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Security Environment Change in 2014: NATO-Russia Relations after the NATO Wales Summit

Invitation to the international expert conference organized by the Association for International Affairs (AMO) in cooperation with the NATO Information Center in Prague and with kind support of the NATO Public Diplomacy Division.

Given the volatility of the European neighbourhood in the East and in the South, the year 2014 possibly marks a structural change in the European security environment. This expert two-panel conference is organized with aim to discuss the consequences of the security environment change with particular focus on the NATO-Russia relations after the NATO Wales Summit in September and the reflexion of recent developments, firstly, in countries neighbouring Russia yet also keeping strong relations, and some even seeking NATO membership, with the NATO, and, secondly, the reflection of the V4 members – countries of particular strategic importance to the Czech Republic.

Time and venue:

Thursday, December 18, 2014, 10:30 – 14:30

NATO Information Center, Room 218B, Jungmannova 17, Prague

Program:

10:00 – 10:30

Registration

10:30 – 12:00

Panel I: NATO-Russia relations after the Wales Summit: A view from Russia's neighborhood

Recent developments in the NATO-Russia relations matter not only from the perspective of the NATO member states' but also for states outside of the Alliance's territory that at the same time keep strong relations with the NATO. This panel is dedicated to discuss the views from Ukraine, Georgia, and Sweden and their take on September NATO Summit in Wales that was not an enlargement summit but at the same time inaugurated initiatives to strengthen NATO's instruments with regard to cooperative security.



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12:00 – 12:15 Coffee break

12:15 – 13:45 **Panel II: Security environment change: A view from the Visegrád**

The different threat perception within the Visegrád group is no secret. The events of the 2014, however, only magnified these differences that were always there. The Russian actions in Ukraine reinforced the Polish posture and the recently adopted National Security Strategy embodies this stance. The other three Visegrád countries, on the other hand, voiced balanced concerns and became, perhaps surprisingly, to be seen as somewhat skeptical about the European reaction on Russia's aggressive behavior.

Confirmed speakers:

Ekaterine Tkeshelashvili, President, Georgian Institute for Strategic Studies, Tbilisi

Barbora Padrtová, Programme Director for Transition, Centre for European and North Atlantic Affairs (CENAA), Bratislava

Erik Brattberg, Resident Fellow, Brent Scowcroft Center on International Security's Strategic Foresight Initiative, Washington D.C.

Jiří Schneider, Senior Fellow, Prague Security Studies Institute, Prague

Vít Dostál, Director of the Research Center, Association for International Affairs (AMO), Prague

Péter Marton, Adjunct Professor, Department of International Relations, Corvinus University, Budapest

Refreshment:

Buffet lunch will be available during the event.

Working language: **English**

Attendance confirmation: registration@amo.cz

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