



EXECUTIVE TRAINING SEMINAR

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Scientific Coordinators:

Ulrich Krotz | European University Institute

Richard Maher | European University Institute

Cappella

Villa Schifanoia, Via Boccaccio 121 - Florence

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7 - 9 MAY 2018

■ INTRODUCTION

This Executive Training Seminar will examine the current state of transatlantic relations. The transatlantic alliance between the United States and its European partners has been essential for global peace, security, and stability since the end of World War II. But a number of developments are placing doubts on the centrality of the alliance on both sides of the Atlantic. The U.S. “rebalance” to Asia and the election of Donald Trump have raised questions about America’s commitment to European security. Transatlantic economic relations, including the future of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), also reveal differences between the United States and Europe. Bringing together academic specialists, policymakers, and think tank experts, this three-day seminar will offer an in-depth overview of the scale and scope of issues currently facing the transatlantic alliance, and outlines possible measures that the United States and Europe could take to address these challenges. Topics include the future of U.S. grand strategy and its implications for Europe, EU initiatives to build independent security and defense capabilities, transatlantic relations and Russia, transatlantic economic relations, and transatlantic relations in the era of Donald Trump. Through presentations, case studies, and simulations, attendees will gain a greater appreciation and understanding of the complex set of issues currently facing transatlantic relations and the policy responses that will be needed to address these issues.

■ DRAFT PROGRAMME

7 MAY

- 09.30 Opening
Brigid Laffan | Director, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies & Global Governance Programme
- 10.00 - 11.30 U.S. Grand Strategy and Transatlantic Relations: The Case for Restraint (part I)
Barry Posen | Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 11.30 - 12.00 Coffee break
- 12.00 - 13.30 U.S. Grand Strategy and Transatlantic Relations: The Case for Restraint (part II)
Barry Posen | Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 13.30 - 14.30 Lunch break
- 14.30 - 16.00 America's Place in the World in the Trump Presidency (part I)
Stephen Brooks | Dartmouth College

This presentation draws upon research from my recently published book *America Abroad: The United States' Global Role in the 21st Century* (coauthored with William Wohlforth) to address the two most important questions concerning the United States' role in the world. The conclusion of the presentation will then discuss the implications of Trump's foreign policy stance for Europe. The first part of the presentation examines how fast America is declining. Our underlying assessment is that for many decades into the future, the United States will be the only state in a position to sustain a globally engaged grand strategy. The second part of the talk then analyzes the current grand strategic debate over whether America should "stay engaged" or should now "come home." Our analysis shows that Washington would be wise to sustain the core elements of the so-called "deep engagement" grand strategy, since pulling back from the world would have a variety of negative consequences for America and for its global partners.

- 16.00 - 16.30 Coffee break
- 16.30 - 18.00 America's Place in the World in the Trump Presidency (part II)
Stephen Brooks | Dartmouth College
- 20.00 Social dinner

7 MAY

- 10.00 - 11.30 Towards a European Security and Defence Union: Implications for Transatlantic Relations (part I)
Nathalie Tocci | Special Advisor to the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini & Director Istituto Affari Internazionali

2017 was a remarkable year for European security and defence. The work began with the EU Global Strategy (EUGS), presented by High Representative and Vice President (HRVP) Federica Mogherini in June 2016. Only a few months later, the Council welcomed an ambitious Security and Defence Implementation Plan, which aimed to translate the security and defence dimension of the EUGS into reality. 2017 was entirely devoted to the implementation of this Plan, leading to significant activism in European security and defence. Talk about a 'European Security and Defence Union' became louder as the months went. This presentation will explore the why, the what, and the what next behind this remarkable year in European security and defence. Why, as some put it, has the EU's 'sleeping beauty' awakened? What concretely does a European Security and Defence Union mean? What hurdles must be overcome to ensure that 2017 will not be remembered as another false dawn for European security and defence? And what will all this mean for the transatlantic relationship?

11.30 - 12.00

Coffee break

12.00 - 13.30

Towards a European Security and Defence Union: Implications for Transatlantic Relations (part II)

Nathalie Tocci | Special Advisor to the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini & Director Istituto Affari Internazionali

13.30 - 14.30

Lunch break

14.30 - 16.00

The Transatlantic Meaning of Donald Trump (part I)

Jeremy Shapiro | European Council on Foreign Relations

Donald Trump, for all of his radicalism, is more a symptom of the rot in the transatlantic relationship than the cause. Even before Trump, America was growing more self-interested and distant. European governments are broadly in denial about this trend. They continue to look to America for security because they cannot resolve their own internal disputes. This situation cannot continue. A 'post-American politics' in Europe is possible and even necessary, but will only come about if EU member states recognise the need. Germany is central to this effort, but its transatlantic habits run deep and it lacks support from other member states.

16.00 - 16.30

Coffee break

16.30 - 18.00

The Transatlantic Meaning of Donald Trump (part II)

Jeremy Shapiro | European Council on Foreign Relations

9 MAY

10.00 - 11.30

The Post-Post-Cold War Dilemma (part I)

Ivan Krastev | Chairman of the Centre for Liberal Strategies (Sofia) & Permanent Fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences (Vienna)

Transatlantic relations as we know them today are rooted in the Cold War. As a result, many in Europe and the United States have sought to preserve the Cold War framework and the centrality of Cold War institutions such as NATO in an effort to sustain transatlantic unity. But the current crisis in U.S.-Turkey and EU-Turkey relations shows the risk of this approach. This presentation focuses on how we can rearrange U.S.-EU relations in the world where not the Cold War but rather decolonization was the most important historical moment of 20th century.

- 11.30 - 12.00 Coffee break
- 12.00 - 13.30 The Post-Post-Cold War Dilemma (part II)
Ivan Krastev | Chairman of the Centre for Liberal Strategies (Sofia) & Permanent Fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences (Vienna)
- 13.30 - 14.30 Lunch break
- 14.30 - 16.00 Do Transatlantic Relations Have a Future? (part I)
Ulrike Guérot | Danube University Krems

Transatlantic relations are changing: on the one hand, Europe and the United States are pulling apart due to the presidency of Donald Trump and clear divisions in value scales; on the other hand, Europe remains divided instead of pulling together and forming a united strategy. The 28 member states face tendencies of populism and disintegration, and seem unable to take Europe and especially the Eurozone to the next level of integration, let alone political unity. What is at stake is the capacity of Europe to go for a momentum of self-emancipation from both the United States and Russia, at a moment when Europe itself suffers from the lasting consequences of its most important crisis since its founding. This presentation will address this new situation facing transatlantic relations and its impact on the process of European integration.

- 16.00 - 16.30 Coffee break
- 16.30 - 18.00 Do Transatlantic Relations Have a Future? (part II)
Ulrike Guérot | Danube University Krems
- 18.00 Distribution of attendance diploma and farewell cocktail

■ SPEAKERS

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| Stephen Brooks | Dartmouth College, United States |
| Ulrike Guérot | Danube University Krems, Austria |
| Ivan Krastev | Centre for Liberal Strategies, Bulgaria & Institute for Human Sciences, Austria |
| Barry Posen | Massachusetts Institute of Technology, United States |
| Jeremy Shapiro | European Council on Foreign Relations, United Kingdom |

Nathalie Tocci

Special Advisor to the HRVP Mogherini & Istituto Affari
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