

EUISS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022 AND 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Europe in the shifting geopolitical landscape resulting from the war in Ukraine

Organised in cooperation with and with the support of the
French Presidency of the Council of the European Union

9 June 2022, Hôtel du Ministre, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères,
37 quai d'Orsay, 75007 Paris

Europe's geopolitical landscape changed dramatically on 24 February 2022. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the war's impact rapidly spread beyond the tragic loss of life and property. It sparked the largest displacement of people in Europe since World War II, a humanitarian crisis which is still ongoing, and has raised concerns whether other countries might suffer a similar fate.

The war, whose effects are far from over, has revived long-standing questions about international relations and governance, international law, sovereignty, and accountability. In terms of geopolitical dynamics, the conflict has given renewed impetus to the process of NATO and EU enlargement – all while re-invigorating NATO-EU relations, reinforcing transatlantic cooperation, galvanising unprecedented support for Ukraine, raising questions over relations with Russia, and exacerbating existing inflationary pressures on commodities such as oil, gas, and wheat.

In this context of a rapidly evolving strategic environment for the EU, on 25 March 2022 the Heads of State and Government of the Member States adopted the Strategic Compass. This document aims to translate the political ambition of European strategic autonomy into a concrete plan of action, and to reinforce the common security and defence policy (CSDP) in order to address increasing competition between powers as well as the persistence of crises in the EU's neighbourhood, thereby enhancing Europe's ability to act in various regions throughout the world, wherever the EU's interests are at stake. The Strategic Compass will spur new initiatives with a view to strengthen European operational and industrial capacities, as well as defend the interests and freedom of action of EU Member States wherever necessary (in various spheres including the maritime domain, airspace, cyberspace and the information space).

The 2022 EUISS annual conference, organised in cooperation with the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, aims to take stock of the geopolitical consequences for Europe of the war in Ukraine. It will do so by examining the implications of the war in Ukraine for the EU, with reference also to the EU's place in the world more broadly, as well as its effects in the Eastern and Southern neighbourhoods. Key questions likely to arise during the day include: what are the implications for the Strategic Compass, for defence industrial cooperation and capability development, which EU tools may require further adaptation and refinement, what is the future of the Eastern Partnership, how should the EU position itself to address intensified challenges such as food security, what are the emerging narratives on governance, and what will be the repercussions of the war in Ukraine in the Western Balkans and the Southern neighbourhood?

The conference will also be an opportunity to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the EUISS. The Institute became operational on 1 January 2002, following the transition from the Western European Union Institute for Security Studies to the EUISS. During the day there will be several opportunities to reflect on its achievements to date.

10:15 - 10:45

Registration and welcome coffee

10:45-11:15

INTRODUCTION

Catherine COLONNA Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France

Gustav LINDSTROM Director, EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS)

Josep BORRELL FONTELLES High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the European Commission (*pre-recorded video message*)

11:15-12:30

PANEL 1: WAR IN UKRAINE: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE EU IN THE UPCOMING YEARS (IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC COMPASS, DEFENCE CAPABILITIES, ETC.)

Moderator

Daniel FIOTT EUISS

Panel

Robert BRIEGER Chairman, EU Military Committee

Charles FRIES Deputy Secretary-General, EEAS

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

12:30-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:30

PANEL 2: WAR IN UKRAINE: IMPLICATIONS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Moderator

Dalia GHANEM EUISS

Panel

Linus LINKEVIČIUS Member, Advisory Board, European Leadership Network, ELN

Pol MORILLAS Director, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB), Barcelona

Annette WEBER EU Special Representative, Horn of Africa

15:30-16:00

Coffee break

16:00-17:30

PANEL 3: WAR IN UKRAINE: EUROPE'S PLACE IN THE WORLD

Moderator

Gustav LINDSTROM EUISS

Keynote speech and panel

Heather GRABBE Director, Open Society European Policy Institute, Brussels

Nicu POPESCU Deputy Prime-Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Republic of Moldova

18:30-20:00

Cocktail – musée de l'Armée, Hôtel national des Invalides - 129, rue de Grenelle - 75007 Paris