

# Programme

ADENAUER-CONFERENCE

## X. "Adenauer-Conference": Germany's Role in International Security Affairs

**19 May 2022**  
**Academy of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung / Zoom**  
**Tiergartenstraße 35**  
**10785 Berlin**

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### Thursday, 19 May

- 09:30 am **Registration and Refreshments**
- 10:00 am **Welcome Remarks and Introduction**  
**Prof. Dr. Norbert Lammert**  
Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung & Former President of the German Bundestag
- 10:10 am **Keynote: Zeitenwende – A Turning Point in German Foreign and Security Policy?**  
**Ambassador Dr. Christoph Heusgen**  
Chairman of the Munich Security Conference, Fellow of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- 10:30 am **Talk: The German-French Engine and the War in Ukraine**  
**Ambassador Anne-Marie Descôtes**  
Ambassador of France to Germany  
**Ambassador Dr. Christoph Heusgen**  
Chairman of the Munich Security Conference, Fellow of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung  
**Dr. Johann Wadephul, MP**  
Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag  
Chair:  
**Prof. Dr. Norbert Lammert**  
Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung & Former President of the German Bundestag
- 11:30 am **Coffee Break**

11:45 am

**Panel I: Europe's Role in Times of Global Power Shifts**

The European Union's response to Russia's war against Ukraine was united and determined. At the same time, the European Union is facing great strategic challenges that require a common strategic approach by its member states. This applies especially to safeguarding energy security, the strengthening of the Common Security and Defence Policy, as well as handling the economic implications of the war in Ukraine. The panel will focus in particular on the question of European sovereignty in a geopolitical context. In what way can Europe strengthen its strategic sovereignty? How will this impact the EU's relationship towards the US and China?

**Patricia Lips, MdB**

Deputy Chairwoman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

**Marieluise Beck**

Director for East-Central and Eastern Europe, Zentrum Liberale Moderne

**Rear Admiral Jürgen Ehle**

Senior Military Advisor to Managing Director for CSDP and Crisis Response, European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Klaus Welle**

Secretary-General, European Parliament

Chair:

**Dr. Christina Catherine Krause**

Head of Department International and Security Affairs, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

01:00 pm

**Lunch**

02:00 pm

**Panel II: China and Russia – En Route to a Strategic Alliance?**

The consultations between Moscow and Beijing in the run-up to the Russian attack on Ukraine showed once more, that Russian–Chinese coordination has steadily intensified since 2014. Common military exercises, intensified cooperation in the area of technology and implementation of 5G, increase of trade and energy business or voting practices in the United Nations seem to point to a potential new alliance between Moscow and Beijing. According to some analysts, intensified cooperation between the People's Republic and Russia can be explained by the deteriorating relationship between Moscow and the West as well as the great power competition between the US and China. However, a number of obstacles to Russian–Chinese cooperation still exist. How can Russian–Chinese relations be assessed? How will Russia's war against Ukraine affect these relations? Do we currently observe the beginning of a new reliable strategic alliance or is this scenario implausible? What are the implications for Germany and Europe?

**Roderich Kiesewetter, MP**

Special Representative for Foreign Affairs and Crisis Prevention spokesperson for the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

**Heinrich Brauß**

Senior Associate Fellow, Security and Defense Program, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

**Dr. Brian Carlson**

Head of Global Security, Center for Security Studies (CSS), ETH Zürich

Chair:

**Dr. Sarah Kirchberger**

Head of the Center for Asia-Pacific Strategy & Security, Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University (ISPK)

03:15 pm

**Coffee Break**

03:45 pm

**Panel III: Transatlantic relations after the attack on Ukraine**

Russia's attack on Ukraine has brought territorial war back to Europe – this is now the first and foremost threat for the transatlantic alliance. Thus, NATO needs to (re-)establish its abilities to ensure collective defence, re-assure partners on its eastern flank and considerably strengthen the European pillar of the alliance. At the same time, NATO is on the cusp of having completed its most important conceptual realignment process of the last decade, which in June 2022, will lead to the adoption of a new strategic concept on the upcoming Madrid summit. Which lessons should NATO and particularly Europe learn from the war against Ukraine? Which priorities have to be set by the new strategic concept in order to adequately prepare the alliance for the challenges on its Eastern flank? How is this going to affect the alliance's defence planning and nuclear policy?

**Jürgen Hardt, MP**

Foreign affairs spokesperson for the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

**Dr. Detlef Wächter**

Director General for Security and Defence Policy, Federal Ministry of Defence

**Dr. Margarete Klein**

Head of the research group Eastern Europe and Eurasia, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)

**Brigadier Kay Brinkmann**

Deputy chief of staff of the Multinational Corps Northeast (NATO)

Chair:

**Vanessa Vohs**

Research Assistant, Research Division International Security, SWP and Member of the KAS Working Group of Young Foreign Policy Experts

05:00 pm

**Panel IV: Disinformation – Hybrid Threat in the information space**

The war in Ukraine has made it particularly clear what a decisive factor the sovereignty of interpretation in the information space can have. Immediately before and at the beginning of Putin's war of aggression, Russia tried to fuel the narrative of the "Russian special and liberation operation" in the information space – with only limited success. Open, pluralistic societies – of which Russian society may not be one – provide a large attack surface for disinformation (campaigns) and illegitimate, subversive operations. This hybrid threat harbours an enormous potential for escalation, which can undermine the security and stability of a country, exacerbate social upheavals or

even interfere with democratic elections. Easily disguised, rapid and anonymous dissemination of disinformation and propaganda via forums, platforms and social media enable cost-effective targeted control and manipulation of discourses and public debates distortion of facts, up to attempts to legitimise a war of aggression in Europe in violation of international law.

**Colonel Dr. Ferdi Akaltin**

Commander of the Bundeswehr Operational Communication Centre

**Prof. Dr. Natascha Zowislo-Grünwald**

Professor of Corporate Communications, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

**Colonel Dr. Johann Schmid**

Centre for Military History and Social Sciences of the Bundeswehr

Chair:

**Dr. Sophie Eisentraut**

Head of Research and Publications at the Munich Security Conference and  
Member of the Working Group of Young Foreign Policy Experts of the KAS

06:15 pm

**Conference Closing**