances presented by different regional challenges, and the ways in which Western resolve should best be calibrated and signaled in specific contexts.

Wilton Park USA (WPUSA) will partner with the British Defence Staff US (BDSUS) to convene a regular series of events around critical questions of 21st century deterrence. In addition to thickening ties between institutions and practitioners, the dialogues will provide British and American policymakers and analysts with practical ideas, fresh perspectives, and creative solutions to emerging and perennial dilemmas in deterrence.

Formats

Tailored for impact and discretion as desired, event formats will include workshops, dinners, panels, addresses, and off-the-record briefs with senior visitors from the UK.

American partners

Continuing Wilton Park's tradition of broad, cross-sectoral representation, this series will prioritize the inclusion of stakeholders from across the policy landscape, including Senate and House members and staff, government officials from the White House, Pentagon, and State Department, and voices from industry, academia, and the think tank community.

The next generation

At the heart of the BDSUS and WPUSA's vision is the cultivation and development of emerging defence policy experts. Events will be designed to maximize diversity and fully integrate and involve young professionals, ensuring the development of the next generation of transatlantic leaders. Events will also regularly partner with local student and young professionals groups to this end.

"It was my pleasure to serve as NATO spokesman for this most interesting conference and I gleaned much information on how other parts of the globe were addressing the challenge.

I have follow-up actions in at least a half-dozen areas, and I am certain that NATO will benefit from lessons learned by other national, regional, and centre of excellence participants...NATO senior leadership consider Wilton Park a very important forum for exchange of ideas and for further developing its approach to civil-military issues."

David Fortna, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation HQ

"Really, one of the best considered and organized meetings I have attended in quite a long time; the pace, topics and how you moderated allowed for a much better quality of discussion than at most meetings."

Dr Keiji Fukuda, World Health Organisation

