

High Noon Lunchtime Debate

An event series of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

Will Russian Aggression in Ukraine Lead to a New Divide in the EU? – Perspectives from Central Europe and the Baltics

Thursday, 4 December

12.00–14.00

Venue: Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit, Avenue de Cortenbergh 71
1000 Brussels

About the event

A year ago, protests at Maidan Square triggered a chain of events that resulted in the overthrow of the corrupted and de-legitimized President Janukovych. They also served as pretext for Vladimir Putin to exploit the chaotic situation and annex the Crimean Peninsula followed by a disguised warfare in Eastern Ukraine. Despite the agreed sanctions by the EU, substantial cracks among member states became visible: Hungary and the Czech Republic criticized the economic sanctions and downplayed the significance of the Russian aggression. This was in strong contrast to the position of Poland and the Baltic States which felt directly threatened and called for more action.

Is there a threat of new divide within the EU on the stance towards Russia? Why are the reactions of the CEE countries so diverse? What should be the political and economic response of the EU? We invite you to discuss these questions with us.

Invitation

Speakers

Petras Auštrevičius MEP

Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, ALDE Group

Urmas Paet MEP

Delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Cooperation Committee

Dirk Schuebel (tbc)

Head of Division for Eastern Partnership, EEAS

Csaba Toth

Director of Strategy, Republikon Institute, Hungary

Moderation

Leszek Jazdzewski

Liberté! Magazine, Poland

Kindly register by e-mail by 1 December 2014 at <http://tinyurl.com/EU-NewDivide> or email to register.brussels@fnst.org. Please indicate your organisation/institution. Please note that due to system restrictions we are unable to confirm registrations.