



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

RUSSIA AND THE WEST

Lessons Learned? Western Policy versus Russia

Thursday, 20 April 2023

AXICA Kongress Zentrum

Pariser Platz 3, 10117 Berlin & Online

Languages: **English, Russian and German**

Putin's revisionist agenda and Russia's aggression against Ukraine, the ongoing war crimes, nuclear sabre-rattling and the weaponizing of energy resources have turned the Russian regime into a major threat to European security. The West has responded with substantial policy changes, ranging from harsh sanctions against Russia to arms deliveries to Ukraine in significant numbers. However, more than one year after "Zeitenwende", the strategic goals of the West regarding an end to this war remain unclear.

There is no doubt that Vladimir Putin has tied his political fate to the outcome of this war. But which goals and which policies should the West pursue during and after the war? So far, key actors seem to be inhibited by fears of escalation and of a collapse of the Putin regime. What is missing is a common strategy for a post-Putin Russia.

The conference „Russia and the West 2023“ will:

- reflect on where we stand in the second year of the war and what is needed to enable Ukraine to successfully push back the Russian aggression,
- explore the breaking points of the Putin regime, and
- discuss Post-Putin scenarios for Russia and how the West should prepare for them.

PROGRAMME

9:30 – 10:00 | **Registration**
Welcome coffee

10:00 – 10:15 | **Opening**

10:15 – 11:45 | **Session One:** The second year of the Russian aggression against Ukraine: where do we stand? What is needed to enable Ukraine to successfully push back?

Input:

Pavlo Klimkin, Co-Founder, Centre for National Resilience and Development, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (online)

Claudia Major, Head of the International Security Research Division, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Berlin

Kristi Raik, Deputy Director & Head of the Foreign Policy Programme, International Centre for Defence and Security, Tallinn (online)

Marie Mendras, Professor at Sciences Po University, Paris (online)

Commentary: **Fredrik Löjdquist**, Director of the Stockholm Centre for Eastern European Studies (SCEEUS) (online)

Moderation: **Marieluise Beck**, Center for Liberal Modernity

11:45 – 12:00 | **Coffee Break**

12:00 – 13:30 | **Session Two:** Where does Russia stand? State and breaking points of the economy and military capacities, society in the neo-totalitarian state

Input:

Arkady Mil-Man, Ambassador (ret.), Head of the Russia Programme, Institute for National Security Studies, Tel-Aviv

Sergey Aleksashenko, Member of the Russian Anti-War Committee, former deputy Russian Finance Minister and former deputy Governor of the Russian Central Bank (online)

Catherine Belton, Writer and Journalist, The Washington Post

Maria Domanska, Senior Fellow at the Centre for Eastern Studies, Warsaw

Moderation: **John Lough**, Associated Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Program, Chatham House

13:30 – 14:30 | **Lunch Break**

14:30 – 16:00 | **Session Three:** Scenarios of Post Putin Russia and future of the Russia strategy of the West

Input:

Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Co-Founder of the Russian Anti-War Committee

Angela Stent, Senior Fellow, Brookings (online)

Sergey Lagodinsky, Member of the European Parliament (Greens/EFA), Vice-Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs

Roderich Kiesewetter, Member of the Bundestag (CDU), Foreign Affairs Representative for the CDU/CSU-Caucus, Chairman of the Parliamentary Oversight Panel (PKGr)

Commentary: **Michael Harms**, CEO, German Eastern Business Association

Moderation: **Ralf Fücks**, Center for Liberal Modernity

16:00 – 16:15 | **Coffee Break**

16:15 – 17:00 | **Closing Discussion and Takeaways**

19:00 – 21:00 | **PUBLIC EVENING EVENT**

The event will be held in cooperation with the Open Society Foundations

Conversation with:

Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Co-Founder of the Russian Anti-War Committee and

Dr Alina Polyakova, President and CEO of the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) (online) and

Dr Sergey Lagodinsky, Member of the European Parliament (Greens/EFA), Vice-Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs

Moderation: **Ralf Fücks**, Center for Liberal Modernity, Berlin

Panel Discussion:

Robin Wagener, Member of the Bundestag (The Greens), Coordinator for Intersocietal Cooperation with the Southern Caucasus, the Republic of Moldova and Central Asia

Dr Johann Wadephul, Member of the Bundestag (Christian Democratic Party), Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag for Foreign Affairs and Defence

Renata Alt, Member of the Bundestag (FDP), Chairwoman of the Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid

Dr Nils Schmid, Member of the Bundestag (Social Democratic Party), SPD Parliamentary Group's Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs

Commentary: **Ana Mihailov**, Chair of the National Board of the Soros Foundation, Moldova, Country Director of the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation, Moldova

Moderation: **Daniela Schwarzer**, Executive Director, Open Society–Europe and Central Asia

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, German and Russian.

The public evening event will be held in cooperation with the Open Society Foundations. It concludes the eponymous conference of the Center for Liberal Modernity with experts from Europe and the USA.

**OPEN SOCIETY
FOUNDATIONS**

Zentrum Liberale Moderne
Reinhardtstraße 15
10117 Berlin
Germany

+49 (0)30 - 13 89 36 33
info@libmod.de
www.libmod.de