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The Centre for Diplomacy of Andrassy University Budapest and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation Budapest cordially invite you to an

IB Dialogue in the series

**EUROPEAN "ZEITENWENDE"**

on the topic

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**"Russia and its (future) relations with Europe"**

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**Dr. Olga Oliker**

*Program Director  
Europe and Central Asia  
International Crisis Group*

**Dr. András Rácz**

*Senior Fellow at the Center for Order and  
Governance in Eastern Europe, Russia and  
Central Asia  
Associate Professor at NKE, Budapest*

Moderation:

**Dr. Heinrich Kreft**

**Location:** Spiegelsaal of the Andrassy University  
**Date:** Monday 19. June, 2:00 pm-3.30 pm  
**Registration (Zoom)** [HERE](#)  
**Language:** English

Russia's large-scale military aggression against Ukraine, which began on 24 February 2022, has triggered a global „Zeitenwende“. Russia has not only attacked its sovereign neighbor, but has also deliberately attacked the world order based on the principles of the United Nations Charter. With Russia, there is no return to business as usual for Europeans. European security, at least in the long term, seems only possible against Russia and not in cooperation with Russia, as many had hoped in the past. European relations with Russia will of course depend on Russia's own international development. What Russia will look like after the war with Ukraine will of course also depend on the outcome of the war - which is still difficult to predict.

Relations with Russia will be just as important for Europeans in the future as they have been in the past. Therefore, it makes a lot of sense to discuss possible scenarios.

We are pleased to have **Olga Oliker** and **András Rácz** two renowned Russia experts as our guests, who will be happy to answer our questions after their presentations. We would like to thank the FES, which invites us to a coffee reception afterwards, for their renewed support.



**Dr. Olga Oliker** is Crisis Group's Program Director for Europe and Central Asia, and leads the organisation's research, analysis, policy prescription and advocacy in and about Russia, Europe, Türkiye, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. Oliker's own research interests center on the foreign and security policies of Russia, Ukraine, and the Central Asian and Caucasian successor states to the Soviet Union, domestic politics in these countries, U.S. policy towards the region, and nuclear weapon strategy and arms control.

Prior to joining Crisis Group, Oliker directed the Russia and Eurasia Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and held various research and management roles at the RAND Corporation, including as Director of the Center for Russia and Eurasia. Early in her career, she served at the U.S. Department of Defense. Oliker holds a Ph.D. in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an M.P.P. from the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, and a B.A. from Emory University. Oliker is the author of numerous articles, monographs, and reports, with recent publications in *Foreign Affairs*, *Survival*, and other journals. She has also published commentary in print and online with *The New York Times*, *The Hill*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *War on the Rocks*, *CNN*, *U.S. News and World Report*, and *The National Interest*, among others.



**Dr András Rácz** is an associate fellow in DGAP's (German Council on Foreign Relations) Security and Defense Program. Previously, he was a senior fellow in that program. From September 2019 to December 2020, he was a senior fellow of the Robert Bosch Center for Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia.

Before that, Rácz was associate professor at the Pázmány Péter Catholic University in Budapest and non-resident research fellow of the Estonian Foreign Policy Institute in Tallinn. Between 2014 and 2016, he was senior research fellow of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs in Helsinki. Prior to that, Rácz worked as a senior research fellow at the former Hungarian Institute of International Affairs and a visiting researcher at the Transatlantic Academy of the German Marshall Fund in Washington, DC. He was also a fellow of the Volkswagen Foundation's program in European Foreign and Security Policy Studies (EFSPS).

Rácz earned his PhD in modern history from Budapest's Eötvös Loránd University in 2008.



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**Dr Heinrich Kreft M.A., B.A. (USA)**, holds the Chair for Diplomacy II and is Program Director “International Relations and European Studies” at Andrassy University Budapest and Director of its Center for Diplomacy. Previously, he was Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (July 2016 - August 2020), Special Ambassador for Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue and for International Academic Relations, and Deputy Head of the Planning Staff of the Federal Foreign Office. Other assignments in his 38-year career have taken him to Washington, Tokyo, Madrid and La Paz.

In between, he was a visiting fellow at the Henry L Stimson Center, the Heritage Foundation, the Brookings Institutions, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Transatlantic Academy of the German Marshall Fund of the United States in Washington, DC.

Heinrich Kreft studied political science, modern history and sociology at Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA (USA), at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris and the Institut des Hautes Etudes de L'Amérique Latine of the Sorbonne Nouvelle as well as at the Westfälische Wilhelms Universität Münster. He has published extensively on international relations. Most recent publications on China and the broader Middle East and on the Western Balkans.

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