



**Asociace
pro mezinárodní
otázk**
Association
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**UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM**

PROSPECTS FOR A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Second EU – Russia International Conference

Date: November 22, 2011

Venue: Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU
15, rue Caroly, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

R.S.V.P. until Sunday, November 20, at brussels@amo.cz

INTRODUCTION

This conference builds upon a successful meeting in February 2011 of experts and policy practitioners at the Association for International Affairs in Prague at which the challenges and opportunities facing EU-Russia relations were discussed.

This second meeting will focus on the prospects for a new strategic partnership between the EU and Russia. The aim will be to explore concrete steps which the Russian and European policy communities might take in order to build a more durable and meaningful partnership.

The conference will be divided into a plenary session with high-level key note speakers; and then two sessions focusing on political and economic cooperation and prospects for a new strategic framework for the EU-Russia relationship.

INTENDED OUTCOME

The partners – the Association for International Affairs (AMO), the University of Birmingham (UoB) and the EU-Russia Centre – intend publishing a summary of the conference in a form of a policy brief. The brief will be distributed electronically to the Russian and EU policy and expert communities and displayed on partner web sites to ensure it reaches all the relevant audiences working in the field of EU-Russia relations.



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PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

(as of October 31, 2011)

09:00 REGISTRATION
09:45 – 10:05 **OPENING REMARKS**

Milena Vicenová, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the EU
Derek Averre, Director, Centre for Russian and East European Studies, University of Birmingham
Maria Staszkiwicz, Director, Association for International Affairs

10:10 – 11:00 **KEYNOTE SPEECHES**

Vladimir Chizhov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the EU
Gunnar Wiegand, Director for Russia, European External Action Service (EEAS)

11:05 – 11:20 COFFEE BREAK
11:20 – 13:00 **PANEL ON EU-RUSSIA POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

This panel will focus on key issue areas in which the EU and Russia might advance cooperation and examine concrete steps and policies which Moscow and Brussels may pursue in order to build a more stable and mutually beneficial partnership.

Chair:
Fraser Cameron, Director, EU-Russia Centre

Trade and Economic Cooperation: The Partnership for Modernisation
Nat Copsey, Aston University

External Security: Cooperation on Conflict Resolution and Crisis Management
Dmitry Danilov, Head of the Department of European Security, Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Europe
Nadia Arbatova, Department on European Political Studies, Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO)



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Internal Security and the Visa-free Regime

Olga Potemkina, Head of the Department for Research into European Integration,
Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Europe

Energy Security: Mutual dependency?

James Sherr, Senior Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House

13:00 – 13:50 LUNCH
13:50 – 14:10 **KEYNOTE SPEECH**

EU–Russia Relations: Political dialogue

Hannes Swoboda, AFET Rapporteur for the new EU–Russia Agreement, European
Parliament

14:10 – 15:45 **ROUNDTABLE ON A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR THE EU-
RUSSIA PARTNERSHIP**

The session will assess the current institutional setting of the EU-Russia partnership and debate possible ways to improve both the management of day-to-day interaction as well as setting and sustaining the long-term course of the partnership. The participants will address *inter alia* the following questions:

- ✓ What form should a new framework for relations take?
- ✓ How effective are existing fora for dialogue within the framework of the EU-Russia partnership?
- ✓ Does the Partnership for Modernisation demand a different institutional setting to advance the EU-Russia relationship?
- ✓ How might we improve political and security cooperation? What form might a political and security committee, as proposed in the Meseberg Memorandum, take?
- ✓ What steps do we need to take to enable better links between Russian and European business communities and societies?



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Chair:

Jakub Kulhánek, Coordinator of the East European Projects, Association for International Affairs

Mark Entin, Moscow State Institute of International Relations

Katarzyna Pełczyńska-Nałęcz, Head, Center for Eastern Studies (OSW) in Brussels

Dennis Kredler, European Roundtable of Industrialists (ERT)

Vladislav Maslennikov, Deputy Director, Department of European Cooperation, Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Hannes Adomeit, College of Europe

15:50

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Polish EU Presidency and Russia: The Way Forward

Jacek Saryusz-Wolski, MEP – Committee on Foreign Affairs, European Parliament (invited)

17:00 – 18:30

EVENING RECEPTION (*by special invitation only*)

Venue: University of Birmingham, Brussels Office

West Midlands European Centre, Avenue d'Auderghem 22-28/22-28, B-1040

Guest Speaker (to be announced)

CONTACT

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Registration

R.S.V.P. until Sunday, November 20, at brussels@amo.cz. Thank you.