

PeaceGame
Inaugural Session Agenda

*December 9-10, 2013
United States Institute of Peace
Washington, DC*

*Presented by Foreign Policy,
A Division of the FP Group
in partnership with
The United States Institute of Peace*

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DAY 1: December 9th

8:00am - 8:45am Arrival/Registration/Continental Breakfast

8:45am - 9:15am Welcome and Brief Overview

Participants will be introduced and the program framed. Organizers will outline objectives for both the day's program and the PeaceGame initiative, explaining why and how this effort will be different from other efforts to address the world's most challenging conflicts.

Speakers:

- Jim Marshall, President, U.S. Institute of Peace
- David Rothkopf, CEO and Editor, The FP Group

Special Guest:

- Ambassador Yousef Al Otaiba, United Arab Emirates

9:15am - 10:30am “Establishing a Baseline: What Would a Lasting Peace in Syria Look Like?”

The objective of PeaceGame is to bring together leading experts to grapple with issues of conflict resolution with the same seriousness of purpose we devote to war and defense

planning. To set this initiative apart, we will begin with a thoughtful look at what lasting peace in a war-torn region would look like. This year's program will focus on Syria. This first session will bring together our expert participants to describe in as great detail as their knowledge and imaginations will permit, what the best possible lasting peace in that country could look like. This discussion will establish a baseline for the scenarios that follow. Our goal throughout the game is summed up in the question: How can we get from here to there? Throughout the course of PeaceGame, we will focus on security, political, economic and social-cultural factors. We will also incorporate members of the audience as well as the role-playing participants through the use of wireless polling. We will engage via social media those watching on streaming video.

Speaker:

- Steven Heydemann, Vice President of the Center for Applied Research on Conflict, U.S. Institute of Peace

10:30am - 10:45am Break

10:45am - 12:30pm “Phase I: Achieving a Near-Term Political Solution”

The first of the sessions will explore the primary steps on the road to peace—the political negotiations, formal and informal, that will lead to cessation of hostilities. This process is likely to begin with multi-lateral talks, but the participants may explore other alternatives. It will consider the current positions of each of the key players including the Assad regime, opposition groups, regional actors and the leading members of the international community. It will identify differences, common interests and how the groups might find ways to achieve either interim or more permanent agreement. Also considered will be critical obstacles and how to overcome them.

12:30pm - 1:30pm Lunch Break

1:30pm - 3:15pm “Phase II: Establishing the Peace”

This phase of the PeaceGame will look at the elements necessary to establish peace in Syria after a political settlement is reached. Specifically, four elements will be considered. The first is the necessary ingredients for a cessation of hostilities, such as the disengagement, disarmament, and reintegration of fighters, and any peacekeeping and civilian security efforts that will be required. Next will be questions of governance, including any power sharing arrangements, and the rule of law. Then we will consider the challenges associated with the return and resettlement of the millions of dislocated persons who have become refugees within Syria and neighboring countries. Finally, participants will explore what forms of post-conflict economic support will be required to establish a sustainable peace.

3:15pm - 5:00pm “Phase III: Challenges to Peace Emerge”

The third and final session of the day will consider challenges to the tentative peace that

participants deem most likely and serious. Three specific types of challenges will be considered: 1) The likelihood, nature, origins and consequences of insurgencies that may continue 2) Political tensions within or that will impact the national or subnational regional institutions of governance established in the wake of a settlement 3) Economic and social challenges that may complicate the processes. In each case, given the nature of the PeaceGame initiative, the focus will be not only to identify problems but also to try to find ways to either avoid them or to find solutions for them.

5:00pm - 5:15pm Brief Wrap Up and Close for the Day

The conclusion of the first day will include a brief summation of the opening day and a preview of the elements of the second day.

DAY 2: December 10

8:00am - 8:45am Continental Breakfast

8:45am - 9:15am Review of Day 1 and Goals for Day 2

Comments will be solicited from experts and participants on Day 1 scenarios that may influence the final phase discussions and conclusions.

9:15am - 11:00am “Phase IV: Establishing a Sustainable Peace”

The final scenario will explore how, over a period of years, the foundations of a lasting peace will be established. This discussion might be characterized as the drivers behind the institutionalization of peace. These include the components of a stable political system able to preserve the peace, the security arrangements that will do so, the international agreements and alliances required to contribute to peace, and the economic and social development milestones necessary to a resilient solution to Syria’s crisis.

11:00am - 11:15am Break

11:15am - 12:30pm Wrap Up and Conclusion

This final element of the program will review the four phases of the discussions and identify conclusions that should be highlighted in summary documents or addressed in future PeaceGame sessions. Our expert panel will open with their perspectives, and a final discussion will ensue.

12:30pm Program Ends