

What Should the European Political Community Seek to Achieve?

Perspectives from Paris, Berlin, Warsaw and Vienna

Thursday, 30 March 2023, 9:30–11:15 a.m. (CET) [via Zoom](#)

The launch of the European Political Community (EPC) is a response to the historical challenges brought about by Russia's war in Ukraine. Its ambition, beyond the signal sent to Moscow, is to reinforce Europe's political structuring through concrete projects and intergovernmental cooperation. At its first meeting, which took place in Prague on 6 October 2022, a list of priorities has been identified. These range from energy security to youth, migration and regional cooperation. Much remains to be clarified, though, before the 44 participating states convene for a second meeting in Chisinau in June 2023. What is the exact problem the EPC intends to solve and what concrete projects should it advance? What kind of Community, if any, does it seek to establish, and on which basis? How does the EPC intersect with accession policy in general, and the EU's plans to »further advance the gradual integration« between the European Union and the Western Balkans in particular? What can progressive forces expect from it? And what role should the EU and the countries of the Weimar Triangle play therein?

This online discussion is part of the Weimar Plus Working Group initiative launched by ÖfZ/CfA and the Genshagen Foundation in 2020 to discuss key elements of the EU's strategic agenda. It will gather insights from Austria, France, Germany and Poland.

Keynote

Hugues Moret, Special Envoy for the European Political Community at the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Paris

Discussion

Agnieszka Cianciara, Associate Professor at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

Stefan Lehne, Senior Fellow at Carnegie Europe, Brussels

Barbara Lippert, Director of Research at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Berlin

Lukáš Macek, Head of the Centre Grande Europe & Research Fellow at the Jacques Delors Institute, Paris

Moderation

Romain Le Quiniou, Director of Euro Créative, Paris

To join the online discussion, [please register here.](#)



The Organisers

The **Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe** was established in 1978 by President Jacques Chirac and Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. It organises international conferences, bilateral colloquiums and short seminars; publishes policy studies and connects experts, policy advisors and civil society representatives from all over Europe. Its work contributes to the deepening of the relations between France and Austria, the promotion of European integration in the Western Balkans and the strengthening of regional cooperation in the EU's Eastern neighbourhood.

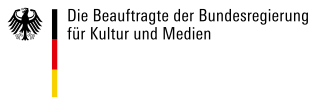
 <http://oefz.at/>

Euro Créative is a Paris-based independent and non-profit think tank focused on Central and Eastern Europe. Founded in 2019, the setting up of this initiative stems from a clear observation: this region is too often neglected in France, whether academically or politically. Yet Central and Eastern Europe is a key region for any analysis dealing with future developments of the European Union in terms of political unity or economic integration for example. And it will remain so in the coming years.

 <http://eurocreative.fr/>

Genshagen Foundation is a platform for exchange between politics, business, science, culture and civil society. It promotes dialogue between Germany, France and Poland in the spirit of the »Weimar Triangle«. Founders are the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media and the Land of Brandenburg.

 <http://www.stiftung-genshagen.de/>



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