

# **MINSK FORUM VIII**

„Germany and Belarus in their European Neighbourhood  
Foreign Policy – Economy – Society“

24–27 November 2005, IBB Minsk, pr. gazety Pravda 11, Minsk

## **Organizers:**

German Embassy, Minsk  
German-Belarusian Society, Berlin  
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik SWP / German Institute for International and  
Security Affairs, Berlin

## **Partners:**

Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Warsaw/Berlin  
Heinrich Böll Foundation, Warsaw/Berlin  
Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Minsk/Berlin  
Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Kiev/Berlin  
OSCE Bureau, Minsk  
Association for International Education and Exchange (IBB), Minsk  
Representation of the German Economy in Belarus, Minsk

Sponsored *inter alia* by  
ITM GmbH, Belavia, Mercedes-Benz/Belarus

**Thursday, 24 November 2005**

Arrival of participants

**5 p.m. Opening Plenary Session**

**Welcome**

Martin Hecker, German Ambassador, Minsk  
Rainer Lindner, SWP/German Institute for International and Security Affairs /  
Chairman of the German-Belarusian Society and the Minsk Forum

**Opening Panel – "Belarus in Europe: Views from Inside and Outside"**

Sergey Zabolotets, MP, Deputy chairman of the House of Representatives of  
the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk  
Markus Meckel, MdB, Deputy spokesman on foreign affairs, SPD  
parliamentary group, Berlin

Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Deputy chairman of the European Parliament, Member of the delegation for relations with Belarus, Brussels  
Åke Peterson, Head of the OSCE Bureau in Belarus, Minsk  
Walter Klitz, Head of the regional department for Central, South East and Eastern Europe, Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Potsdam

**7 p.m. Reception, Restaurant „Westfalia“ (by invitation of OSCE, Minsk)**

**Friday, 25 November 2005**

Working groups

**I) Foreign and Security Policy – Belarus in its European Neighbourhood**

**Place: IBB, Great hall**

Languages: German, Russian, English

**Chair:** Sascha Müller-Kraenner, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin/Yale  
Gabriele Baumann, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin

09:30-10:45 a.m.

**- Belarus and the European Union: Cooperation and Conflicts**

- Representative of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Janusz Onyszkiewicz, MEP, Deputy chairman of the European Parliament, Member of the delegation for relations with Belarus
- Pirkka Tapiola, Political department of the EU High Representative of Foreign Policy J. Solana, Brussels
- Anatoli Chirak, State Committee for Border Protection of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Rainer Steenblock, MdB, Spokesman of the parliamentary group Bündnis 90/Die Grünen on European affairs

10:45-11:15 a.m. Coffee and tea

11:15-12:00 a.m.

**Discussion**

12:00-01:30 p.m. Lunch

01:30-03:30 p.m.

**- Neighbourly Relations and Perspectives of Integration**

- Representative of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Ian Boag, Head of the delegation of the European Commission in Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus, Kiev
- Anatoli Ponomarenko, Foreign Ministry of Ukraine, former ambassador of Ukraine in Germany, Kiev
- Phillip Kazin, Deputy Director, Baltic Research Centre, St. Petersburg
- Georg Schirmbeck, MdB, CDU/CSU parliamentary group, Berlin

**Discussion**

03:30-04:00 p.m. Coffee and tea

04:00-05:30 p.m.

**- German-Belarusian Relations: State of Affairs and Perspectives**

- Representative of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Victor Marakhin, Member of the Belarusian-German parliamentary group, House of Representatives of the National Assembly, Minsk
- Norbert Baas, Foreign Ministry, Berlin
- Manfred Zabel, Chairman of the IBB board Minsk, Siegen
- Jutta Fahrion, Town twinning Esslingen/Württemberg - Molodechno

**Discussion**

05:30-06:00 p.m.

**Conclusions**

**II) Economy: Fitness for Reform – Investment – Tourism**

**Place: Belarusian Economic University, Minsk**

**Chair:** Hermann Knödler, DAAD Lecturer, Belarusian State Economic University, Minsk

Leonid Zayko, Director of „Strategiya” Center, Minsk

09:30-10:45 a.m.

**- The Economic Situation in Belarus**

- Vadim Voronin, Head of World Bank representation, Minsk
- Uwe Köhler, Zeiss BelOMO GmbH / German Economic Club, Minsk
- Zhanna Tarasevich, Union of entrepreneurs and work suppliers "Professor Kunyawski", Minsk
- Yaroslav Romanchuk, Director, Center of Scientific Research von Miese, Minsk

10:45-11:15 a.m. Coffee and tea

11:15-12:00 a.m.

**Discussion**

12:00-01:30 p.m. Lunch

01:30-03:30 p.m.

**- German Investment: Main Directions and Problems**

- Wladimir Augustinski, German trade and industry representative, Minsk
- Frank Weisig, Federal Ministry of Economics, Berlin
- Ricardo Giucci, German economic team in Belarus, Minsk
- Sven Newiak, Senior Consultant, Union of entrepreneurs and work suppliers "Professor Kunyawski", Potsdam/Minsk

## **Discussion**

03:30-04:00 p.m. Coffee and tea

04:00-05:30 p.m.

### **- Tourism: Perspectives on the National Economy and the Regions**

- Tatyana Starchenko, Deputy Minister of Economics, Minsk
- Valeria Klitzunova, "Agro- and Ecotourism", Minsk
- Irina Mazokina, Association for Economic Research and Education, Minsk
- Franz Mamul, Business Club, Hrodna
- Martin Hecker, German ambassador in Belarus, Minsk

## **Discussion**

05:30-06:00 p.m.

## **Conclusions**

### **III) Society – Chernobyl, Energy Policy, Social Partnership**

**Place:** IBB, Club room

**Chair:** Astrid Sahn, IBB Minsk / Mannheim University

Cornelia Rabitz, Deutsche Welle, Bonn

09:30-10:45 a.m.

### **- Chernobyl 20 Years After: Medical and Social Consequences**

- Vladimir Zalko, Chairman of the Chernobyl Committee at the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Yuri Suprinovich, Chairman of the International Association „Ecodom“, Minsk
- Nikolay Likhachev, Institute of Regional Studies in Social Policy, Mogilev
- Edmund Lengfelder, Otto Hug Institute of Radiation Research, University of Munich
- Konstantin Kotsas, Center for International Migration Research, Frankfurt/Main

10:45-11:15 a.m. Coffee and tea

11:15-12:00 a.m.

## **Discussion**

12:00-13:30 p.m. Lunch

13:30-15:30 p.m.

### **- Energy Policy after Chernobyl**

- Vladimir Tarasenko, Committee for energy efficiency at the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Viktor Fedoseyev, Deputy Director of „Belinvestenergosberezhenie“ Minsk

- Margarita Balmaceda, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
- Yevgeni Shirokov, International Environmental Academy, Minsk
- Werner Neumann, Spokesman of BUND for energy policy, Frankfurt/M.

### **Discussion**

15:30-16:00 p.m. Coffee and tea

16:00-17:30 p.m.

### **- Round Table: Chances of Social Partnership Between Governmental and Non-governmental Actors**

- Nikolay Kokhanov, Department of Demography and Employment, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Minsk
- Larissa Kezkalo, Belarusian Association of Assistance for Disabled Children and Youth, Minsk
- Jörg Tauss, MdB, SPD parliamentary group, Berlin
- Herbert Wohlhüter, Chairman of the board of IBB Dortmund, Bielefeld
- Oleg Sivogorakov, Expert for sustainable development, Minsk

### **Discussion**

17:30-18:00 p.m.

### **Conclusions**

**19:30 p.m. Reception** (by invitation of the organizers)

## **Saturday, 26 November 2005**

### **9.30 a.m. Plenary Session: Belarus, Russia, Germany and EU: Perspectives of Cooperation**

**Chair:** Michael Ludwig, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Moscow

- Representative of the Belarusian government, Minsk
- Vyacheslav Pozdnyak, Internet Portal „Wider Europe“, Minsk
- Phillip Kazin, Deputy Director, Baltic Research Centre, St. Petersburg
- Ernst-Jörg von Studnitz, Ambassador ret., Königswinter
- Hannes Adomeit, SWP/German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

11:00-11:30 a.m. Coffee and tea

11:30 a.m.  
Press conference

**19:00 p.m.**

**Reception and Dinner**

(by special invitation of the German embassy)

Dinner speech:

Dr. Wolfgang Gerhardt, MdB, FDP floor leader, German Bundestag

**Sunday, 27 November 2005**

Departure of participants