

Program

12th Annual Meeting of the Global Atlanticists

March 20-26, 2013

Berlin and Brussels

Financial Crisis and Free Trade, Energy and Elections – The Role of “Germany-in-Europe”

Venue: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hiroshimastr. 28 (“House 2”, on the corner of Hiroshima Street and Reichpietschufer), 6th Floor, 10785 Berlin

FES-Washington

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Stauffenbergstraße 26
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Martin’s Central Park
Boulevard Charlemagne 80
1000 Bruxelles
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The Global Atlanticists is a multi-partisan network of German and American lawmakers and policy advisors, initiated by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. Its members have met regularly since 2003 for an open, straightforward strategy debate to further the US-EU cooperation on crucial issues, ranging from international security to economic development and domestic policy. The "Global Atlanticists" aim at "globalizing" the transatlantic debate and cooperation: the goal is to broaden the transatlantic agenda and provide a dependable basis for effective European-American cooperation on global developments.

The network has established a "trialogue" approach to include key partners. In 2007 the members met with North African experts in Morocco to discuss "political Islam". The 2009 conference in Moscow focused on European and American cooperation with Russia. In Beijing in 2011, the network discussed new approaches to international security with Chinese counterparts.

All meetings observe the Chatam House Rule. Due to its multi-partisan nature, the network has never aimed at any written output. Its main purpose is to build relationships of trust and to allow for in-depth and open strategic debates.

Due to the 2013 parliamentary elections in Germany, this year's meeting of the "Global Atlanticists" will take place in Berlin and Brussels.

Wednesday, March 20th

Late afternoon/evening Departure of American participants to Germany

Thursday, March 21st

Late morning Arrival of American participants and individual transfer to hotel
Maritim by cab

12:00 noon (optional) Early light lunch buffet at hotel

Location: Restaurant Maritim
First Floor
Hotel Maritim

Afterwards Time to rest

2:30 pm Meeting of US participants in hotel lobby and walk over to FES:
Hiroshimastrasse 28 ("Haus 2"), corner of Hiroshima Street and
Reichpietschufer, 6th Floor

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Welcome

Alexander Kallweit, FES Berlin and **Pia Bungarten**, FES Washington

Topic 1: *Does Germany have a Euro crisis? Does America have a debt crisis?*

The first session will serve as an introduction to the core issues and will lead into the discussion with Jörg Asmussen and Carsten Schneider. We will look at the impact of the Euro crisis on the German elections and vice versa, and the impact of the American elections on how budget and debt issues are handled in the U.S. We will also debate the social repercussions from the Euro crisis and budget conflicts in the US.

Introduction: **Carsten Sieling**, German MP (SPD)

Comments from a US Perspective: **Tom Perriello**, President, Center for American Progress Action Fund and Former Member of the US Congress

Moderator: **Olaf Böhnke**, Head of Berlin Office, European Council on Foreign Relations

Location: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hiroshimastrasse 28 (“Haus 2”), 6th Floor

4:30 – 5:30 pm

Discussion with Jörg Asmussen, Member of the Executive Board, European Central Bank/ECB

Comments from a German Perspective: **Wolfgang Schmidt**, State Secretary, Hamburg

Moderator: **Alexander Kallweit**, FES

Location: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hiroshimastrasse 28 (“Haus 2”), 6th Floor

5:45 pm

Bus transfer to “Vertretung Hamburg”

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Early informal dinner at the invitation of **Wolfgang Schmidt**, State Secretary, Hamburg

Location: Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg
Vertretung beim Bund
Jägerstraße 1-3
10117 Berlin

Bus transfer to hotel (for participants who do not want to attend the reception at GPPi)

Cab to GPPi (for participants who want to attend the reception)

Afterwards (optional)

GPPi reception at the invitation of **Thorsten Benner**, Director, Global Public Policy Institute/GPPi

Location: GPPi
Reinhardtstraße 7
10117 Berlin

Friday, March 22nd

9:00 am

Meeting of US participants in hotel lobby and walk over to FES: Hiroshimastrasse 28 (“Haus 2”), corner of Hiroshima Street and Reichpietschufer, 6th Floor

9:30 – 10:00 am

Briefing: “Germany in, with and for Europe”

Peer Steinbrück, Member of the German Parliament and SPD candidate for Chancellor

Comments from a US Perspective: **Rep. Russ Carnahan**, Member of Congress (D-MO) until Jan 2013

Moderator: **Alexander Kallweit**, FES

Location: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hiroshimastrasse 28 (“Haus 2”), 6th Floor

10:00 – 11:30 am

Topic 2: *A grand vision anyone? The debate about the future of the European project, the role of Germany and the US*

Is the EU moving from being an integrating force to des-integration? Or is it in fact being re-born? What is Germany’s “Europe narrative” – What are the inner logic and the overall goals of current German policy making? How do policy makers justify European policy making? Is Germany maintaining its multilateral rhetoric but in fact “turning bilateral” – preferring to deal with key partners like China bilaterally, thereby diminishing the impact of EU efforts? For all the talk of the transatlantic partnership, does the US have a policy championing European integration, or does the thinking in Washington stop with economic policy?

Input: **Thomas Bagger**, Head of Policy Planning, German Foreign Office

Comments from a German Perspective: **Dietmar Nietan**, German MP (SPD)

Comments from an American Perspective: **Mike Haltzel**, Senior Fellow, Center for Transatlantic Relations, SAIS/Johns Hopkins University

Moderator: **Almut Möller**, Director, Alfred von Oppenheim Center for European Studies, DGAP

Location: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hiroshimastrasse 28 (“Haus 2”), 6th Floor

11:30 – 11:45 am

Coffee Break

11:45 am – 1:15 pm

Topic 3: A declining margin of error: European-American cooperation on the rising Asia

What are concrete options for transatlantic cooperation vis-à-vis China and other fast developing Asian nations in the area of diplomacy, conflict resolution, trade (and elsewhere)?

Input: **Rolf Mützenich**, German MP (SPD) and **Annika Bolten-Drutschmann**, Policy Planning Staff covering Asia, German Foreign Office

Comments from a US Perspective: **Jessica Lee**, Senior Legislative Assistant, Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA), and **John Glenn**, US Global Leadership Coalition

Comments from a German Perspective: **Niels Annen**, FES Berlin

Moderator: **Jürgen Stetten**, FES Berlin

Location: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hiroshimastrasse 28 (“Haus 2”), 6th Floor

1:30 – 3:00 pm

Lunch

Location: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hiroshimastrasse 28 (“Haus 2”), 6th Floor

3:00 – 4:45 pm

Topic 4: Syria

The international community has failed to respond adequately to the crisis in Syria. Two years into the conflict, what options remain for Europeans and Americans under the present circumstances and what can European-American cooperation look like? What are the results of “The Day After Project” and how can they be implemented in a possible democratic transition process in Syria?

Input: **Muriel Asseburg**, Senior Fellow, German Institute for International and Security Affairs/SWP

Comments from a US Perspective: **Tom Perriello**, President, Center for American Progress Action Fund and Former Member of the US Congress

Moderator: **Arnd Henze**, WDR

Location: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hiroshimastrasse 28 (“Haus 2”), 6th Floor

5:45 pm

Bus transfer from hotel to Restaurant “Vessel Patio”

6:00 pm

Dinner Discussion on the Future of the Republican Party

Input: **Jamie Fly**, Counselor for Foreign and National Security Affairs, Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL)

Location: Restaurant “Vessel Patio”
Helgoländer Ufer/Kirchstrasse

Saturday, March 23rd

Free time for personal use

9:30 am (optional)

Meeting in hotel lobby and walk to “Checkpoint Charlie” (corner of Friedrichstrasse/Mauerstrasse)

10:00 am – 12:00 pm (optional)

Two hour guided tour through Berlin (guide: Sabina Vogel; Tel. +49-171-578-7630)

12:15 pm (optional)

Meeting at Reichstag building, Scheidemannstrasse, Main Visitor Entrance (**Please bring a photo ID!**)

1:00 pm (optional)

45-min. presentation (only in German) on the visitors’ gallery overlooking the plenary chamber followed by a tour of the dome of the Reichstag building

You are also welcome to visit one of the many museums or galleries in Berlin (FES has put together a list with different options)

6:00 pm (optional)

Informal Dinner (Please come directly to the restaurant)

Location: Turkish Restaurant “Hasir” (Berlin Mitte)
Oranienburger Strasse 4

Sunday, March 24th

Morning

Hotel check out

10:15 am

Bus transfer from hotel to Tegel Airport (TXL)

11:50 am

Departure Berlin (SN 2582)

1:10 pm

Arrival at Brussels airport (LH 5564) and pick up by Sidonie Wetzig, FES Brussels

Transfer to hotel Martin’s Central Park by bus

3:00 pm (optional)

Meeting in the hotel lobby and transfer to the town center

3:30 – 5:30 pm (optional)

Political/historical tour of the city

6:30 pm

Dinner discussion on “energy transition” (“Energiewende”) with Reinhard Bütikofer, Member of the European Parliament, Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance

Moderator: **Camilla Bausch**, Head of Climate and Energy, Ecologic Institute

Location: Restaurant Martin’s Central Park
Boulevard Charlemagne 80
1000 Brussels
Tel. +32-2-235-1326

Monday, March 25th

8:30 – 9:45 am

Breakfast Briefing with Zita Gurmai on elections in 2013 and 2014, Member of the European Parliament/Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats

Comments from a German perspective: **Dietmar Nietan**, Member of the German Parliament (SPD)

Comments from a US perspective: **Debra Carnahan**, Judge

Moderator: **Anne Seyfferth**, Head of Western Europe/North America Department, FES Berlin

Location: Hotel Martin's Central Park

9:45 am

Walk to EU Office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Rue du Taciturne 38

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Topic 1: *The economic scenario (debt crises, austerity policies and their impact, possible alternatives, TAFTA etc.)*

Input: **Lutz Güllner**, Deputy Head of Unit, Trade Strategy, DG Trade, European Commission

Cinzia Alcidi, Head of Economic Policy Unit, Center for European Policy Studies

Comments from a US Perspective: **Jennifer Erickson**, Director of Competitiveness and Economic Growth, Center for American Progress

Comments from a German Perspective: **Almut Möller**, Director, Alfred von Oppenheim Center for European Studies, DGAP

Moderator: **Andrä Gärber**, Director, FES EU Office, Brussels

Location: EU Office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Rue du Taciturne 38

12:00 pm

Walk to Restaurant L'Atelier Européen

12:30 pm

Lunch Discussion on the Future of the EU

Input: **Wolfgang Kreissl-Dörfler**, Member of the European Parliament/Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats

Moderator: **Andrä Gärber**, Director, FES EU Office, Brussels

Location: Restaurant L'Atelier Européen
28, Rue Franklin
1000 Brussels
Tel. +32-2-734-9140

Afterwards

Walk to EU Office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Rue du Taciturne 38

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Topic 2: *The political scenario: “More Europe” but still a security policy dwarf?*

Input: **Ambassador Olof Skoog**, Chair of the Political and Security Committee, EEAS

Comments from a German perspective: **Thorsten Benner**, Associate Director, Global Public Policy Institute

Comments from an American perspective: **Jeffrey Lightfoot**, Deputy Director, International Security Program, Atlantic Council

Moderator: **Niels Annen**, FES Berlin

Afterwards

Walk to hotel

6:45 pm

Transfer from hotel to restaurant

7:00 pm

Dinner Discussion on European Foreign and Security Policy

Input: **Daniel Keohane**, Head of Strategic Affairs, FRIDE

Moderator: **Knut Panknin**, Program Officer, FES Washington, DC

Location: Brasserie de L'Ommegang
9 Grand'Place
1000 Brussels
Tel. +32-2-511-8244

Tuesday, March 26th

Morning

Departure of German and American participants