

**21<sup>st</sup> Foreign Policy Conference****21. Außenpolitische Jahrestagung****Between Hard and Soft Power****The European Union In A More Competitive World*****Online Conference – Preliminary Program*****January 14 – 29, 2021****Heinrich Boell Foundation, Berlin****Date**

Thursday, January 14/21/28, 2021 – Public Events 4pm to 5.30 pm (CET)

**Conference Languages are German and English.**

Simultaneous translation of the Public Events on January 14, 21 and 28, 2021 will be provided.

**Project Director**

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Lena Strauß, External Consultant and Project Manager, foreign\_policy@boell.de**Key Concepts**

European Strategic Sovereignty, European Values, Interdependence, De-Coupling, Resilience, Geo-economics, Open Societies, Transatlantic Relations, Technological Standards, Digital Sovereignty, post-Corona Globalization

**Background**

The EU has been created to overcome old-fashioned geopolitics, nationalism and narrow national interests. It has long been seen as the first building bloc of a new world order in which multilateralism and win-win-approaches would prevail over power politics. Now it seems that power politics is back everywhere. In reaction, many in Europe are calling for a „Geo-Economic Commission“ and an EU that can operate in a way similar to a great power.

Is there a danger that by transforming the EU it will lose its "soul" and its identity based on openness, multilateralism, willingness to compromise? How can the EU navigate through a far more competitive world, and be a respected global player, and yet remain committed to its fundamental values?

The 21<sup>st</sup> Foreign Policy Conference of the Heinrich Boell Foundation will examine some of these questions more closely, especially in the fields of

- Common Security and Defense Policy,
- European Digital Policy, and
- Geo-economics

**Thursday, January 14, 2021 – The Europe We Want (Public Online Event)**

- 4.00 pm      Welcome and Introduction  
**Ellen Ueberschär**, President of the Heinrich Boell Foundation, Berlin
- Panel Discussion  
Europe in the World: Between Great Power Concert, Transatlantic Renaissance  
and German Middle Ground
- A Discussion with  
**Justyna Gotkowska**, Center for Eastern Studies, Warsaw  
**Martin Quencez**, German Marshall Fund of the United States, Paris
- Chair  
**Jana Puglierin**, European Council on Foreign Relations, Berlin
- 5.05 pm      Take-Home-Messages and Wrap-up  
Three final questions from **Ellen Ueberschär**, President hbs, to **Reinhard Bütikofer**,  
Member of European Parliament, Brussels
- 5.20 pm      Closing and Evaluation  
**Giorgio Franceschini**, Division Head Foreign and Security Policy, Boell Foundation
- 5.30 pm      *End of Day 1*