



21/2014



The risk of losing it all - Interview on the presidential elections in Greece

Yesterday, the Greek parliament entered the first round of the presidential elections. By calling these elections, Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras risks losing it all: If the Parliament cannot agree on a new President, the assembly will be dissolved and general elections will be held. Our expert for Greece, Markus Kaiser, explains the current challenges and chances inherent in Greek politics (in German).

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Comic competition: Animate Europe 2015

"Europe Fast Forward" - In the beginning, there was war. Then a project was set up to bring peace and prosperity to Europe. Today, it has grown to be an ever closer union of 28 very diverse member states. Imagine you could fast-forward in time...anytime into the future, be it 2025, 2050 or 2500. What do you think Europe will look like? Will the European Union stick together and master its challenges as one? What role will it play in the world? How will we live? Which scientific innovations will shape our everyday life? Look into your crystal ball! Send us your story about the future of Europe!

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Not just another trade negotiation - on the strategic importance of TTIP

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership is not a simple trade agreement. TTIP requires negotiations between the world's two largest trading blocks. It means strengthening a partnership of democracy, rule of law, human rights and open markets. But criticism against TTIP has grown in the past months. Hence, FNF together with Open Europe organized a debate with European Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström and experts from both sides of the Atlantic to address such hot topics as regulations and standards and discuss the future of TTIP.

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The 2014 U.S. Midterm elections - Analysis and outlook

The recent midterm elections in the United States have confirmed what was expected: the Democrats lost, while the Republicans expanded their majority in the House and seized control of the Senate. It is likely to become increasingly difficult for President Obama to accomplish his agenda. During a Transatlantic Luncheon Discussion, organized by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in cooperation with the Transatlantic Institute of the American Jewish Committee, experts from the U.S. discussed the outcome of the recent elections as well as the short and long-term consequences that will most likely ensue.

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Unified Europe? Can the EU stand together against Russia?

At an event of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation in cooperation with the think tank network 4Liberty, foreign policy experts debated if Russian aggression in Ukraine could lead to a new divide in the EU. Dirk Schuebel of the EEAS argued that the EU for the first time spoke with one voice on a foreign policy matter. But MEPs from the region were more critical of the EU's response toward Russian aggression. Petras Austrevicius, MEP from Lithuania, Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, said the EU member states acted like "an orchestra playing different songs at the same time".

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FNF Greece: Honouring the fall of the Berlin Wall

To commemorate the fall of the Berlin Wall and its wider implications, FNF in cooperation with different partners organized an evening of discussions about the outcomes of this historic event for Germany and the rest of Europe. "It is important to give young people an understanding of what overcoming socialism and the division of Germany really meant to the people in both German states", said Markus Kaiser, FNF's program manager for Greece.

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Call for applications: EU-ASEAN Perspectives

The EU-ASEAN Perspectives is a project of the Young Initiative on Foreign Affairs and International Relations, promoting cooperation between young international relations researchers and practitioners from Europe and Southeast Asia. The new edition is entitled "Building global partnerships - Which role for the EU and ASEAN?". Workshops and events will be held in March and June 2015. More information can be found on the project webpage.

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Merry Christmas and "Guter Rutsch!"

We wish you and your families wonderful and relaxing Christmas holidays and hope that 2015 will be a year filled with joy, health, and success. We are looking forward to welcoming you at our events and hope you will stay in touch!

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Wichtige Termine

We will inform you about our upcoming events in the new year at the beginning of January 2015.

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