

Opening Event
Version: 19 June 2018

19th Foreign Policy Conference

The Asia-Pacific Conflict Zone

Crises, power shifts and their repercussions for Europe and Germany

Opening event of the 19th Annual Foreign Policy Conference

Thursday, 21 June 2018, 3:30 – 7:30 pm

Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin

The effects of the current global power shift are most visible in the Asia-Pacific region: China's rise and the unclear future of the U.S. alliance system in the region raise a number of foreign and security policy issues that have both regional and global dimensions. The 19th Foreign Policy Conference of the Heinrich Böll Foundation will focus on these questions and ask:

- How resilient are U.S. security guarantees in the Asia-Pacific region?
- Which new alliances and dependencies could emerge in the Indo-Pacific and East Asia in response to China's rise and America's possible retreat?
- Are there limits to the regional arms race in Asia, or would a nuclear-armed Japan, South Korea, and perhaps even Taiwan be conceivable?
- Is the Asia-Pacific region heading toward a wider conflict that could involve external powers such as the U.S. and possibly also its European allies? Do Europe and the U.S. have common interests in the region and should Europe play a more active role there?

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3:30 pm *Registration*

4:00 pm **Security in the Asia-Pacific region, the “Chinese dream” and “America First”**

Welcome and introduction:

Dr. Ellen Ueberschär, Co-President, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin

Managing strategic competition in the Indo-Pacific: How to avoid replacing one hegemony with another

Prof. Rory Medcalf, Australian National University, Canberra

A view from Beijing: Sino-American strategy games and their impact on bilateral relations

Prof. Zhou Qi, National Strategy Institute, Tsinghua University, Beijing

A view from Brussels: What lessons should Europe learn from the changing geopolitical dynamics in the Far East?

Reinhard Bütikofer, MEP, Alliance 90/The Greens, Brussels

Presenter

Dr. Almut Möller, European Council on Foreign Relations, Berlin

5:30 pm *Short break*

6:00 pm **Regional Arms Dynamic, Nuclear Proliferation, and New Arms Races in Asia-Pacific**

Panel discussion and Q&A with the audience:

Dr. Victor Cha, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC

Susanne Riegraf, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

Mark Fitzpatrick, International Institute for Strategic Studies, Washington, DC

Dr. Kuniko Inoguchi, Member of House of Councillors (Senate), Japan

Presenter

Giorgio Franceschini, Heinrich Böll Foundation

7:30 pm *End of opening event*