

WHERE ARE YOU HEADING, UKRAINE? Ways and Means to Further Support a Country in Transition

THURSDAY 4th - SATURDAY 6th APRIL 2019
Protestant Academy Loccum

2019 is an eventful year for Ukraine. Five years after Russia's annexation of Crimea and the beginning of the still ongoing Donbass War, Ukrainians are electing at the end of March a new President and a few months later a new parliament. Many observers expect that this 'super election year' will have sweeping consequences for Ukraine and will shape to the way of the country's urgently need reform process.

Ukraine is facing numerous challenges. Thus far, the political reforms have been only partially implemented and the power of the oligarchs which held Ukraine in grip in the past is still strong. Parts of Eastern Ukraine is occupied by pro-Russian separatists, Crimea is increasingly interwoven with Russia, and the recent events in the Sea of Azov underlines that the danger of escalation is high and real.

But despite these challenges, Ukraine has not succumbed and the country has noticeably changed in the last five years. Civil society is strong and diverse and is actively involved in political and social processes at many levels. Ukraine has become more open and more closely intertwined with other European countries than ever before.

It is the goal of this conference to explore and discuss in which direction Ukraine is heading in the future. In particular, we will elaborate about several ways and means how Western Europe – and in particular Germany – could further support the country's transition.

This is a preview program and as such may be subject to change.

Working Language is English. If requested, we provide German-English "whisper interpretation".

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THIS CONFERENCE IS FUNDED BY:

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DAY 1 THURSDAY 04 APRIL 2019

14:30 REGISTRATION

Guests who travel from abroad are welcomed to arrive the day before (Wednesday, 3 April 2019)

15:00 WELCOME COFFEE & CAKE

15:30 WORDS OF WELCOME

Thomas **Müller-Färber**, Program Director International Affairs, Protestant Academy Loccum

15:40 TRAVEL REPORTS | Gathering Impressions About the Current Situation in Ukraine

In this introductory round table talk the Ukrainian invitees who travel far to come to Loccum are invited to share their impressions about the current situation in their country. The purpose of this introductory panel is to gather fresh impressions about the current situation in Ukraine from different perspectives. What are the challenges and the opportunities of Ukraine? How is the atmosphere and the mood today in Ukraine? What's on the mind of the average Ukrainians? Etc?

Kick-off impulse statements (max. 6 min) by invitee Ukrainian speakers

--- followed by plenary discussion ---

16:45 Coffee & Tea Break

17:00 PLENARY DISCUSSION | What Does Ukraine Means for Western Europe – Now, Then, and in the Future?

How was the relation between Western European countries and Ukraine so far? How is this trajectory influencing future developments? What does Western Europe want from Ukraine? How is the public debate in Western Europe about Ukraine? What is the place and the role that is assigned to the country – now and in the future? Etc.

With perspectives from ...

... **Paris Isabelle Facon**, Deputy Director, Fondation Pour La Recherche Stratégique (FRS) (invited)

... **London James Sherr**, Associate Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House (invited)

... **Berlin Gwendolyn Sasse**, Head, Center for East European and International Studies (ZOIS) (invited)

... **Brussels Amanda Paul**, Senior Policy Analyst, European Policy Center (confirmed)

...and from a **Historical Point of View: Gerhard Simon**, Professor emeritus, lecture at the Department for Political Sciences and Sociology of the University Bonn, and former head of the Federal Institute for East European and International Studies (BIOst), Cologne (confirmed)

--- followed by plenary discussion ---

18:30 DINNER

19:30 INTERNATIONAL PRESS CONVERSATION | After the Presidential Elections: What to Expect?

With the presidential election at the end of March and the parliamentary elections in autumn this year, Ukraine is witnessing in 2019 an extraordinary election year. This panel discussion brings together media representatives from Ukraine and Germany with the purpose to assess the impact of

the just passed presidential election and to elaborate on possible implications of the upcoming parliamentary elections.

Inga Pylypchuk, free journalist (die Welt, Focus, etc.) Kyiv/Berlin (invited)
Gerhard Gnauck, East Europe Correspondent, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Warsaw (confirmed)
Ilja Ponomarenko, Kyiv Post, Kyiv (confirmed)
Ingo Mantefel, Head Russia and Eastern Europa program, Deutsche Welle, Bonn (invited)

--- followed by plenary discussion ---

21:00 **FINALE AND COME-TOGETHER**

DAY 2
FRIDAY 5 APRIL 2019

8:15 **MORNING PRAYER (optional)**

8:30 **BREAKFAST**

9:30 **PLENARY DISCUSSION | Taking Stock – The War in Eastern Ukraine and the Diplomatic Efforts to Stop it**

In 2019 the Donbass War in Ukraine will enter its fifth year. Over 12.000 people have been killed, 3,300 of them civilians, and 1,5 million displaced. In light of these drastic developments, the impact of the Minsk II agreement – negotiated in February 2015 and until today the central diplomatic framework for the handling of the difficult conflict situation in Eastern Ukraine – appears meager and improvable. The purpose of this plenary panel is to take stock of the diplomatic efforts undertaken so far. How is the situation today? What are the expectations for the future?

Andreas Prothmann, Head, Ukraine Task Force, German Foreign Office, Berlin (confirmed)
Martin Sajdik, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine and in the Trilateral Contact Group, Vienna (invited)
Balázs Jarábik, Nonresident Scholar Russia and Eurasia Program, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Budapest (confirmed)

--- followed by plenary discussion ---

11:00 **Coffee & Tea Break**

11:15 **BREAKOUT SESSION | Too Timid? Assessing the Western European Efforts to Assist Ukraine (Parallel Working Groups)**

In recent years Ukraine has become more and more intertwined with Western European countries. There are numerous cooperations and a solid relationship on different levels and policy fields. While the responsibility for internal reforms and the modernization of the country lies first and foremost with Ukraine, numerous observers would make nevertheless the point that Western Europe should do more to bolster its support for Ukraine. In this breakout session, we will discuss in parallel working groups (forums) some fields where Western Europe – and in particular Germany – might further improve its assistance for Ukraine. What are the problems that Ukraine is facing in the different policy fields? What are possible solutions for these challenges? What help and support was thus far provided

by Western Europe? Is there a need for further assistance and if yes, what are ways and means to deliver future support?

FORUM I: **Economic Reforms** (Room A)

Hlib Vyshlinsky, Executive Director, Center for Economic Strategy, Kyiv (confirmed)
Stefan Kägebein, Regional Director Eastern Europe, German Eastern Business Association (Ost-Ausschuss – Osteuropaverein der Deutschen Wirtschaft e.V.), Berlin (confirmed)
Kuziakiv Oksana, Chief Executive, Center for Contemporary Society Studies, Kyiv (confirmed)
Miriam Frey, Faculty of Law, Business & Economics, University of Bayreuth (prel. confirmed)

FORUM II: **De-Escalation & Peace-Building: Chances and Limits of Civil Conflict Resolution** (Room C)

Felix Schimansky-Geier, Coordinator for Civil Conflict Resolution in Ukraine, KURVE Wustrow, Kiev (confirmed)
Sergii Doma, Program Officer, Ukraine, Center for Civilians in Conflict, Kyiv (confirmed)
Tetiana Kyselova, Associate Professor at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Kyiv (confirmed)
Georg Albers, Dialogue Facilitation Officer at the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) and Professor at the Catholic University of Applied Sciences, Kyiv (confirmed)

12:30 **LUNCH**

14:00 **BREAKOUT SESSION | Forum I and II continues**

15:15 **COFFEE & CAKE**

15:45 **FORUM III: Good Governance: How to Keep Corruption and Mismanagement in Check?** (Room A)

Sabine Müller, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit), Kyiv (invited)
Marcus Brand, UNDP's Democratic Governance Advisor in Ukraine, Kyiv (invited)
Mykhailo Zhernakov, Director of DEJURE Foundation, Kyiv (confirmed)
Wilfried Jilge, Associate Fellow, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), Berlin (prel. confirmed)
Martin Klaucke, Head, "Good Governance and Democratisation Operations", Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine, Kyiv (invited)

FORUM IV: **Security: Are there Ways in Means to Support Ukraine in the Field of Defense, Resilience, and Security Sector Reform?** (Room B)

Vasyl Filipchuk, Senior Advisor ICPS (International Center for Policy Studies), Kyiv (invited)
Martin Malek, National Defense Academy, Vienna (invited)
Ilja Ponomarenko, Defense Reporter, Kyiv Post, Kyiv (confirmed)
Mikhail Samus, Deputy Director of the Center for Army, Conversion and Disarmament Studies (CACDS), Kyiv (confirmed)

FORUM V: **Church Affairs** (Room C)

Cyril Houorun, Director, Huffington Ecumenical Institute at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles (to be invited)
Václav Ježek, Senior Researcher, Department of Church History and Byzantine Studies, University Prešovská univerzita v Prešove, Prešov (Slovakia) (invited)

Thomas Mark Németh, Institute for Eastern Church and Ecumenical Theology, University Würzburg (Germany) (invited)
Dagmar Heller, Senior Researcher, Protestant Institute for Ecumenical Studies and Research, Bensheim (Germany) (confirmed)
Chair and Moderation: *Jennifer Wasmuth*, Professor at the Institute for Ecumenical Research, Strasbourg (confirmed)

18:30 **DINNER**

19:30 **EVENING TALK | Ukraine – How Do You Do? And Where Are You Heading?**

A conversation with:

Kateryna Mishchenko, writer, curator, editor (Prostory – a magazine on art, literature and social critique), publisher, co-founder of the Ukrainian publishing house Medusa and, currently, research fellow at the Forum Transregional Studies, Kyiv/Berlin (invited)

Mykhailo Minakov, philosopher, political scholar, historian, and, currently, guest professor at the European University Frankfurt (Oder) (invited)

--- followed by plenary discussion ---

21:00 **FINALE AND INFORMAL COME-TOGETHER**

DAY 3 SATURDAY 6 APRIL 2019

8:15 **MORNING PRAYER (optional)**

8:30 **BREAKFAST**

9:30 **PLENARY | Reports from the Forums**

10:15 **Coffee & Tea Break**

10:30 **CONCLUDING PLENARY SESSION | Way Ahead: What Should Germany/Europe Do? What Can Germany/Europe Do?**

Michael Gahler, MP, European Parliament (EPP Group – Christian Democrats), Foreign Affairs Committee and Rapporteur for Ukraine, Brussels/Groß-Gerau (prel. confirmed)

Alexander Wöll, Professor at the University Potsdam and Chairman German Association for Ukrainian Studies, (Deutsche Assoziation der Ukrainisten e.V.) (confirmed)

Manuel Sarrazin, MP, German Bundestag (Alliance 90/The Greens) Foreign Affairs Committee, Committee for European Affairs, and spokesperson for Eastern European politics, Berlin/Hamburg (invited)

--- followed by discussion ---

12:30 **GOODBYE LUNCH**

13:20

DEPARTURE | Shuttle Service to Wunstorf Train Station & Hannover Airport (HA)

FORMAT:

Conferences at the Protestant Academy Loccum provide forums for open-minded discussions on urgent and pressing issues. They endeavor to establish dialogues between actors from different fields and backgrounds with the intention to provide impetus to "think out of the box". The Protestant Academy Loccum hosts meetings over 48 hours/two nights for between 60 to 80 participants and is open to those with the expertise to share or an interest in the subject.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE:

Loccum is located 50 kilometers west of Hanover in Lower Saxony, Germany. The nearest airport is Hanover (HA). The nearest train stations are in Wunstorf, Stadthagen, Minden and Nienburg. Detailed travel directions will be sent to all registered participants.

SHUTTLE BUS:

(Please book a seat in advance!): Friday, 4 April, departing in Wunstorf train station at 14:20 (please follow the station exit marked "ZOB"). Sunday, 6 April, arriving in Wunstorf at approx. 14:00 p.m. For those who arrive at Hanover Airport, we organize individual pick-up.

ACCOMMODATION & FEE

Participants who are not listed as speakers are welcomed to lodge at the conference venue (<http://www.tagungsstätte-loccum.de/>).

- For a two-night stay including all meals (breakfast, lunch, cake, dinner) we charge **195 Euro**.
- For Freelancer, we offer a reduced fee of **140 Euro**
- For students, we offer a reduced fee of **75 Euro**.

Conference fees are to be paid in cash at the check-in or transferred in advance to: Kirchliche Verwaltungsstelle, IBAN DE36 5206 0410 0000 0060 50, Evangelische Bank eG Kassel, SWIFT/BIC GENODEF1EK1. When choosing transferal, please include your name and the reference number **12720**

REGISTRATION:

Please register with name, email, address, institution/organization by e-mail to Miriam Kamber (Miriam.Kamber@evlka.de). Registrations will be confirmed by email. Should you need to cancel, please contact us as soon as possible. Cancellations after 28 March 2019 will cause compensation of 25 % of the fee.