



Transatlantic Strategy Towards Russia

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

Pałac na Wyspie, The Royal Łazienki Museum in Warsaw, 1 Agrykola Street

13.00-13.30

Welcome Lunch

13.30-13.35

Welcome Address

Michał Baranowski, Warsaw Director, German Marshall Fund of the United States

13.35-13.45

Opening Remarks

Bartosz Cichocki, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland

13.45-15.00

The Need for Decisive Transatlantic Strategy

Unexpected and unwelcome geopolitical developments in the past decade have soured current relations between the West and Russia. They also place strong barriers and caveats in the way of future cooperation.

How long will the political will of individual countries in the West to withstand a prolonged political stand-off with Russia last? How can the West strike a balance between maintaining its status as a protector of international law and order whilst moving to mitigate the risk of increased isolation and tension in relations with Russia?

Is it possible to execute a truly united stance towards Russia given the unique political landscapes, economic situations, and historical experiences of each Western country?

Speakers

Thomas Bagger, Head of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Federal President, Germany

Bartosz Cichocki, Undersecretary of State for Security, Consular Affairs, and Eastern Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland

Kurt Volker, Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations, U.S. Department of State

Moderator

Michał Baranowski, Warsaw Director, German Marshall Fund of the United States



15.00-15.30

Networking Break

15.30-17.00

Energy and Economic Dynamics in Russia-West Relations

Energy diversification has been seen as a general priority within Europe for much of the past decade. However, levels of genuine ambition to do so differ greatly across the continent. As a result, energy still holds great potential to splinter Western opinion and afford Moscow significant political leverage.

What is a sustainable level of resource dependence on Russia, and how far has Europe come in terms of diversification?

How will the emergence of US LNG exports change the situation, and to what extent do projects such as Nordstream 2 threaten progress?

Speakers

Peter Fischer, Deputy Director General, Energy & Climate Policy and Export Control, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

Kathrin Glastra, Head of Office, MEP R. Butikofer, Group of the Greens

Piotr Woźniak, President of the Management Board, Polskie Górnictwo Naftowe i Gazownictwo SA

Przemysław Żurawski vel Grajewski, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland

Moderator

Matthew Bryza, fmr Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council

17.00-17.30

Networking Break

17.30-19.00

Understanding Russia's System of Governance

The true composition of Russia's state apparatus is at times something of a mystery to Western observers. This is often reflected in naïve and ineffective strategy.

What is the true essence of Russia's 21st century political system, and how can Western strategy best capitalize on its main attributes?

What mistakes have been made in past attempts to influence and engage with the Russian political system, and how can they be learned from?



Speakers

Ian Bond, Director of Foreign Policy, Centre for European Reform

Katarzyna Pełczyńska-Nałęcz, Director, Open Europe Program, Stefan Batory Foundation

Celeste Wallander, President and CEO, US Russia Foundation

Moderator

Derek Chollet, Executive Vice-President, The German Marshall Fund of the United States

19.00-19.30

Cocktail Reception

19.30-21.30

Policy Dinner: Putin's Plans for Europe

In the Putin era, Russian interactions with Europe have proved to be economic, political, and even territorial in nature. Such interactions greatly contribute to Putin's hold over the Russian electorate. On one hand, Europe is a market vital to Russia's economic performance. On the other, it is a geopolitical playing field where the Kremlin can attempt to convey strength and power.

If Putin is successful in renewing his Presidency in the upcoming elections, what will be his major objectives, in regards to Europe, in his fourth term? What are Russia's key levers in interactions with Europe, and how can Europe strengthen such weak-spots against exploitation?

Speakers

Jonathan Knott, Ambassador to Poland, United Kingdom

Pierre Levy, Ambassador to Poland, France

Rolf Nikel, Ambassador to Poland, Germany

Witold Waszczykowski, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Poland

Moderator

Michał Baranowski, Warsaw Director, German Marshall Fund of the United States



List of Participants

Christopher Anderson

Special Assistant to Ambassador Volker
U.S. Department of State

Thomas Bagger

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Jacek Bartosiak

Senior Fellow
Potomac Foundation

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