European elections of 2019 will be a test case for the mainstream European parties and their legitimacy. Having faced serious challenges in national elections due to changing political cleavages and emergence of new political movements, their European postures will now be put into test. A lot depends on how the agenda for the elections will look like. Without an all-European crisis, national issues will be likely to dominate, which might weaken transnational synergies. How will the European and national elections of 2019 affect the European party field and political dynamics within the EU institutions? Will the Eurosceptic parties this time succeed in building stronger coalitions?

Opening Words & Chair: Teija Tiilikainen, Director, the Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Opening Statement: Kare Halonen, State Secretary, EU Affairs, Prime Minister’s Office

Speakers: Miguel Poiares Maduro, Professor, Director of the School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute

Agata Gostyńska-Jakubowska, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Reform

Nicolai von Ondarza, Head of Research Division on EU/Europe, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)
Biographies

Kare Halonen is the State Secretary for EU Affairs and the Head of the EU Secretariat at the Prime Minister’s Office since July 2008. Prior to that, he served as the Director General of the Department for Europe at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland from 2004 to 2008 and worked at the Permanent Representation of Finland to the EU from 1995 to 2004. Since January 2015, Kare Halonen is the Chair of the Board of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs.

Miguel Poiares Maduro is Director of the School of Transnational Governance at the European University Institute. Before, he was Professor at the Law Department and at the Robert Schuman Centre of the European University Institute where he was the Founding Director of the Global Governance Programme (from 2010 to 2013). From 2013 to 2015 he was Minister Deputy to the Prime Minister and Minister for Regional Development in Portugal. Until 2009 he was Advocate General at the European Court of Justice. From June 2016 to May 2017 he was Chairman of the new Governance and Review Committee of FIFA. He was a member of the EU High Level Group on Media Freedom and Pluralism. He is a Doctor of Laws by the European University Institute (Florence).

Agata Gostyńska-Jakubowska is a senior research fellow at the Centre for European Reform. She works on the EU institutional architecture, EU decision making process, differentiated integration, on Polish European policy and the UK’s relationship with the EU. Before joining the CER, Gostyńska-Jakubowska worked as a senior research fellow at the Polish Institute of International Affairs in Warsaw where she dealt with EU institutional affairs. Prior to that she worked for an international law firm in Warsaw. Gostyńska-Jakubowska holds masters degrees in law and international relations, both obtained at Warsaw University.

Nicolai von Ondarza is Head of Research Division EU/Europe at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP). Previously he has been a Lecturer at the University of Potsdam and a Research Associate at the Bundeswehr Institute of Social Sciences. His main fields of expertise are: governance in the European Union, decision-making and integration in the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), Institutional development of the European Union, British EU Policy and the role of the United Kingdom in the EU. His recent publications include Shadows over the European Elections. Three Scenarios for EU-sceptical Parties after the 2019 Elections.

Teija Tiilikainen is the Director of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA). Previously, Dr. Tiilikainen was the Director of the Network of European Studies at the University of Helsinki (2003–2009). She has also served as Secretary of State at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland from 2007 to 2008. Dr. Tiilikainen was the Special Representative of the Prime Minister of Finland in the Convention on the Future of Europe in 2002–2003. Currently, she is also Editor-in-Chief of Ulkopolitiikka – the Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs.