

High Noon Lunchtime Debate

An event series of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

Türkiye: Back to old days? The current state of EU-Turkey relations

18 February 2014

12:00–14:00

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

About the event

Tensions in Turkey have reached a new high after the recent corruption scandal involving three ministers which resulted in the reshuffling of the cabinet. The AKP government responded to this bad publicity by denouncing it as a "conspiracy operation" run by externals and their Turkish allies. As a result the government launched a large-scale purge of hundreds of high-ranking members of the police, prosecutors and officials insisting they were all part of a "parallel state". The European Commission expressed its deep concerns during Prime Minister Erdogan's recent visit to Brussels. Breaches in the separation of powers and threat to the independence of the judiciary are a major concern. The government's agenda to push through a number of controversial laws, such as the re-structuring of the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors (HSYK) will undo several key reforms that have been taken over the last decade.

This expert meeting will analyze the current situation in the country and its impact on EU-Turkey relations.

Kindly register by 17 February 2014 here: <http://bit.ly/1elroMD>

Speakers

Sir Graham Watson MEP

President

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party

Dr. Hans-Georg Fleck

Resident representative Turkey

Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

Serdar Yesilyurt

Executive Director

TUSKON EU Representation

Moderator

Amanda Paul

Policy Analyst

European Policy Centre

Invitation