

Programme

CROATIA AS THE YOUNGEST MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN UNION: PARTNERS, ALLIANCES, COMMUNICATION LINES

(TALKING EUROPE II: 2019-2020)

3rd April 2019

16.00 o'clock

Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Marulićev trg 19/1, Zagreb

Curated by: Caroline Hornstein Tomić, PhD, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar

Partners: Konrad Adenauer-Stiftung Croatia Office (Holger Haibach) & Institute for Development and International Relations (Senada Selo Šabić, PhD)

3rd April 2019

15.30 h – 16.00 h

Arrivals and Registration

16.00 h – 16.20 h

Welcome Speeches

Željko Holjevac, PhD,

Director, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar

Holger Haibach,

Director, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Office in Zagreb (KAS)

Senada Šelo Šabić, PhD,

Senior Research Associate, Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO)

Introduction

Caroline Hornstein Tomić, PhD,

Senior Research Associate, Curator Talking Europe, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar

16.20 h – 16.40 h

Key Note

Almut Möller,

Head of Berlin Office and Senior Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)

16.40 h – 17.40 h

Panel debate

Miro Kovač, PhD,

President of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Croatian Parliament

Antun Buklijaš,

Director, Directorate of Analysis and Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia

Mirjana Hrga (tbc),

Advisor of the President of the Republic of Croatia for Strategic Policy, Relations with the Croatian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Croatia

Almut Möller,

Head of Berlin Office and Senior Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)

Moderator

Senada Šelo Šabić, PhD,

Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO)

17.40 – 19.00 h

Reception

The **European Council for Foreign Relations (ECFR)** - a Berlin based think tank with a European-wide network in politics, public administration, academia, and the media - conducts a bi-annual expert poll among EU professionals in all 28 member states, the EU Coalition Explorer (<https://www.ecfr.eu/eucoalitionexplorer>). The EU Coalition Explorer is a data-based instrument and interactive visualization tool which allows analyzing cooperation and networking behavior of all 28 EU member states. It shows the current cooperation patterns and policy priorities of governments as well as their partnership preferences for the coming years. In that, this set of data is of practical relevance to those crafting partnership strategies in capitals across the EU. Clearly, cooperation between member states is key to a functioning European Union; however, the latest edition of the EU Coalition Explorer reveals that there is still much room for EU capitals to improve their strategies for building coalitions in achieving common goals. In 2018, more than 800 policy professionals responded to the online questionnaire, sharing their perceptions and experience of interaction between EU governments. The recent findings published in 2018 have stirred a controversial debate in the Croatian public and the media, since they point at unused potential for policy coordination and strategic partnership building between Croatia as youngest EU member with fellow member states.

Talking Europe II

2019 - 2020

With *Talking Europe*, the Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar in Zagreb organized a series of seven public lectures and panel debates in 2010 and 2011 during the run-up to Croatia's accession to the European Union. The series was organized in partnership with the Croatia Office of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. For each panel a foreign guest (from academia, politics, or think tanks) was invited as a speaker; whereas the panelists and discussants were from different Croatian scientific and public institutions, as well as from the Ivo Pilar Institute. The series tackled topics ranging from EU enlargement, demographic developments, European social systems, identity / alterity, European centers and peripheries, to the Euro crisis, and finally, how to complete SOE-integration into the European Union.

Talking Europe II 2019 – 2020 will resume and continue the debate on current challenges and future perspectives of the European Union, this time in the run-up to European parliament elections and Croatia's EU Council Presidency. *Talking Europe II* again will be organized in partnership with the Croatia Office of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, as well as with the Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO) as the third partner. Again, a cross-institutional, interdisciplinary and international principle of organization will be followed: each panel will be hosted by a scientist from Pilar Institute who will convene speakers from foreign / international academic and public institutions, including stakeholders from think tanks, international organizations, or industry, with panelists from Croatia. Thus, the series continues to encourage dialogue on issues of relevance both on local as well as supranational / European levels; and the panels strive, not only for academic expertise but also, for cross-sectorial and controversial debate from multiple perspectives for quality criteria. *Talking Europe II* consists of three panel debates per year.

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