



Federal Foreign Office

IEŚW
INSTYTUT EUROPY
ŚRODKOWO-WSCHODNIEJ
INSTITUTE
OF EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE



European Academy Berlin

Poland and the European Union in 2035

A scenario workshop as part of the European Future Summits series at the European Academy Berlin

Friday, September 29 and Saturday, September 30, 2017

With the kind support of the Federal Foreign Office and in cooperation with the Institute of East-Central Europe (IEŚW), Poland

Draft Programme

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Objectives of the European Future Summits

How can the future of the European Union be designed? What opportunities are there, how can current challenges be overcome and crises turned around in a positive way? The European Future Summits at the European Academy Berlin bring together experts, policy makers and activists who address these questions and develop sound contributions to ongoing debates on key issues in European politics. Fostering far-reaching and inclusive debates on the future of Europe and shaping this future in common account for the overarching objectives of this project.

Topic and method – Poland and the European Union in 2035

This workshop of the European Future Summits series focuses on the future of Poland and the country's role and position in the European Union.

Since the early 1990s, and despite the global financial crisis in 2007/2008, Poland enjoys stable and continuous economic growth. Moreover, Poland is not only a member of the European Union, but, as a member of NATO, also well integrated in global security frameworks. At the same time, however, the post-2015 developments on Polish political scene gave rise to staunch criticism against the Polish government, followed by a signal of the European Commission that it would consider legal actions against the country. Overall, a detailed insight into the evolution of the status quo of Polish socio political and economic developments and their relevance to future events triggers several still open-ended questions.

Such overarching trends and momentous developments will serve the workshop as points of departure, in order to critically debate Poland's role and position in the European Union, hand in hand with the country's potential future challenges and options. What will the future bring for Poland, which challenges has the country to expect, and how will it cope with what's ahead?

This indeed very complex field will be rendered manageable in the course of the workshop by jointly elaborating three future scenarios with respect to the future of Poland in the context of European politics. The progress in time from the present days up to 2035, together with general premises, trends and drivers, will provide the basic analytic framework for this process. In this way – and mainly through open debate – core aspects of the topic will be identified and options for action derived.

Taking the 'Alternate Futures' approach (according to Michael Oppenheimer) as our general guideline, the aim is not to, in the first place, go into the likelihood of particular events taking place, but to focus on the question whether they are plausible. Thus, creative thinking, hand in hand with elaborating persuasive arguments, are required, in order to present even unlikely future occurrences and developments in a convincing and telling way.

Participants

The workshop is designed for academics and experts as well as actors from the organized civil society who are deeply invested in research, policy making, or civic engagement regarding politics, economy and society in Poland and/or the politics of the European Union.

Friday, Sept. 29, 2017 – I. Scenario planning: how does a scenario emerge?

12:30 – 13:00 hrs.	Participants arrive
13:00 – 14:00 hrs.	Lunch
14:00 – 14:30 hrs.	Welcome and introduction to the „Alternate Futures“-method DR. SAMUEL F. MÜLLER, European Academy Berlin
14:30 – 16:00 hrs.	Workshop scenario planning: Discussing titles, trends and drivers for three future narratives on the future of Poland and the EU
16:00 – 16:30 hrs.	Coffee / tea
16:30 – 18:00 hrs.	Workshop scenario planning (continued): Towards an analytical framework for three future narratives on the future of Poland and the EU
18:00 – 19:00 hrs.	Dinner
19:00 – 20:30 hrs.	Evening lecture PAWEŁ ŚWIEBODA (TBC) Deputy Head of the European Political Strategy Centre
	Get together

Saturday, Sept. 30, 2017 – II. Scenario development: Poland’s path to 2035

09:00 – 11:00 hrs.	Workshop scenario elaboration: elaborating future narrative 1/3
11:00 – 11:30 hrs.	Coffee / tea
11:30 – 13:00 hrs.	Workshop scenario elaboration: elaborating future narrative 2/3
13:00 – 14:00 hrs.	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30 hrs.	Workshop scenario elaboration: elaborating future narrative 3/3
15:30 – 16:00 hrs.	Coffee / tea
16:00 – 16:30 hrs.	Workshop evaluation
16:30 – 17:00 hrs.	Closing remarks/ end of seminar
	Seminar direction throughout the programme and chairperson for the workshop sessions is carried out by DR. SAMUEL F. MÜLLER, programme director, European Academy Berlin

VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

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European Academy Berlin (EAB)

Understanding Europe. Shaping Europe

This maxim encapsulates - in a nutshell - the aim of the European Academy Berlin (EAB). Since 1963, the Academy as non-profit and non-party institution has been organising seminars and conferences on European topics, bringing together visitors from Germany and abroad. „Europa“. The Academy is an acknowledged player in European civic education, a competent service provider as well as partner in the fields of international education, seminar and project management, and is a venue for learning, encounter and meeting with its own individual atmosphere.

DIRECTIONS



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The European Academy Berlin is becoming more and more sustainable from the ecological point of view. Since 2013 continuous efforts have been undertaken towards this goal - in addition to commercial and social sustainability.

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The Governing Mayor of Berlin
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