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NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND RUSSIA EXPERT ROSE GOTTEMOELLER TO DISCUSS THE UKRAINE WAR AND THE FUTURE OF ARMS CONTROL FOR THE RAE DOROUGH SPEAKER SERIES

LIVERMORE – Former United States Undersecretary of State for Arms Control, Rose Gottemoeller, will present “After Ukraine: Can We Still Control Nuclear Weapons?” as part of the Rae Dorough Speaker Series at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13 in the Bankhead Theater.

The United States and Soviet Union, now Russia, have been at the heart of the global effort to control the terrible destructive power of nuclear weapons. Now, with President Putin and his government accused of ferocious attacks on civilians in Ukraine, President Biden has declared him a war criminal, and the Kremlin has shot back that these words are unforgivable.

Putin has been rattling the nuclear saber. As he marched his troops into Ukraine on February 24, he warned that if the West interfered, the result would be “consequences that you have never experienced in your history.”

Gottemoeller, who served as chief U.S. negotiator of the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), will talk about past success during crises, and lay out her diplomatic roadmap for the future of nuclear arms control. Based on her experience, she does not view further progress as untenable, even in the midst of war between Ukraine and Russia. (The START treaties are agreements that limit and reduce the nuclear weapons that can strike the United States from Russia and vice versa.) Gottemoeller will reflect on the lessons learned from her own experience, described in her book *Negotiating the New START Treaty*.

With nuclear threats coming from the Kremlin, and Washington and Moscow not talking to each other at the highest level, will it still be possible to control nuclear weapons? Or will the proliferation pressures emanating from the Ukraine crisis overwhelm any efforts at diplomacy? These are some of the questions Gottemoeller will address.

Gottemoeller served as Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security at the US State Department for five years. From 2016-2019, Gottemoeller was Deputy Secretary General for NATO. Today she is a lecturer at Stanford University’s Center for International Security and Cooperation and a Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution. Gottemoeller led the US delegation in the New START nuclear arms negotiations with Russia 2009-2010. She was the first woman to lead such negotiations.

Tickets – 925.373.6800 or LivermoreArts.org | PO Box 592 | Livermore | CA 94551



Gottemoeller will be introduced by Ambassador Ron Lehman III, a veteran of arms control negotiations and currently the counselor to the director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

For a direct link to purchase tickets online or for more information visit Bankhead Theater at LivermoreArts.org. Tickets also are available by calling (925) 373-6800 or visiting the Bankhead Theater box office at 2400 First Street, Livermore, noon to 6 p.m. Thursday to Saturday.

The speaker series honors the late Rae Dorough, a respected Livermore resident and strong supporter of cultural events. Members of her family and friends were the initiating sponsors in 2008. The series features provocative, entertaining and enlightening presentations on a wide variety of topics. Past speakers have included engineers, scientists, fiction and non-fiction writers and historians, entrepreneurs, comedians and entertainers, diplomats, astronauts, journalists, and even a former secretary of defense.

Sponsored in part by Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC, Sandia National Laboratories, the Alameda County Arts Commission, Towne Center Books and ImageSetters, the Rae Dorough series also partners with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District and Las Positas College, to provide free or reduced price tickets to students and educators. Additionally, individual and corporate supporters help sponsor specific presentations.

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