

6th German Nordic Baltic Forum 2014

Upgrading the German-Nordic-Baltic Partnership in the EU: Common Values, Mutual Interests and New Challenges

07 - 08 July 2014

*Venue: Riga, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Meierovica hall
(3 Kr. Valdemāra street)*

PROGRAMME

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

Monday, July 7, 2014

13.00 **Registration and lunch**

14.15 -14.30 **Welcome and introductions**

Dr. **Andris Sprūds**, Director, Latvian Institute of International Affairs (LIIA), Riga

Prof. Dr. **Mathias Jopp**, Director, Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP), Berlin

14.30-16.30 **Panel 1: „Reinventing the Eastern Partnership: Opportunities and Constraints“**

Chair: **Juris Poikāns**, Ambassador at Large (Eastern Partnership), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Riga

Keynotes

Joachim Bleicker, Director for Basic Issues of EU External Relations and Relations with EU Member States at the Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

Ojārs Ēriks Kalniņš, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Latvia, Riga

Panellists:

Dr. **Katrin Böttger**, Deputy Director, Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP), Berlin

Dr. **Sinikukka Saari**, Senior Researcher, Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA), Helsinki

Dr. **Iris Kempe**, Senior Adviser for Culture and Education, Council of the Baltic Sea States, Stockholm

16.30-17.00 **Coffee**

17.00-18.30 **Panel 2: “Reviewing Europe 2020 Strategy: Making Stabilization Sustainable”**

Chair: Prof. Dr. **Ramūnas Vilpišauskas**, Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University

Panellists:

Dr. **Tuulia Hakola**, Director Structural Policy Unit, Ministry of Finance of Finland, Helsinki

Jo Leinen MEP, President of the European Movement International (EMI), European Parliament, Brussels

Märt Loite, Deputy Strategy Director, Government Office of Estonia, Tallinn

Aldis Austers, Researcher, Latvian Institute of International Affairs (LIIA), Riga

Prof. Dr. **Ansgar Belke**, Chair of Macroeconomics, University of Duisburg-Essen

18.30

Bus transfer

to the “German Residence”, Hamburgas iela 9, LV-1014

19.00

Reception

on the invitation of H.E. **Andrea Wiktorin**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Latvia, Riga

Welcoming remarks

H.E. **Andrea Wiktorin**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Latvia

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

09.15 -10.15 **Key note addresses: German-Nordic-Baltic Partnership: Challenges, Interests, Values**

Andrejs Pildegovičs, State Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Riga

Michael Roth MP, Minister of State for Europe at the Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

Q&A session

10.15-10.30 **Coffee break**

10.30-12.15 **Panel 3: „The EU as a Foreign Player: Interests and Instruments”**

Chair: Dr. **Gunilla Herolf**, Fellow, Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences (RSAWS), Stockholm

Panellists:

H.E. **Ričardas Degutis**, Ambassador of Republic of Lithuania to Latvia

Marko Mihkelson, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Estonian Parliament, Tallinn

Carl Hartzell, Senior Policy Adviser, Strategic Planning Division, European External Action Service, Brussels

Niklas Helwig, Research Fellow, Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA), Helsinki

12.15-12.30 **Coffee break**

12.30-14.15 **Panel 4: “EU Institutional Challenges after the European Parliament Elections of 2014”**

Chair: **Karlis Bukovskis**, Deputy Director, Latvian Institute of International Affairs (LIIA), Riga

Panellists:

Prof. Dr. **Ahto Lobjakas**, Researcher, Estonian Foreign Policy Institute (EVI), Tallinn

Kristīne Našeniece, Director of the EU Coordination Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Riga

Prof. Dr. **Rudolf Hrbek**, Institute for Political Science, University of Tübingen

Dr. **Zanda Lukaševica-Kalniņa**, Chairwoman of the European Affairs Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Latvia, Riga

14.15-14.30 **Concluding Remarks**

Dr. **Ilze Rūse**, Director of European Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Riga

Dr. **Funda Tekin**, Research Fellow, Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP), Berlin

14.30 **Farewell sandwiches**