

# Programme

European Office, Brussels

## KAS Europe Talks

### EU-Georgia-Relations between Accession and Geopolitical Tensions

Wednesday, 10 April 2024

10:00 - 11:00 CET

Online Event (via Zoom)

The European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is very pleased to invite you to the next session of our event format "**KAS Europe Talks**". In this format, the European Office regularly organizes a discussion with the Director of another KAS Office, focusing on recent developments in the respective countries or regions as well as on the status quo of relations with the European Union. This event focuses on **Georgia** and its relations with the EU between accession and geopolitical tensions.

Relations between the European Union and Georgia have entered a new phase since December 2023 at the latest. After Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, the EU Heads of State and Government decided at their summit shortly before the end of the year to also grant Georgia the status of an EU accession candidate. This decision was intended to send a signal to a country that is facing numerous challenges. In terms of domestic politics, the main focus this year is on the Parliamentary Elections in autumn, which many observers believe could become a choice between a pro-European course or a renewed rapprochement with its large neighbour Russia. The small South Caucasus republic is at least indirectly affected by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, as tens of thousands of Russians fled to Georgia immediately after the start of the war and later after the partial mobilisation. At the same time, Russia destabilised the country with its presence in the breakaway provinces of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. In addition, the South Caucasus has repeatedly been in the headlines in recent months due to the armed conflicts between Georgia's neighbours Armenia and Azerbaijan and the exodus of 100,000 Nagorno-Karabakh Armenians from the region.

How can the status quo of relations between the EU and Georgia currently be described? What domestic, regional and geopolitical developments are influencing the country and its EU perspective? How do people in the country assess current developments?

The event "**KAS Europe Talks: EU-Georgia-Relations between Accession and Geopolitical Tensions**" will take place on **Wednesday, 10 April 2024** from **10:00 - 11:00 CET** via Zoom. We look forward to discussing the above-mentioned topics with our colleague **Stephan Malerius**, Director of the KAS Regional Programme Political Dialogue South Caucasus. After the conversation between Mr Malerius and **Dr. Beatrice Gorawantschy**, Director of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, participants will have the opportunity to contribute their questions to the discussion. The event will be held in **German** and will also be simultaneously translated into **English**.

We look forward to your participation!

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| 10:00 | <b>Welcoming Remarks</b><br><br><b>Dr. Beatrice Gorawantschy</b><br>Director of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung  |
| 10:05 | <b>Discussion about the Relations between the EU and Georgia</b><br><br><b>Dr. Beatrice Gorawantschy</b><br>Director of the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung<br><br><b>Stephan Malerius</b><br>Director of the KAS Regional Programme Political Dialogue South Caucasus |
| 10:45 | <b>Questions from the audience</b>   |
| 11:00 | <b>End of event</b>  |

## Informationen on Registration and Participation:

Please register by providing your name, email address, organization and position. You will then receive a confirmation of your registration and further information on how to participate in the online event.

## During the Online Event:

During the event, you will not be connected via video and will be muted by the host. After the speakers' short statements, you are welcome to join the conversation: you can ask the speakers a written question (click on the Q&A icon in the toolbar).