



**10TH INTERNATIONAL
GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS FORUM**



Organizers



a non-profit university in Washington, DC that offers higher education programs to domestic and international students. Bay Atlantic University undergraduate and graduate programs are taught by a first-class faculty of “scholar-practitioners”. They are all seasoned professionals and policy experts –be it in government, international institutions or the private sector. Thanks to this quality of instruction, BAU students have the unique opportunity to become members of a closely-knit community of global citizens.
<https://bau.edu/>

Organizers



a Washington-based think tank dedicated to addressing pressing global challenges through in-depth research and analysis. With a strong focus on global affairs, economics, and international relations, GPI aims to provide actionable insights that inform policy decisions and shape public discourse. <https://globalpi.org/>

Organizers



INTERNATIONAL
GOVERNMENT
AFFAIRS PROFESSIONALS
ASSOCIATION

(International Government Affairs Professional Association): a leading international association for public affairs professionals, established in 2018. The mission is to promote ethical, effective, and innovative GR affairs practices. <https://igapa.net/>

Organizers



International consulting firms specializing in political consulting, political technologies, public relations, GR, and anti-crisis communications. The company has a proven record of success, with over 30 election victories, 50 successful anti-crisis projects, and 100 PR campaigns and projects in the USA, EU, Central Asia, and Eastern Europe. <https://sic-group.us/>

Organizers



Institute for Democracy and Development “PolitA”: organization that conducts educational, analytical, and policymaking projects in the fields of democracy development, awareness campaigns and advocacy for meaningful social changes. In the United States, the institution focuses on communicating with decision-makers and providing analytics and solutions.

<https://institute-polita.us/>

Organizers



Ukraine's first and only closed lobbying platform. LOBBY CLUB has established a unique space where influential individuals can meet and collaborate, as well as gain access to effective lobbying solutions and comprehensive legal support for opinion leaders, businesses, and politicians. LOBBY CLUB has two strategically located offices: one in Washington, D.C., and the other in Kyiv.

Media partners



Media partners

SWANODOWN



Agenda

- 1 11:30 AM – 12:15 PM - Registration and communication
- 2 12:15 PM – 12:30 PM – Opening Remarks by Paolo von Schirach and Kateryna Odarchenko



Agenda

3

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM - Panel 1: Dialogue Between Business and Government

Explore the state of the GR industry across regions. This panel dives into:

- **The fastest-growing sectors (tech, healthcare, energy).**
- **Analytical insights into the GR market.**
- **Ethics and challenges in fostering effective business-government collaboration.**

Speakers

Paolo von Schirach

President of the Global Policy Institute (GPI), Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Bay Atlantic University, and frequent lecturer, TV, and radio commentator on US and global issues.



Speakers

Karolina Rankovic

a Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow under the Fulbright Program, representing Serbia. She specializes in diplomacy with a focus on energy, climate, and ESG issues.



Speakers

Dayna Keene

an executive search consultant with the world's leading talent solutions firm, Korn Ferry. She is a key member of the Global Government Affairs and Nonprofit Practices.



Speakers

Jim Carter

a Principal & Policy Director with Navigators Global, helping corporate, trade association, foreign affairs, and non-profit clients navigate Washington's complex policy, regulatory, and political landscape—and producing results. He is also a Senior Fellow with the America First Policy Institute's Center for American Prosperity.



Speakers

Licy Do Canto

a seasoned public affairs and communications executive and political and public policy expert with a distinguished career spanning government, business, and civil society. He is the founder and president of the award-winning global public affairs and strategic communications firm, The Do Canto Group.



Speakers

Pascal Chan

leads the Canadian Chamber's work on a range of issues, with a focus on supply chains and housing. Pascal's professional path has spanned various national associations and multinational corporations, with extensive experience in the areas of housing, energy, and life sciences.



Agenda

4

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM - Panel 2: GR in the U.S.: Challenges and Opportunities Post-Elections

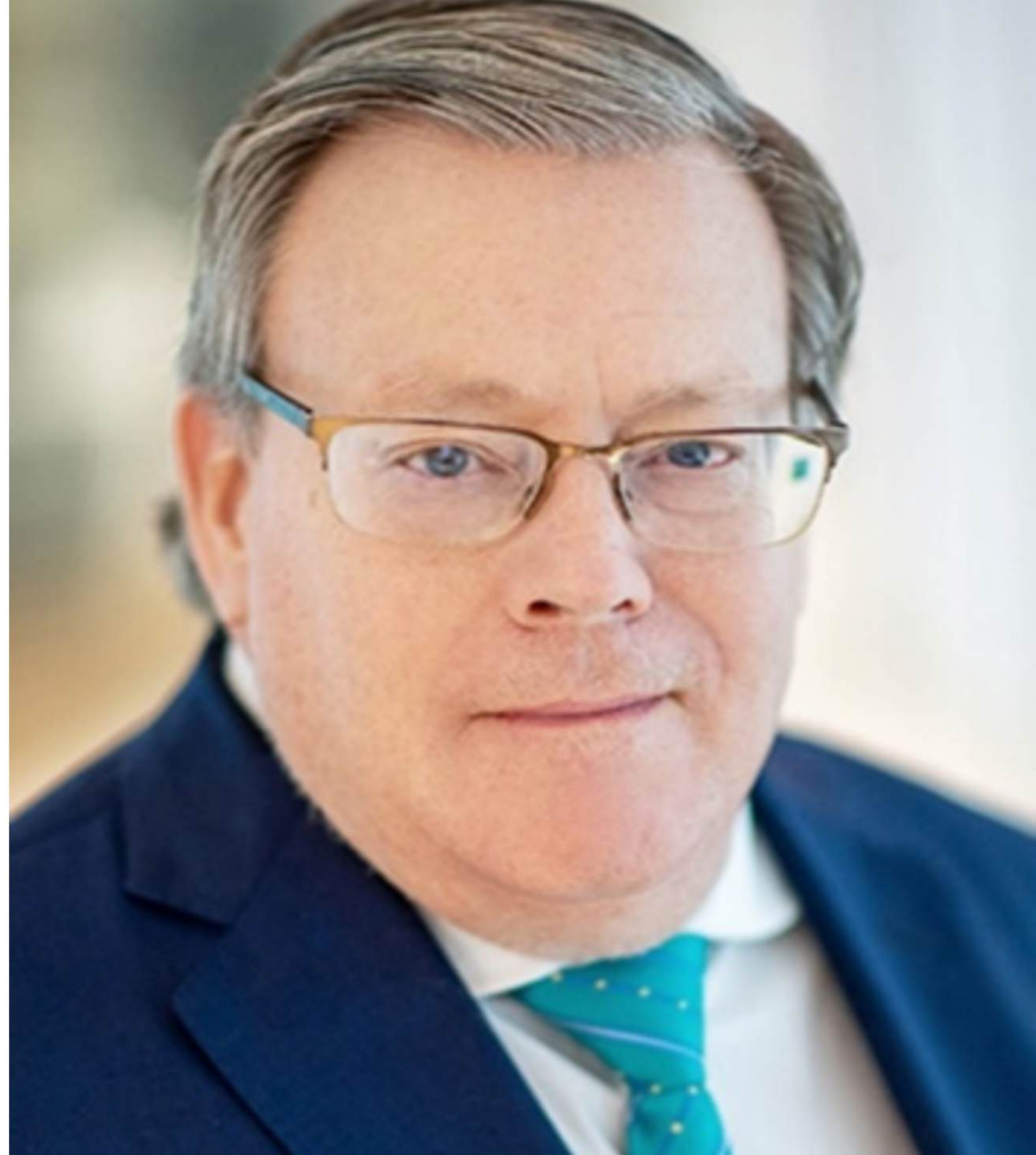
As the forum takes place after the U.S. elections, this session examines:

- **The impact of election results on lobbying and advocacy.**
- **Changes in key sectors like finance, energy, and technology.**
- **Success stories from leading lobbying firms.**

Speakers

Peter Huessy

Senior Fellow, The National Institute for Deterrence Studies, think tank that provides deterrence education, national security analysis, and policy solutions; president of GeoStrategic Analysis.



Speakers

Jason Shelton

**Former mayor of Tupelo, Mississippi,
and regional administrator for
General Services Administration
Regions in the Biden-Harris
administration.**



Speakers

Fred Turner

Principal in BGR's International Practice and Former Chief of Staff in US Senate and House, providing valuable insights and support in Commerce and Financial Services practices.



Speakers

Dr. Prince Taylor

a dedicated advocate for veterans, specializing in programs that address loneliness and promote mental well-being. His experience in the US Navy and subsequent education give him a multi-faceted perspective on veterans' needs.



Speakers

Thaddeus Walls

a political operative who specializes in electing progressive candidates and causes, bringing together diverse stakeholders. In 2021, Thaddeus launched Greenline Consulting, LLC, a boutique consulting shop, to bridge the gap between marginalized communities and advocacy.



Agenda

5

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM – Panel 3: Best International Practices

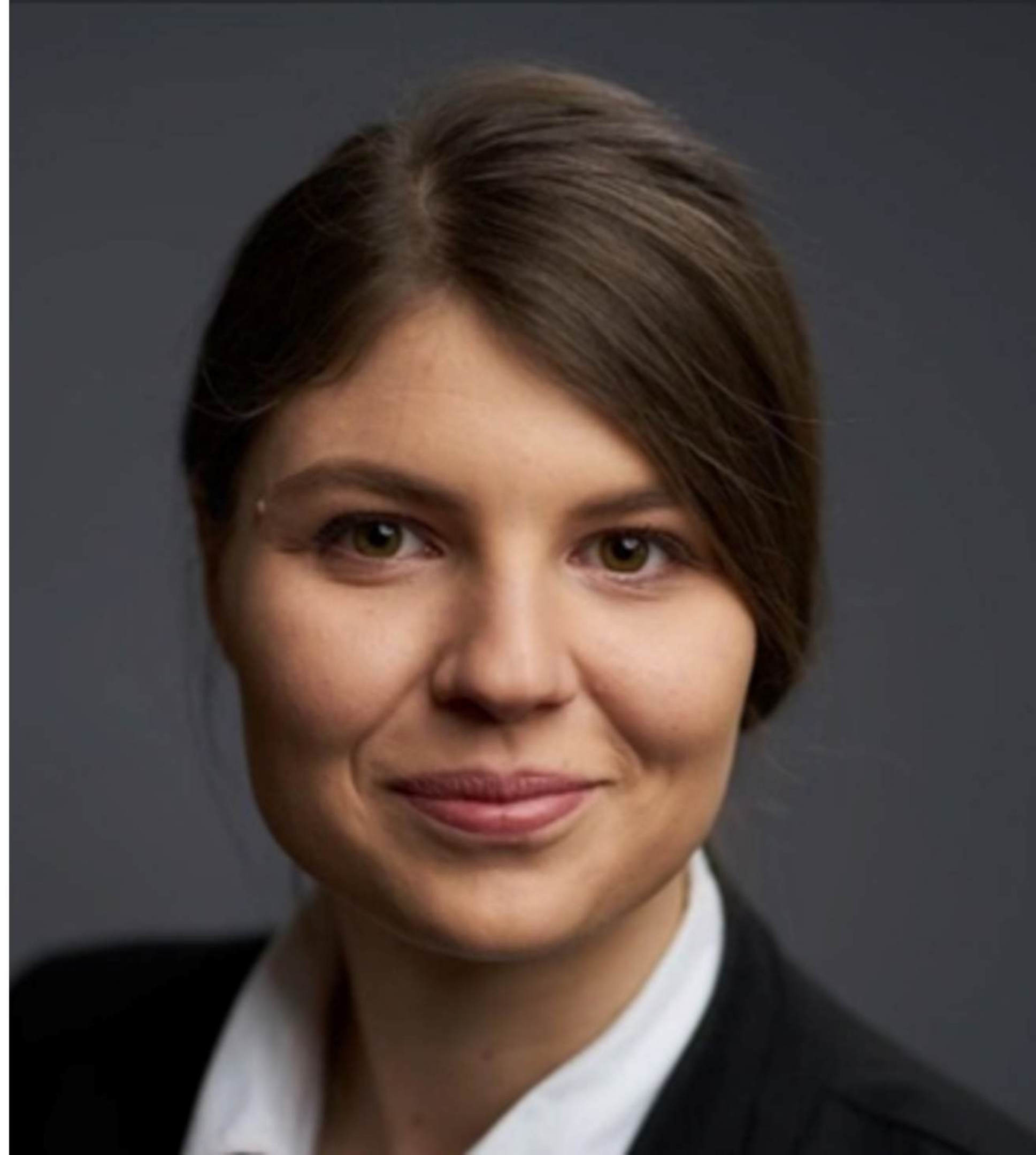
Get a comprehensive look at GR across the world with insights into:

- **Regulatory frameworks and their industry impact.**
- **Country-specific strategies.**
- **Green energy, transportation, and healthcare policies.**

Speakers

Kateryna Odarchenko

**Political Strategist, Influencer, Writer.
Partner, SIC Group USA LLC | Leader
of PolitA Institute for Democracy and
Development "PolitA."**



Speakers

Stephen Blank

an internationally recognized expert and senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute, one of the most prominent analytical centers. He is also a leading expert on European and Asian security, including energy issues.



Speakers

Douglas Scott

is a sought-after business development and diplomatic relations consultant engaged in programs developing telecommunications, renewable energy, continuity infrastructure (power, water, waste) in the US, in Ukraine, Brazil and countries in Africa.



Speakers

Robert Ilatov

an Israeli politician known for his leadership in strengthening international Christian-Jewish relations and advancing Israel's diplomatic standing. Elected to the Knesset as a member of the right-wing, secular Yisrael Beiteinu party, Ilatov played a key role in shaping Israel's political landscape.



Speakers

Soeren Haar

a managing partner of the European Affairs Consulting Group (EACON). He has a rich experience in EU affairs, having worked in different EU institutions including the European Parliament, the EU Council, and the European Commission.



Speakers

Malkah Nobigrot

a Mexican lawyer and journalist with expertise in project management, leadership, and strategic communication. She has held various positions in the private sector and has worked at both the federal and local levels of the Mexican Government.



Speakers

Serhii Kolisnyk

one of Ukraine's leading lawyers with over 15 years of experience in defence, litigation and public service. Recognized by the professional publication "Legal Practice" as one of the 15 best lawyers across the country. Serhii is a managing partner of LOBBY CLUB.



Speakers

Sebastien Bonneau

has provided strategic policy and communication advice to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Quebec, provincial ministers as well as the mayor of the second-largest city in Canada and federal opposition leaders in such functions as Senior policy advisor and press secretary.



Speakers

Chidera Akwuba

a seasoned expert in government relations, public affairs, and strategic communications, with a decade of experience advancing policy advocacy, corporate diplomacy, and multi-stakeholder engagement across Sub-Saharan Africa.



Agenda

6

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM – Panel 4: Associations as GR Tools

Understand the power of industry associations in influencing public policy:

- **How to create and sustain successful associations.**
- **Examples of associations driving long-term regulatory change.**
- **Practical advice for leveraging associations in GR campaigns.**

Speakers

Ezra Friedlander

the founder and CEO, The Friedlander Group. For more than 25 years, Ezra Friedlander has executed and managed many complex public and public policy and public relations initiatives earning a reputation for his diverse skills and broad range of knowledge.



Speakers

Richard Horowitz

an attorney admitted to the bar of New York, Washington DC, and Israel. He is a former private investigator and a former officer in the Israel Defense forces.



Speakers

Eric J. Ellman

the President of the National Consumer Reporting Association (NCRA), a trade association of consumer reporting agencies that resell consumer reports to meet consumer housing needs.



Speakers

Don Erikson

a CEO for the Security Industry Association. As CEO, Don leads implementation of SIA's Board Strategic Framework and oversees SIA's collaboration with industry and vertical market associations and organizations.



Speakers

Kim Z Cooper

the North American Millers' Association (NAMA) vice president of government affairs and has worked at NAMA in various government affairs roles since 2019.



Agenda

7

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM - Panel 5: Tools and Strategies for Global GR Success

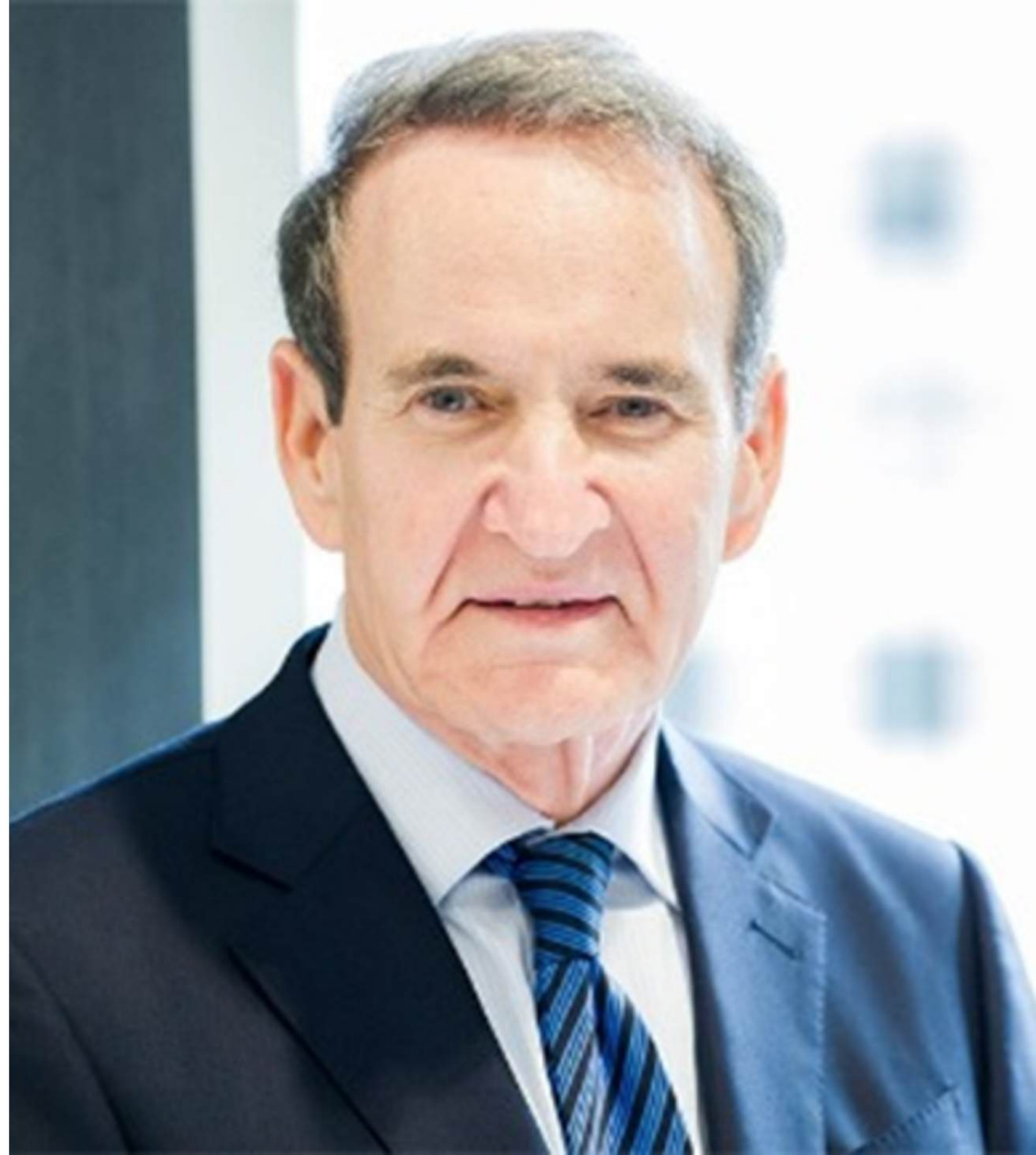
Discover the latest tools and strategies shaping international GR:

- **Analytics, monitoring, and digital engagement.**
- **Integrating GR into economic and public opinion strategies.**
- **Real-world examples of innovative approaches in action.**

Speakers

Kendall Coffey

a former U.S. Attorney, Southern District of Florida. He is annually recognized as one of Florida Trend's Legal Elite, and Florida's "Super Lawyer." Mr. Coffey has been guest legal analyst providing legal commentary for international networks like "CNN International," "Telemundo," and "Univision."



Speakers

Maryna Ovtsynova

the President of the ALLATRA International Public Movement is a Capitol Hill activist, engaged in legislative analysis centered on the atmospheric and geophysical impact of climate change upon both civil-society and national security.



Speakers

Frank Ahrens

a Principal and Head of BGR Analytics, joined the firm in 2014. He uses data analytics to help individuals, corporations and governments identify winning strategies and employs the full range of media tactics to improve clients' profiles and protect their reputations.



Speakers

Mendel Banon

a founding Director of Meaningful Moment, leading efforts to implement a daily reflection in public schools nationwide. With a background in international humanitarian and policy initiatives, and policy advocacy, he works with government officials and educators to promote student mental health well-being and resilience.



Speakers

Kseniya Tarasenko

an Account Manager at Quorum Analytics, a leading public affairs software company that helps government affairs teams globally track, influence, and report on the policy landscape.



Contacts



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