

Europe and New Leading Powers: Towards Partnership in Strategic Policy Areas

International conference organized by
Arbeitskreis Europäische Integration e.V. (AEI)
in cooperation with
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)

Co-funded by



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
(Jean Monnet Programme)

and

ASKO EUROPA STIFTUNG

Date: November 20-21, 2007

Location: Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik
Ludwigkirchplatz 3-4
10719 Berlin
Germany

Contacts: Prof. Dr. Günther Maihold / Dr. Stefan Mair
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik
Ludwigkirchplatz 3-4
10719 Berlin
gunther.maihold@swp-berlin.org / stefan.mair@swp-berlin.org
Tel. +49 (0)30 88 007-103 / -258
Fax. +49 (0)30 88 007-100

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1. Background

One of the fundamental changes the international system is currently subject to is the rise (or comeback) of regionally based powers as central actors in international politics. Although the power base of these actors consists in their respective region, there may be specific policy areas in which their influence has global reach. The proposed conference aims at fathoming out the potential of partnerships of the European Union with these emergent actors in world politics (“New Leading Powers”) focusing on different policy areas.

After an evaluation of the role that policy area centred approaches and intergovernmental coordination processes play in the European CFSP, case studies of five policy areas will be discussed. On the second day, it is intended to deal with three second-rank Leading Powers and potential partners of European CFSP, that are not highlighted in European Foreign Policy Strategy: Mexico, South Africa and South Korea. The conference is conceived as complementary to an earlier AEI/SWP conference dealing with the peculiar relation between interregional dialogues and bilateral strategic partnerships.

2. Central Questions

- Are there useful approaches of cooperation for the EU to be pursued with “New Leading Powers” in specific policy areas?
- In view of the fact that the influence of these powers is usually restricted to certain policy areas: Are policy area centred strategies a solution for the EU to fully tap its foreign policy potential?
- Which partners should the EU cooperate with in which policy areas?
- With what instruments can the EU engage these partners and how can the internal coordination be ensured?
- Can policy area centred approaches contribute to a more coherent European Foreign Policy?
- And finally: Can intergovernmental blockades and the politics of the smallest common denominator be overcome by an policy area centred approach?

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November 20th, 2007
9.00-18.30h

I. Introduction: Europe and New Leading Powers (9.00-10.00)

9.00 Elmar Brok, MEP (CDU)

Comments: Dr. Gunter Pleuger (Former German Ambassador to the UN and Minister of State)

II. European Foreign Policy: What role for policy area centered approaches? (10.00-11.00)

10.00-11.00 Prof. Dr. Gisela Müller-Brandeck-Bocquet (University of Würzburg)

Comments: Prof. Dr. Tanja A. Börzel (Free University of Berlin)

*** *Coffee break (11.00-11.15)* ***

III. Towards partnership in different policy areas (11.30-18.00h)

11.15-12.15 *New Leading Powers as guarantors of compliance with good governance standards*
Dr. Thomas Conzelmann (University of Maastricht)

Comments: Stefan Mair (SWP)

12.15-13.15 *New Leading Powers as Contributors to EU conflict prevention and stabilization efforts*
Veronica Cody
(General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, Head of Unit for horizontal issues. Civilian aspects of crisis management and conflict prevention; relations with third countries and international organisations)

Comments: Dr. Klaus Roscher (Universität Frankfurt)

*** *Lunch (13.15-14.00)* ***

14.00-15.00 *Climate Policy: New Partners for the Post-Kyoto process?*
Dr. Susanne Dröge (SWP)

Comments: Barbara Steffner (Representation of the European Commission in Germany)

15.00-16.00 *Trade: Breaking the global trade impasse*
Georg Koopmann (University of Hamburg)

Comments: *Signe Ratsø (DG Trade)*

*** *Coffee break (16.00-16.15)* ***

16.15-17.15 *International Financial Architecture: Partnership despite clash of interests?*
Prof. C. Randall Henning, PhD (American University, Washington, DC.)

Comments: Dr. Daniela Schwarzer (SWP)

17.15-18.30 *Wrap-up discussion*
Chair: *Prof. Dr. Rolf Caesar (University of Hohenheim)*

Speakers in italics are yet to be confirmed

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November 21st, 2007
9.00-12.30h

VI. The EU's Relations with Individual Leading Powers (9.00-11.30h)

9.00-9.45 *Mexico-EU: How to deal with a wanna-be leading power*
Prof. Dr. Günther Maihold (SWP)

Comments: Dr. Jörg Faust (German Development Institute)

9.45-10.30 *South Africa-EU: Jointly filling the Sub-Saharan power vacuum?*
Dr. Gero Erdmann (German Institute for Global and Area Studies)

Comments: *Roger Moore (DG Development)*

*** *Coffee break (10.30-10.45)* ***

10.45-11.30 *South Korea-EU: A new leader taking a back seat?*
Prof. Bernadette Andréosso-O'Callaghan, PhD
(Jean Monnet Chair of Economics, Euro-Asia Centre, University of Limerick)

Comments: Dr. Heinrich Kreft (Foreign policy advisor to the CDU/CSU group in the German Parliament)

V. New Partners - new Instruments? (11.15-12.30h)

11.30-12.30 *Open discussion*
Chair: *Klaus Schubert (Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)*

*** **Lunch** ***

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