

**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.

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#### **Conference Management**

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#### **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 28, 2021 – Europe in the World – A Green Vision** (Public Online Event)

- 4.00 pm      Presentation of Survey Results and Live Comments  
Topic: A Green Vision of Europe's Role in the World - Between the US and China, Democracies and Autocracies, Integration and Containment of Russia. A Green Spin for European Security, Strategic Sovereignty and Economic Resilience.
- A Discussion with  
**Annalena Baerbock**, Chairwoman of the German Green Party, Berlin
- Moderated by  
**Florence Gaub**, European Union Institute for Security Studies, Paris
- 5.00 pm      Take-Home-Messages and Wrap-up  
Three final questions from **Ellen Ueberschär**, President hbs, to **Nathalie Tocci**, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome
- 5.20 pm      Farewell and Evaluation  
**Giorgio Franceschini**, Division Head Foreign and Security Policy, Boell Foundation
- 5.30 pm      *End of Day 3*