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German-Polish relations in the wake of the Russian war on Ukraine Four scenarios for 2040

Online presentation and discussion (via Zoom)

Monday, 3 November 2023, 14:30 - 16:00

*This event is part of the research project
“Germany and Poland in a Differentiated European Union”
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The Russian war on Ukraine does not only put Western unity to a test, it also shapes German-Polish relations. Recently, both countries have massively increased their military capabilities and stand shoulders in their fierce criticism of the Russian aggression against its Western neighbour. However, while Germany has experienced major shifts in its Eastern policy, Poland still demands more German military assistance for Ukraine. At the same time, the current war may affect the public discourse in the years to come. Depending on the outcome of the Ukrainian resistance against the Russian invader, German-Polish relations may take various courses.

Against this background, we present four alternative trajectories of German-Polish relations for 2040. They constitute neither prognoses nor do they represent wishful thinking. Rather, they illustrate plausible long-term consequences of today's actions and raise our awareness for the risks and opportunities of various developments and events for bilateral relations. They are to provoke our thoughts and inspire reflections on how Germany and Poland may deal with the raging war in Ukraine.

Programme

14:30 – Introduction

David Gregorz, Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Warsaw

Prof. Robert Grzeszczak, University of Warsaw

Prof. Ireneusz P. Karolewski, University of Leipzig

14:45 – Scenarios on German-Polish relations in the wake of Russia's war against Ukraine

Dr. Thomas Mehlhausen, University of Leipzig

Adrian Wagstyl, University of Warsaw

15:15 – Discussion

In order to register, please contact Dr. Thomas Mehlhausen (mehlhausen@uni-leipzig.de).