

Program

European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

What's new, NATO? – The consequences of the Strategic Concept for Europe's future security environment

July 14th, 2022

15:00 – 16:00 (1 hour, CET)

Online – Event (Zoom)

On June 28th to June 30th, at the summit in Madrid, NATO did present its long-awaited Strategic Concept for 2030. The concept focuses mainly on new threats, new working areas of NATO and, unlike in previous decades, NATO announced to invest more in private research and science to drive innovation in the military field. Therefore, by 2030, NATO will inevitably invest not insignificant amounts in areas that were not previously within its remit: e.g. becoming the first military alliance to actively fight climate change. In total those investments could sum up to an additional 20 billion EUR.

Hence, the Alliance could penetrate spheres that are completely new and unexplored to it. Areas in which the Alliance has no experience and in which the EU is likely to be the more experienced partner. The EU again, presented its own strategy, the Strategic Compass, back in March. This is mainly intended to serve as a roadmap with concrete measures to pave the way for the EU to achieve greater autonomy, higher defense capability and a stronger role in the world by 2030. When NATO is going to invest more in the private sector, it is fair to say that both organizations will try to play more strongly on the other's playing field – with a growing risk of creating doubled structures and projects.

Given these conditions, the question inevitably arises as to which extent these two strategy papers and its measures can even coexist. Will there finally be more cooperation and coordination through regular meetings at work level? Joint councils and summits? What happens if the cooperation and joint strategic planning does not take place in the desired scale? What changes can be expected from the Strategic Concept and how does that influence the European security environment and the EU's Strategic Compass? Or to make it short: What is new, NATO?

On the other hand, the summit did not only revolve around the strategic concept, even if that may have been one of the more important points on the agenda. It dealt with the membership applications of Sweden and Finland which were still blocked by NATO member Turkey hours before the summit had finally started. Besides that, NATO leaders discussed how NATO's future role in the war is going to look like? Is NATO more and more becoming a party to the war? What might the EU's and NATO's role be when it comes to sustainably stabilizing Eastern Europe and to support the reconstruction of Ukraine after the war?

We will explore these and other issues and questions in our online debriefing. Together with experts from practice, we will focus on the novelties and evolutions in NATO's Strategic Concept and also deal with the general but not less controversial results of the Madrid summit. Accordingly, we cordially invite you to our Zoom event on **July 14th, 2022 at 15h**. We are looking forward to your participation!

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- 15:00 **Welcoming remarks**
- Hardy Ostry**
Head of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- 15:05 **Keynote speech**
- Jürgen Hardt**
Member of the German Parliament
Foreign Policy Spokesperson, CDU/CSU Group
- 15:15 **Panel discussion**
- Jürgen Hardt**
Member of the German Parliament
Foreign Policy Spokesperson, CDU/CSU Group
- Sjibren de Jong**
NATO / SHAPE
Responsible for Eastern Europe
- Niklas Novaky**
Senior Research Officer
Wilfried Martens Centre
- moderated by*
- Thomas Gutschker**
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ)
- 15:50 **Questions from the audience**
- 16:00 **End of event**