

As of: September 2, 2010

11. Annual Foreign Policy Conference

## **Europe's East**

### **Ideas for the EU's policy vis-à-vis its eastern neighbors**

*In Cooperation with the European Council on Foreign Relations*

Thursday and Friday, 7-8 October 2010

Beletage of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Schumannstrasse 8, D-10117 Berlin

#### **Conference languages**

Simultaneous interpreting from German into English and vice versa will be available for all spoken conference presentations.

#### **Project management and information**

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#### **Background**

Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s and the major expansion of the European Union in the past decade, it has become necessary for the EU to adjust its relationship to its eastern neighbors. The greatest challenge in this regard is to ensure coherence between an active European Russia policy on one hand and equally dedicated and differentiated positions in relation to its other eastern neighbors.

The EU has a broad range of interests with regard to its neighbors to the East. Russia is the EU's most important supplier of natural gas, while vital transit routes pass through countries such as Belarus, Ukraine and Georgia. Furthermore, with the eastward expansion of the European Union, the neighbor states' security problems have become relevant for the EU as well.

#### **Significant long-term risks to stability along the EU's external borders**

All countries in the region have experienced deep crises of transformation following the collapse of the Soviet Union. Authoritarian forms of government have become entrenched in most of them. Repressive regimes, chronic human-rights abuses, monopolistic economic structures and rampant corruption pose significant long-term risks to stability along the EU's external borders. It is therefore in the EU's own interest to help societies in eastern Europe establish democratic governance and rule of law.

To date, there has been little sign of a joint European policy guided by shared European interests and marked by coherence and a clear message toward Russia and the countries of the Eastern Partnership. The different attitudes among the old and new members of the EU must be respected and reconciled wherever possible in an open consultation process in order to develop a common policy toward eastern Europe. We see this as a core European policy challenge for the coming years.

## **Which constructive policies should the EU pursue in eastern Europe?**

With our annual foreign policy conference in 2010 in cooperation with The European Council on Foreign Relations, we want to provide ideas for European and transatlantic debate about constructive policies for the EU to pursue in eastern Europe to go beyond geopolitical zero-sum games in promoting security, rule of law and sustainable development.

We would like to discuss the following issues with you:

- What should Europe look like in the year 2025?
- What would a relationship between the EU and Russia look like that is characterized by cooperation and not based on exclusive “zones of influence”?
- What kind of security system does Europe as a whole need in the 21st century in order to prevent a new European division?
- What lessons can be learned from the war in Georgia for similar potential conflicts in Europe’s eastern neighborhood?
- Which perspectives does Europe have for sustainable energy security?
- Is an EU membership perspective a precondition to consolidating the democratic transformation of eastern Europe?

## **DRAFT AGENDA**

### **Day 1, Thursday, 7 October 2010**

**5:00 p.m. Registration**

**5:30 p.m. Welcome and introduction**

**Ralf Fücks**, President, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin

And

**Ulrike Guérot**, Senior Research Fellow and Head of the Berlin Office, European Council on Foreign Relations, Berlin

**5:45 p.m. Keynote**

**A “new *Ostpolitik*”? Challenges and perspectives for an active role of the EU in Europe’s East**

**Mikołaj Dowgielewicz**, Secretary of State in Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, responsible for government preparations for the Polish EU Council Presidency, Warsaw

**6:15 p.m. Strategy Debate**

**The EU, Russia and the “eastern neighbors”: less confrontation, more cooperation?**

**Mark Leonard**, Executive Director, European Council on Foreign Relations, London

**Valeriy Chaly\***, Deputy director general, Razumkov Centre, Kiev

**Nadia Arbatova\***, Head of Department, European Political Studies Institute for World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow

**Fiona Hill**, Director, Center on the United States and Europe, Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution, Washington DC

**Werner Schulz**, Member of the European Parliament, The Greens/EFA, Brussels

Moderation: **Sylke Tempel**, Editor-in-Chief, Internationale Politik, Berlin

**7:45 p.m. Reception with Wine and Pretzels**

**Day 2, Friday, 8 October 2010**

**9:00 a.m. Registration**

**9:30 a.m. Welcome**

**9:35 a.m. Panel 1  
A European security system for the 21st century?**

**Dmitry O. Rogozin**, Russia's ambassador to NATO, Brussels

**Thomas M. Nichols**, Professor of national security affairs and Course Director for Security, Strategy, and Forces, National Security Decision Making Department, U.S. Naval War College, Newport

**Ulrich Stefan Schlie**, Head, Policy Planning and Advisory Staff of the German Federal Ministry of Defense, Berlin

**Frithjof Schmidt**, Member of the German Bundestag, Deputy Chairman of the Alliance 90/ The Greens Parliamentary Group, Berlin

Moderation: **Gregory Feifer**, Senior Correspondent, Radio Free Europe, Prague

**11:00 a.m. Coffee break**

**11:30 a.m. Panel 2  
Is there such a thing as solidarity in European foreign policy? The various interests of the EU member states**

**Eugeniusz Smolar**, Senior Fellow, Center for International Relations, Warsaw

**Emily Haber**, Political Director, German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

**Marie Mendras**, Director, Policy Planning, Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs of France, Paris

**Franziska Brantner**, Member of the European Parliament, The Greens/EFA, Brussels

Moderation: **Ulrike Guérot**, Senior Research Fellow and Head of the Berlin Office, European Council on Foreign Relations, Berlin

**1:00 p.m. Lunch break**

**2:00 p.m. Parallel forums**

**Forum 1  
Lessons from the war in Georgia? The EU and conflicts in neighboring eastern regions**

**Magdalena Frichova**, Policy Analyst, Consultant to a number of NGOs and governments, Brussels

**Tinatin Khidasheli**, International Law Expert; Member of the Executive Secretariat, Republican Party of Georgia, Tbilisi

**Vlad Kulminski\***, Senior Expert, Foreign Policy Association of Moldova (APE), Chişinău

**Viola von Cramon**, Member of the German Bundestag, Alliance 90/ The Greens, Berlin

Moderation: **Walter Kaufmann**, Department Head, Southeastern Europe, Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Berlin

### **Forum 2**

**Energy security and Europe's East: from the fossil present to the renewable future?**

**Sabit Bagirov**, President, Center for Economic and Political Research, Baku

**Gerhard Sabathil\***, Director for Strategy, Coordination and Analysis, Directorate-General for External Relations, European Commission, Brussels

**Felix Matthes**, Researcher Coordinator Energy- and Climate policy, Institute for Applied Ecology, Berlin

Moderation: **Eva van de Rakt**, Head, Prague office, Heinrich Böll Foundation

### **Forum 3**

**Democratic transformation: not a chance without accession to the EU?**

**Salome Asatiani\***, Journalist, Radio Tavisupleba (Georgian Service), Radio Free Europe, Prague

**Igor Zhovkva\***, Director, Foreign Policy Programs, International Centre for Policy Studies (ICPS), Kiev

**Marieluise Beck**, Member of the German Bundestag, Alliance 90/ The Greens, Berlin

Moderation: **Iris Kempe**, Head, South Caucasus Regional Office, Tbilisi

**3:30 p.m. Coffee break**

**4:00 p.m. Closing panel  
Europe's East in 2025: Which goals should the EU set itself?**

**Ivan Krastev\***, Chairman of Board, Centre for Liberal Strategies, Sofia

**Roland Galharague**, Director of the department for continental Europe, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paris

**Pavol Demeš**, Director, Central and Eastern Europe, German Marshall Fund of the United States, Bratislava

**Reinhard Bütikofer**, Member of the European Parliament, The Greens/EFA, Brussels

Moderation: **Ralf Fücks**, President, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin

**5:30 p.m. End of conference**

\* confirmation pending