Quo Vadis Eastern Partnership? A Retrospective look into The Future

Thursday, 23 November 2017, 13.30 – 18.15

European Endowment for Democracy

Rue de la Loi 34, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

The conference will critically assess the achievements of the Eastern Partnership policy, the effectiveness of its existing toolbox and whether it has brought about real change on the ground. Speakers will also look ahead to the Brussels Eastern Partnership summit and beyond and offer recommendations for calibrating the EU’s policy to tackle better the emerging trends and challenges in the region.

Hashtags: #QuoVadisEaP #EaPfuture #EaP2020 #EaPSummit #StrongerTogether

Programme

13.30 Registration

14.00 Welcome address: Jerzy Pomianowski, Executive Director, European Endowment for Democracy

14.05 Opening speech: Linas Linkevičius, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lithuania

14.30 Opening remarks:
- Natalia Yerashevich, Director of the Secretariat, Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF)
- Zuzana Stuchlíková, Director of Brussels Office, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy/Think Visegrad platform

14.45 Assessing policy performance: the Eastern Partnership on the eve of the Brussels summit

What has the Eastern Partnership delivered for the partner countries in terms of democratisation, reforms and Europeanisation? How successfully has the EU addressed the major challenges in the region? How successful and committed are the partners in implementing their obligations and individual bilateral agreements?

- Boris Navasardyan, President, Yerevan Press Club, EaP CSF Steering Committee
- Ziya Guliyev, Chair, Center for Legal Initiatives, EaP CSF Steering Committee
- Timur Onica, Programme Officer, European Endowment for Democracy
- Vano Chkhikvadze, EU Integration Field Manager, Open Society Georgia Foundation
- Dmytro Shulga, European Programme Director, International Renaissance Foundation
16.15 Coffee break

16.30 Eastern Partnership Quo Vadis? Expectations and recommendations for the next steps

What are the expectations of the Eastern Partnership Summit? Would the EU be better equipped to respond to the emerging trends in the region and support a positive momentum on democratization and reform? Are there enough incentives and conditions for the partner countries to deliver on the expected results?

- MEP Rebecca Harms, Euronest Co-Chair, European Parliament
- Vassilis Maragos/Diana Jablonska, Head/Deputy of Unit, DG NEAR, European Commission (TBC)
- Ján Cingel, Acting Head of European Neighbourhood Programme, GLOBSEC Policy Institute
- Alexander Duleba, Director of the Research Centre, Slovak Foreign Policy Association
- Zsuzsanna Vegh, Researcher, Europa-Universität Viadrina

Moderator: Adam Balcer, Think Visegrad platform

18.00 Concluding Remarks: Miriam Lexmann, EU Regional Programme Director, International Republican Institute

18.15 Cocktail reception