

Panel: Leadership Transition in Russia: Continuity or Change? (Lilac/Tulip)

Date/Time: April 26, 2012 / 17:30-18:45

Organizing Institution: Center for the National Interest

Talking Points for: Nikolas Gvosdev
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- A third Putin term must lay the groundwork for a “Successor 2.0”: finding a way to preserve intact the existing regime while handing power to a new leadership generation, given that the first post-2008 attempt was not successful.
- Putin does not have unlimited time or authority, given the changes in Russia’s domestic landscape
- Putin must balance between existing power centers and the need to bring in fresh cadres
- He will operate in an increasingly unfavorable international environment for Russia; Russia is the weakest of the great powers and risks being left behind as power is increasingly rebalanced between the West and the rising powers of the south.

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