"How Europe Thinks About Itself in a Changing World"

At the Institute for Human Sciences, Spitteler Lände 3, Vienna
From 5 April to 6 April 2022

In memoriam Erhard Busek
6 APRIL 2022
TUESDAY
12.30-1.30PM Opening Lunch MOC Aserbachstrasse 30
2.00-3.00PM PUBLIC DISCUSSION: Ukraine and the Future of Europe
Speakers: Katherine Younger and Timothy Garton Ash
As Ukrainians resist the Russian assault on their country, they speak powerfully of defending the principles and values on which the European project rests, and of Ukraine’s place in Europe. The war has opened an opportunity for the European Union to reaffirm its purpose, as not merely an economic union but a normative alliance. Will this moment of European unity and resolve lead to lasting change? What can Ukraine expect from Europe? And what can Europe learn from Ukraine?
3.30-5.30PM PANEL 1: Is Europe Mistaking Itself for the World?
Speakers: Rosa Balfour, Hans Kundnani, Ivan Krastev, moderated by Timothy Garton Ash
For several centuries Europe was and saw itself as the ‘center of the world’ in terms of military and political power and economic strength. Projecting its way of life, ideas and ways of governing. Through its colonial conquests it dominated large swathes of the planet. Today Europe’s population represents 7% of the total number, its overall position is being challenged by a G2 world.
6.00-7.30PM PUBLIC EVENT: How Does - And How Should - the EU Tell Europe’s Story To The World?
Presentation by Julia De Ciercak-Sachse report followed by a panel discussion with Nathalie Tocci and Luuk van Middelaar, moderated by Ivan Vejvoda
The European Union’s founding narrative as peace project has never been more relevant. Rolled by two years of a deadly pandemic that has cost millions of lives around the world, the Union today confronts what for seven decades had seemed unthinkable: a major land war on the European continent. Inspired by the bravery of the Ukrainian people and the leadership of their impassioned president, Volodymyr Zelensky, Europe has been roused from its geostrategic slumber. It has emerged re-energised, unified, and emboldened to defend the principles it has enshrined in its treaties. In addition to the battlefield, today’s confrontation of alternative ideologies is increasingly playing out in the realm of words. States and non-state actors alike routinely use disinformation and ‘alternative facts’ to sow confusion, breed fear, and undermine trust. In this brave new world, a compelling narrative will be paramount for the survival of the European project. How can the European Union best tell its story in these difficult times?
8.00PM Dinner Porzellan Lounge Servitengasse 2
6 APRIL 2022
WEDNESDAY
9.30-11.00AM PANEL 2: Does Europe Understand Itself as the Embodiment of Universal Values?
Speakers: Alida Vračić, Ruth Wodak, Niccolo Milanese, Soli Özel, moderated by Nicole Koenig
The Renaissance, the Enlightenment brought forth the individual the citizen unfettered by transcendent powers. Machiavelli’s ‘vivere civile, vivere liberi’ coupled with universal values of human and civic rights. At the same time colonialism and slavery accompanied Europe’s rise to dominance. As part of the transatlantic alliance, as having forged La Strada 27/29 Clusiusgasse 8
Europe and the European Union are being buffeted by multiple challenges. Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, a constantly rising China as well as in its midst populist movements and serious challenges to the rule of law not to mention climate change. The current EU Commission branded itself as ‘geopolitical’. Its leaders speak of the need to ‘speak the language of power’. Can Europe move to a more robust posture and fulfill its will for ‘strategic autonomy’.
11.00-11.30AM Coffee Break
11.30-1.00PM PANEL 3: Is Europe Capable of Geopolitical Power Projection Through Soft Power Alone?
Speakers: Nicole Belfour, Dimitar Bechev, Stefan Lehne, Leszek Jezdzewski, moderated by Rosa Belfour
BY DEFINITION, SOFT POWER IS THE ABILITY TO INFLUENCE OTHERS WITHOUT APPLYING ANY PHYSICAL FORCE. IN THE CONTEXT OF SECURITY AND NATIONAL INTERESTS, IT IS OFTENInThe United Nations
BETTER WAY TO ACHIEVE GLOBAL GOALS IS THROUGH COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP, NOT JUST THROUGH THE USE OF POWER. THIS MEANS THAT EUROPE NEEDS TO FOSTER ITS SOFT POWER Capabilities, INCLUDING THROUGH CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC MEANS. AS A CASE IN POINT, THE EU NEEDS TO INCREASE ITS INVESTMENT IN ARTS AND INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS ITS SUPPORT FOR MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS THAT PROMOTE EUROPEAN VALUES AND IDEALS. IN ADDITION, EUROPE NEEDS TO WORK MORE CLOSERLY WITH OTHER MAJOR CAMPAIGNS FORUMS (LIKE THE OSCE) TO STRENGTHEN THE EUROPEAN MESSAGE TO THE WORLD.
1.30-2.30PM Lunch La Strada 27/29 Clusiusgasse 8

PARTICIPANTS

Speakers:
- Katherine Younger: Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford
- Timothy Garton Ash: St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford
- Julia De Ciercak-Sachse: Author
- Luuk van Middelaar: Carnegie Europe
- Nathalie Tocci: Istituto Affari Internazionali
- Ivan Vejvoda: IWM

Moderators:
- Ivan Vejvoda: IWM

PARTICIPANTS:
- Ivan Vejvoda
- Solic Ozel
- Carys Howell
- Leszek Jezdzewski
- Ivan Krastev
- Hans Kundnani
- Hartmut Mayer
- Luuk van Middelaar
- Niccolo Milanese
- Soli Özel
- Katharina Iheu
- Ivan Vejvoda