

MINSK FORUM IX

„Belarus – Neighbourhood and Transit in Europe Foreign Policy – Economy – Society“

9–11 November 2006, IBB Minsk, pr. gazety Pravda 11, Minsk

Organizers:

German Embassy, Minsk
German-Belarusian Society, Berlin
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik/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)
"Johannes Rau", Minsk
Representation of the German Economy in Belarus, Minsk

Sponsoring:

German Economic Club, Minsk
Energy (Mercedes-Benz, Belarus), Minsk

RM Market (Adam Opel AG, Belarus), Minsk
ITM, Gundelfingen/Brsg.

Office Minsk
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Thursday, 9 November 2006

Arrival of participants

5:00 p.m. Opening Plenary Session

Welcome

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

Greetings:

- Vladimir Konoplyov, Chairman of the House of
Representatives of the National Assembly of the
Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Uta Zapf, MdB, SPD, Head of the German-Belarusian
Parliamentary Group, Berlin

Opening Lecture:

Ronald Pofalla, MdB, CDU Secretary General, Berlin
"Basic principles of Christian Democratic domestic and
foreign policy in the 21 century "

**7:00 p.m. Reception, Restaurant „Westfalia“ (by invitation
of OSCE, Minsk)**

Dinner
Music

Friday, 10 November 2006

PANEL I

**Foreign and Security Policy of Belarus:
Concepts of Cooperation and Problem Areas Between the
EU and Belarus**

Place: IBB "Johannes Rau", pr. Gazety Pravda 11, Minsk

9:00a.m. Registration

9:30a.m.-11:00

*1.1. Concepts of Belarus's Policy Towards Europe:
Problems and Perspectives*

Chair: Rainer Lindner, SWP/German Institute for International
and Security Affairs / Chairman of the Minsk Forum

- Valeri Romashko, Head of the Main Department for
European Affairs, Foreign Ministry of the Republic of
Belarus, Minsk
- Jean-Eric Holtzapfel, Deputy Head of the Delegation of
the European Commission in Ukraine, Moldova and
Belarus, Kiev
- Uta Zapf, MdB, SPD, Head of the German-Belarusian
Parliamentary Group, Berlin

- Victor Marachin, Member of the Belarusian-German
Parliamentary Group in the House of Representatives
of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus,
Minsk

11:00-11:30 Coffee and Tea

11:30-01:00p.m.

1.2. Belarus and its Neighbours

Chair: Alexander Rahr, Programme Director Koerber-Center
Russia/CIS, German Council on Foreign Relations
(DGAP), Berlin

- Vladimir Ulakhovich, Center for International Studies,
Minsk
- Ihor Prokopchuk, Head of the 4th Territorial Department
in the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kiev
- Vladimir Seregin, Deputy Head of the European
Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian
Federation, Moscow
- Marijus Gudynas, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Lithuania, Vilnius Head of the Belarus Division

01:00p.m.-02:00p.m. Lunch break

02:00-03:30

*1.3. German EU Presidency and Relations with the Eastern
Neighbours*

Chair: Falk Bomsdorf, Friedrich Naumann Foundation,
Moscow

- Hans-Dieter Lucas, Representative of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Caucasus, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Berlin
- Iris Kempe, Center for Applied Policy Research, Munich
- Dietmar Stuedemann, Former German Ambassador in Ukraine, Berlin/Kiev
- Sabine Fischer, SWP/German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

03:30-04:00 Coffee and Tea

04:00-05:30

1.4. Round Table: Belarus – National Security Strategies and Alliance Perspectives

Chair: Peter Fischer-Bollin, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Justas Paleckis, European Parliament, Brussels
- Åke Peterson, Head of the OSCE Bureau in Belarus, Minsk
- Heinz Timmermann, SWP/German Institute for International and Security Affairs (ext.), Cologne

05:30-06:00 Theses of the working groups

PANEL II

Economy: Belarus as a Transit Country – Communication, Transport, Energy

Place: MAZ Arts Center, ulitsa Sotsialisticheskaya 2, Minsk (changes possible)

09:00a.m.-09:30a.m. Registration

09:30-11:00

2.1. The Economic Situation in Belarus

Chair: Leonid Zaiko, Director, Center „Strategiya“, Minsk

- Andrey Tur, Deputy Minister of Economy of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Roland Scharff, Professor of Technical College Osnabrueck
- Vladimir Bobrov, President of the Belarusian Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Minsk
- Georgi Badey, President of the Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers „Prof. Kunyavski“, Minsk

11:00-11:30 Coffee and Tea

11:30-01:00p.m.

2.2. Energy Security, Energy Policy, Energy Transfer

Chair: Heike Doerrenbaecher, Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Osteuropakunde (DGO), Berlin

- Irina Tochitskaya, Institute for Privatization and Management, Minsk
- „Beltranshaz“, Minsk
- Margarita Balmaceda, Harvard University, Cambridge/Mass.
- Yuri Suprinovich, Project Wind Power Station (Support Programme Belarus), Minsk

01:00-02:00 Lunch break

02:00-03:30

2.3 Transport Policy and Vehicle Construction in Belarus

Chair: Viktor Margelov, Deputy Head of the Capital Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers, Minsk

- Ministry of Traffic System and Communication of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Vadim Matskevich, Head of Representation of Kurnow Forwarding Agency, Minsk
- Minsk Automobile Plant (MAZ), Minsk
- Michael Worbs, DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart

03:30-04:00 Coffee and Tea

04:00-05:30

2.4. Round Table: Economy and Transformation: Risks and Chances for Belarus

Chair: Ricardo Giucci, German Advisory Group on Economic Reforms, Berlin

- Pavel Daneyko, Director, Institute of Privatization and Management, Minsk
- Per Fischer, Commerzbank AG, Frankfurt/M
- Oliver Wieck, Executive Director, Commission for Eastern Affairs of the German Economy
- Uwe Koehler, Zeiss-BelOMO GmbH, German Economic Club, Minsk

05:30-06:00 Theses of the working groups

06:00 Return to hotels

PANEL III

Society: Regions and Generations in Belarus

Place: House of Friendship, ul. Sakharova, 28, Minsk

09:00a.m.-09:30 Registration

09:30-11:00

3.1. Technical and Humanitarian Cooperation Between Germany and Belarus – Targets and Programmes for Regional and Local Development

Chair: Astrid Sahn, Director of IBB „Johannes Rau“, Minsk

- Peter Junge-Wentrup, Executive Director, IBB Dortmund
- Leonid Orlov, Executive Director, Belarusian TACIS Representation
- Janis Aizsalnieks, Head of the TACIS Branch Office, Minsk
- Head of the World Bank Representation, Minsk

11:00-11:30 Coffee and Tea

11:30-01:00 p.m.

3.2. Regional and Sustainable Development

Chair: Oleg Sivogrov, Foundation „Living Partnership“, Minsk

- Viktor Ermolenkov, Academy at the President of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Alexander Muravyov, Deputy chairman of Bykhov District
- Dmitri Morozov, Deputy chairman of the Economic Committee, Gomel District Executive Committee
- Daniel Klee, Agrar Konsultations Zentrum „Neue Landwirtschaft“ (AKZ), Minsk
- Anzhela Boyko, Children of Chernobyl, Minsk

01:00-02:00 Lunch break

02:00-03:30

3.3. Governmental and Non-Governmental Educational Work

Chair: Stefan Chrobot, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Head of the Regional Bureau for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, Kiev

- Katharina Elwert, Office Staff MdB Michael Link, FDP, Youth Liberals Germany, Berlin
- Inna Khodas, Head of Private Educational Institute „Vseobuch“, Kobrin
- Tobias Knubben, Director, Center for International Studies, Minsk
- Dmitri Karpievich, NGO „POST“, Minsk
- Anastasia Denisova, Youth Group for Tolerance „ETHnICS“, Russia

03:30-04:00 Coffee and Tea

04:00-05:30

3.4. Round Table: Youth Culture and Life Designs

Chair: Stefan Jarolimek, University of Leipzig

- Ministry of Culture, Minsk
- Editor-in-Chief „1st Music Channel“, Minsk
- Aliaksandr Kudrytski, Cultural Manager, Robert Bosch Foundation, Wittenberg/Minsk
- Thorsten Klinner, „DJ X-ray“, Minsk
- Syarhey Sakharau, formerly „Studumka“, Minsk

05:30-06:00 Theses of the working groups

06:00 Return to hotels

7:00 p.m. Reception, Restaurant „Westfalia“ (by invitation of the organizers)

9:00 p.m. Concert (IBB Club)
„Krambambulia“

Saturday, 11 November 2006

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Closing Panel:

"Neighbourhood Plus"? – Expectations to the German EU Presidency and the German Policy Towards Eastern Europe

Chair: Volker Perthes, Director, SWP/German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
- Martin Hecker, German Ambassador in Belarus, Minsk
- Embassy of the Russian Federation in Belarus, Minsk
- Lubomir Rehak, Ambassador of Slovakia, EU Troika, Minsk
- Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Kiev
- Michael Link, MdB, FDP, Member of the German-Belarusian Parliamentary Group, Berlin

11:30-12:00 a.m. Coffee break

12:00 a.m. Results of the Minsk Forum

Chair: Rainer Lindner, SWP/German Institute for International and Security Affairs/Chairman of the Minsk Forum

Press conference

1:00 p.m. Lunch

2:00 p.m. Optional excursions (by bus)

- Mercedes-Benz Car Center
- Historical Workshop Minsk
- National Library

7:00 p.m. Dinner in IBB "Johannes Rau"

(by special invitation of the German embassy, Minsk)

- Speech: Volker Ruehe, Former German Minister of Defence, Hamburg
“The New Eastern Europe – Problems and Perspectives”
- Music
- Dinner

Sunday, 12 November 2006

Departure of participants

For current information see: <http://minsk-forum.dbg-online.org>