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Institut za razvoj i međunarodne odnose
Institute for Development and International Relations



Hanns
Seidel
Stiftung

Talks on Arms Control Challenges: Russia's Threat to Strategic Stability of the Atlantic Community

30-31 October 2024

Hotel Dubrovnik, Ban Jelačić Hall

Gajeva 1, Zagreb

The transatlantic community faces significant challenges, with Russia's aggressive actions in Ukraine testing the foundations of multilateralism and cooperative security. Emerging global challenges and assertive international players further strain compromise-building and decision-making in the West. Issues such as deregulation and the militarisation of international affairs exacerbate the functionality of the transatlantic alliance, while national interests often overshadow collective values, weakening cooperation.

In this turbulent environment, arms control has regained prominence on regional and global agendas. The retreat from international arms control agreements highlights their vital role in preventing conflict, enhancing security, fostering stability, and building diplomatic trust. Strengthening arms control is crucial for a more secure and cooperative international system.

To address these concerns, the "Talks on Arms Control Challenges: Russia's Challenge to the Strategic Stability of the Atlantic Community" will host a two-day conference with policymakers and experts to explore the following topics:

- ◆ How does Russian revisionism affect the balance of power, and what strategies can the Atlantic Community adopt in response?
- ◆ What are the implications of U.S. foreign policy on global security and how can transatlantic partners enhance collective defence and arms control amidst emerging global uncertainties?
- ◆ How can we address the intersection of AI and arms control, and what strategies are needed to manage the risks of AI proliferation in military contexts?
- ◆ To what extent can the EU act as a strategic actor in the current security environment?
- ◆ How does the militarization of international affairs impact arms control in Southeast Europe and what cooperative measures can foster regional stability?

Wednesday, 30 October 2024

14.00 – 14.15	<p><u>Conference Opening: Welcome and Welcome Remarks</u></p> <p>Venue: Hotel Dubrovnik, Ban Jelačić Hall</p> <p>Klaus Fiesinger, PhD Regional Director for SOE, Hanns Seidel Foundation Aleksandra MARKIĆ BOBAN, MSc Head of Zagreb Office, Hanns Seidel Foundation Sandro KNEZOVIĆ, PhD Research Adviser, Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO), Croatia</p>
14.15 – 14.30	<p>Roundtable Discussion</p> <p>Keynote Speech</p> <p>“Arms Control Challenges and the European Security”</p> <p>Franjo MATUŠIĆ, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia</p>
14.30 – 14.40	<p><u>Panel Discussion “Russia’s Threat to Strategic Stability of the Atlantic Community”</u></p> <p><u>with:</u></p>
14.40 – 16.30	<p>H.E. Fabien FIESCHI Ambassador, French Embassy to Croatia Malgorzata BONIKOWSKA, Ph.D. President, The Centre for International Relations Foundation, Poland Lt. Col. Burkhard WEBER Defence Attaché, German Embassy to Croatia Robert BARIĆ, Ph.D. Faculty of Political Science University of Zagreb</p> <p>Moderator: Sandro KNEZOVIĆ, PhD Research Adviser, IRMO, Croatia</p>
16.30	<p>End of the first day of the conference</p> <p>Networking Reception</p>

Thursday, 31 October 2024

09.00 – 09.15am

Opening Addresses

Nataša TRAMIŠAK, MP, Defense Committee, Croatian Parliament
Davor Ivo STIER, Member of European Parliament (video)

09.15 – 11.45am

Panel Discussion "Militarization of International Affairs and
its Impact on Arms Control in Southeast Europe"

with:

Josip BRKIĆ | Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Prof. Filip EJDUS, Ph.D. | Faculty of Political Science, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Prof. Zhidas DASKALOVSKI, PhD | School of Public Policy, "Mother Theresa", North Macedonia

Moderated by Aleksandra MARKIĆ BOBAN | Head of Project Office Zagreb, HSS

11.45 – 12.00pm

Closing Remarks

Sandro KNEZOVIĆ, PhD | Research Adviser, IRMO, Croatia

12.00 – 01.30pm

Lunch at the Hotel followed by individual Departure of Participants

+++ End of Conference +++

Conference Information

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

[Institute for Development and International Relations \(IRMO\)](#)

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