

Academy for Politics and Current Affairs

Expert Discussion

## **CURRENT CHALLENGES FOR EUROPE**

### **The Middle East, Russia and the Refugee Crisis**

2.00-4.00 p.m.

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Conference Center Munich

Currently, Europe faces several interdependent challenges. Russia has pursued an increasingly assertive foreign policy, as demonstrated in the annexation of the Crimea, its military intervention in eastern Ukraine as well as its political and military support for the Assad regime. The civil war in Syria and other conflicts in the Middle East and Northern Africa have caused hundreds of thousands of people to leave the region and seek refuge in Europe. Moscow's policies and the refugee crisis have necessitated a common European approach which, however, appears to be inadequate or lacking altogether. Europe's unity in foreign affairs has been called into question. To discuss both internal and external challenges for Europe, the Hanns Seidel Foundation welcomes

#### **Prof. Dr. Hannes Adomeit**

Former Professor for Eastern European Studies at the College of Europe (Warsaw) and former Head of the Russia Research Group at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Berlin)

and

#### **Dr. Anja Opitz**

Department of International Relations, Akademie für Politische Bildung (Tutzing)

moderated by

#### **Dr. Moritz Weiß**

Department of International Relations, Ludwig-Maximilians-University (Munich)

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