

Programme

European Office Brussels

KAS Europe Talks

EU-Poland relations between infringement proceedings and Ukraine war

Friday, October 14, 2022

11:00-12:00h

Online-Event (via Zoom)

The European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is very pleased to invite you to the next event of our format "**KAS Europe Talks**". In this format, the European Office regularly organises a discussion with the head of another KAS office abroad, in which both the latest developments in the respective countries or regions and the status quo of the relations with the European Union are discussed. This event takes a look at **Poland** and discusses the question of neighborly relations of both partners one year after the controversial decision of the Polish Constitutional Court to give precedence to national law over EU law and the Russian war of aggression on Ukraine.

Relations between the European Union (EU) and Poland remain tense one year after the verdict of the Polish Constitutional Court, although the condemnation of the Ukraine war unites the partners. As a frontline state, Poland has become a central player in European (security)-policy as a result of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine. The country has taken a leading role in receiving refugees from Ukraine and acts as a logistical hub for arms shipments to its war-torn neighbor. The European Union faces a dilemma in this regard: separating the EU-state's commitment from the debate over the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary and media. Since the national conservative ruling party "PiS" came to power in 2015, Brussels and Warsaw have been at odds over these fundamental values. In addition to ongoing infringement proceedings, the EU Commission has blocked the payment of money from the Corona recovery fund to the member state for months because of Poland's judicial reform. Although Poland has responded to the EU's demand and approved the abolition of the disciplinary chamber, doubts remain about the independence of the judiciary. The EU is calling for further steps.

How should EU-Poland relations be assessed? What significance has Poland gained within the European Union since the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine in February 2022? How can Poland's new role in the European community of states be evaluated? What summary must be drawn one year after the controversial ruling of the Polish Constitutional Court? How effective are the EU Commission's "coercive sanctions" against Poland and how are they perceived in the country?

The event "**KAS Europe Talks: EU-Poland relations between infringement proceedings and Ukraine war**" will take place on **Friday, October 14, 2022** from **11:00-12:00 CET** via Zoom. We look forward to discussing the above mentioned topics with our colleague **David Gregosz**, Head of the Polish office of the Konrad-Adenauer- Stiftung. After the conversation between Mr. Gregosz and **Lena Kromm**, Policy Advisor at the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the audience will have the opportunity to raise their questions in the conversation. 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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Friday, October 14, 2022

- 11:00 h **Welcoming**
- Lena Kromm**
Policy Advisor at the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- 11:05 h **Discussion about the relations between the EU and Poland**
- Lena Kromm**
Policy Advisor at the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- David Gregosz**
Head of the Polish office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- 11:45 h **Questions from the audience**
- 12:00 h **End of the event**

Information about registration and participation:

Please register by providing your name, email address, organisation 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 by asking the speakers a written question (click on the Q&A icon in the toolbar).