

Germany and the V4 Countries: Cooperation in the Security and Defence Area

Tuesday, 27th October 2015

The Czernin Palace, MFA, Prague

The conference will focus on the assessment of the German-V4 co-operation in security and defence. It will explore the scope for future collaborative efforts, pinpoint shortcomings that beset the existing formats, and provide guidance on possible remedies, covering both bilateral and multilateral (regional) aspects of defence cooperation, and in particular initiatives conducted in the CSDP framework.

Preliminary programme

08:30 – 9:00 Registration

09:00 – 9:15 Welcome Remarks

Petr Kratochvíl, Director of the Institute of International Relations Prague

9:15 – 10:45 Panel I: The Political Dialogue between Germany and the V4 Countries

Chair: **Benjamin Tallis**, Co-ordinator of the Centre for European Security of the IIR

Vladimír Bilčík, Research Fellow, Slovak Foreign Policy Association

Ondřej Ditrych, Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations Prague

Andrea Gawrich, Associate Fellow, Robert Bosch Center, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), Berlin (tbc)

Jakub Kulhánek, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Security and Multilateral Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Prague (tbc)

Eugeniusz Smolar, Former President of the Center for International Relations, Warsaw

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 13:00 Panel II: The V4-German Partnership in European Defence

Chair: **Michal Šimečka**, Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations Prague

Vladimír Handl, Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations Prague

Justyna Gotkowska, Senior Fellow, Department for Germany and Northern Europe, Centre for Eastern Studies, Warsaw

Jakub Landovský, Deputy Minister, Head of the Defence Policy and Strategy Division, Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic (tbc)

Marian Majer, Head of the Security and Defence Policy Programme, Central European Policy Institute, Bratislava

Henning Riecke, Head of the Transatlantic Relations Program, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), Berlin

13:00 – 14:00 Buffet lunch

14:15 – 15:45 **Panel III: The V4-German Co-operation on Research and Development in the Defence Area and Arms Production**

Chair: **Simona Bučilová Altschulová**, Office of the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic (tbc)

Tamás Csiki, Research Fellow, Center for Strategic and Defense Studies in Budapest

Richard Hlavatý, Director of the Department of Foreign Economic Policies, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic

Vilém Kolín, Project Officer Defence & Industry Analysis at European Defence Agency, Cooperation Planning Support Directorate, Brussels (tbc)

Christian Mölling, International Security Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Berlin

Jiří Hynek, President and Executive Director of the Defence and Security Industry Association of the Czech Republic, Prague (tbc)

15:45 **Closing Remarks**

Benjamin Tallis, Co-ordinator of the Centre for European Security of the IIR Prague