

Programme

European Office Brussels

KAS Europe Talks

EU-Czech Republic relations between the Presidency of the Council of the EU and Ukraine-War

Friday, 01st July 2022

10:00-11:00 Uhr CET

Online-Event (via Zoom)

The European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is very pleased to invite you to the next event of our format "KAS Europe Talks". In this format, the European Office regularly organises a discussion with the head of another KAS office abroad, in which both the latest developments in the respective countries or regions and the status quo of the relations with the European Union are discussed. This event takes a look at the situation of the Czech Republic and discusses the question of neighbourly relations of both partners between the Czech Presidency of the Council and the Russian war of aggression on Ukraine.

After the end of the Cold War, membership in the European Union (EU) was one of the most important goals of Czech foreign policy. As early as 1993, the Czech Republic concluded an association agreement with the European Union, and accession negotiations began in 1998, ending with EU membership in 2004. Prior to that, 77 % of the Czech population voted in favor of EU accession in a referendum. Although the country is now regarded as an EU-sceptical nation in the community, approval ratings for the European alliance of states have recently risen again since the ongoing Corona pandemic and the war in Ukraine. On July 01, 2022, the Czech Republic will assume the rotating EU Council presidency for the second time. This will give Prague a decisive role in shaping the EU agenda for six months. Post-war reconstruction of Ukraine and addressing the resulting economic consequences, EU energy security, strengthening the alliance's defense capabilities, and cybersecurity are the five priorities of the upcoming Czech presidency, which will be themed "Europe as a task." Influenced by the new geopolitical and security situation, the Czech EU Presidency also aims to push ahead with the implementation of the Strategic Compass, the EU's military strategy. In particular, Prague wants to accelerate discussions on two drafts included in the Strategic Compass (EU Hybrid Toolbox & EU Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference Toolbox).

How should we evaluate the EU-Czech Republic relations? Which role the Czech Republic has for the EU? Where does the Czech Republic stand today as an EU member state? Are the priorities of the Czech Presidency of the Council feasible? What does the Ukraine-War mean for the Czech Republic's future in the EU?

The event „KAS Europe Talks: EU-Czech Republic relations between the Presidency of the Council of the EU and the Ukraine-War“ will take place on **Friday, 01st July 2022, from 10:00-11:00 Uhr CET via Zoom**. We are looking forward to debate the above-mentioned topics with our colleague **Tomislav Delinić**, Head of the Czech and Slovak Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. After the discussion between Mr. Delinić and **Dr. Hardy Ostry**, Head of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the audience will have the opportunity to raise their questions in the conversation. The event will be held in German and will also be simultaneously translated into English.

We are looking forward to your participation!

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Friday, 01st July 2022

10:00 Uhr	Welcoming Dr. Hardy Ostry Head of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
10:05 Uhr	Discussion about the relations between the EU and the Czech Republic Dr. Hardy Ostry Head of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Tomislav Delinić Head of the Czech and Slovak Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
10:45 Uhr	Questions from the audience
11:00 Uhr	End of event

Information on registration and participation:

Please register by providing your name, email address, organisation and position. You will then receive a confirmation of your registration and further information on how to participate in the online event.

During the online event:

During the event, you will not be connected via video and will be muted by the host. After the speakers' short statements, you are welcome to join the conversation by asking the speakers a written question (click on the Q&A icon in the toolbar).