

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION | POLITICAL DIALOGUE & ANALYSIS

PROGRAMME

Conference of the Working Group of Young Foreign Policy Experts in Stockholm

Date: May 25-28, 2016
Venue: Stockholm, Sweden
First Hotel Norrtull
Sankt Eriksgatan 119
Language: English

Wednesday, 25.5.2016

Evening Arrival of the German conference participants

Thursday, 26.05.2016

8.30 Breakfast at the Hotel

9.00 Welcome and Opening

Location: First Hotel Norrtull, courtyard

Elisabeth **Bauer**, Director Baltic States and Scandinavia, KAS
Dr. Patrick **Keller**, Coordinator of Foreign and Security Policy, KAS

09.35 Transfer to the **German Embassy** (Walk from the hotel at 9:35 to the bus stop "Hälsingegatan" (Direction: Karlsbergs station), Bus Nr. 72, at 9:57 h to Stop "Hakberget")

10.30 – 11.30 Meeting with the German Ambassador to Sweden Mr. Michael **Bock** (**Location:** Skarpögatan 9)

11.30 – 12.30 Transfer (walk/bus/walk) to the Estonian House (Restaurant "Ester", 1st floor), Wallingatan 34 (**Location** for lunch and proceeding panels)

12.30 Lunch with *Evelin Tamm*, chairwoman of the Estonian National Congress of Sweden (ENCS) Committee on Politics and International Affairs, who will give an overview about her institution's activities concerning NordStream2 project in Gotland

13.30

Nordic-Baltic Security

Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and the war in Ukraine that followed have changed the security dynamics within Europe. Especially the Baltic and Nordic countries have felt increasingly exposed to Russia's military and hybrid action. Currently, they are not in a position to defend or maintain regional security by themselves since capabilities are limited and their memberships in different security institutions complicate a common approach. What steps should NATO and the EU undertake in order to defend and reassure the Baltic and Nordic countries? How can Germany, as one of the largest and most capable countries bordering the Baltic Sea, help to improve regional security? And how can the countries in the region act to stop the situation from deteriorating further?

*Input-Speaker: Pål **Jonson**, General Secretary, Swedish Atlantic Council*

*Dustin **Dehez**, Managing Partner, Manatee Global Advisors*

*Moderator: Aylin **Matlé**, PhD candidate, International Relations and European Politics at Martin Luther University in Halle-Wittenberg*

*Protocol: Ulrike **Franke**, Research Assistant to the Director of the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)*

15.30

Coffee Break

16.00

Challenges of the High North

The Arctic is an area of increasing international interest. As temperatures rise and the ice melts, new challenges are reshaping the High North into a strategic region of the world. The deterioration of relations between Russia and the other Arctic frontline states – all of which happen to be in NATO – poses an additional challenge to cooperation efforts. What are the most pressing issues to address as competition rises in the High North? How can we improve cooperation in the Arctic and what should the role of actors like the Arctic Council and NATO look like?

*Input-Speaker: Dr. Mikkel **Runge Olesen**, Postdoc, Danish Institute for International Studies*

*Dr. Dorothee **Niebuhr**, Department of Economic Geography at Goethe-University Frankfurt*

*Moderator: Daniela **Braun**, Program Officer, German Council on Foreign Relations*

*Protocol: Christopher **Sieler**, Political Advisor, Thomas Silberhorn, MP*

17.30 **European Energy Security**

Russia is the most important external supplier of energy to the EU. In light of Russia's new confrontational approach towards Ukraine and the West, it is not surprising that the debate about energy security in the European Union is pushed forward. How can the EU create a more diverse energy policy and find reliable sources of alternative supplies in order to limit the possibility of energy blackmail? Does the planned pipeline Nord Stream 2, which will directly connect Russia and Germany beneath the Baltic Sea, contradict the plans of the European Commission? How can the EU bridge the different national energy policy approaches and create a common solidly united energy foreign policy?

*Input-Speaker: Dr. Alpo **Rusi**, Visiting Professor Vytautas Magnus University, Former Ambassador (a. D), Former Advisor of the President of Finland and the President of the UN GA*

*Hanns **König**, Associate, Commissioned Projects, Aurora Energy Research*

*Moderator: Christian **Rieck**, Desk Officer for Development Policy and Human Rights, Department of Political Dialogue and Analysis, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung*

*Protocol: Ulrike **Franke**, PhD candidate in International Relations, University of Oxford*

19.00 End of panel

20.00 Dinner with *Lena **Asplund*** (MP), Moderate Party, member of the Committee on Defense, member of the Swedish Parliamentary delegation to the Nordic Council

Location: Restaurang Aktiebolaget Kvarnen, Tjärhovsgatan 4, Stockholm

Friday, 27.05.2016

8.30 Breakfast at the Hotel

9.30 **Nordic-Baltic EU Perspective**

Location: First Hotel Norrtull

The European Union is currently facing many vast challenges. While populist parties and Euroscepticism are on the rise in many member

states, European leaders have to deal, among other pressing challenges, with a historic refugee crisis, a looming possible Brexit and deteriorating relations with Russia. What are the views of the Nordic and Baltic countries when it comes to these internal and external challenges to the European Union? What do they perceive as the most urgent challenges and what are the approaches of the countries of this region in order to cope with the migration crisis, missing solidarity between the member states and diminishing cohesion within the European Union?

*Input-Speaker: Dr. Stefano **Braghioli**, post-doctoral researcher, Centre for EU-Russia Studies CEURUS*

*Patrick **Schünemann**, political advisor, Gunther Krichbaum, MP, Chairman of the Committee on the Affairs of the European Union*

*Moderator: Judith **Weiß**, Trainee, Deutsche Bundesbank*

*Protocol: Aurélie **Domisse**, MA student political science Free University Berlin*

11.00

Coffee break

11.15

Migration Crisis: National Approaches on How to Deal with the European Refugee Crisis

More than a million refugees and migrants crossed into Europe in 2015 and sparked a crisis as countries try to cope with the influx. While Sweden and Germany have been frontrunners in taking in refugees other countries have been far more reluctant. Today, also the willingness of former frontrunners has been exhausted. How have positions and practices on how to deal with migrants and refugees developed in the Nordic countries and in Germany in the last month and why? What are national strategies for integrating refugees and tackling root causes? Is the "Turkey Deal" crucial to solving the crisis?

*Input Speaker: Johan **Forsell**, Member of the Swedish Parliament (Nya Moderaterna)*

*Anna-Lena **Kirch**, Research Assistant, Europe Program, German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF)*

*Moderator: Franziska **Stahl**, Political Analyst and Adviser at EUCAP Sahel Mali in Bamako*

*Protocol: Aurélie **Domisse**, Carlo-Schmid-Fellow, Policy Planning Unit, NATO*

12.45

Lunch

13.45 Opportunity for Network-Building / City Tour

15.45 Coffee break

16.00 **Briefing about the Moderaterna Party**

*Diana **Janse**, Senior Foreign Policy Advisor, Nya Moderaterna*

17.00 **The Development of Populist Parties in Light of the Refugee Crisis**

The migration crisis in Europe is feeding xenophobia and political populism. Although many of the right-wing populist parties have been around for a long time, the vast influx of refugees fuelled the rise of Europe's right. What is the state of the different populist parties in the Nordic countries and in Germany? How do traditional parties react to the rise of the right-wing populists? What effect do populists have on national policies?

*Input-Speaker: Ditte Maria **Brasso Sørensen**, PhD student at the University of Copenhagen*

*Christopher **Sieler**, Political Advisor, Thomas Silberhorn, MP*

*Moderator: Sebastian **Enskat**, Editor-in-chief, KAS, International Reports, Team Political Analysis and Dialogue*

*Protocol: Christopher **Sieler**, Political Advisor, Thomas Silberhorn, MP*

18.30 End of panel

18.30 Closing remarks

19.30 Networking dinner with Nordic Young Leaders

Location: Restaurant Hemma Vasastan, Dalagatan 28, Stockholm

Saturday, 28.05.2016

9.00 Breakfast

9.30 KAS Internal Briefing

10.30 Visit of a museum *tbd.*

12.30 Time for Lunch (not provided)

13.30 End of conference