

Next Steps in the EU Response to Russian Aggression

Building Unity from Diversity

Meet the Speakers



HEIDI HAUTALA

Vice-President of the European Parliament

Heidi Hautala is a Vice-President of the European Parliament, Member of the European Parliament in the Greens/EFA group. Ms Hautala was first elected as Vice-President of the European Parliament in October 2017 and continues in the office. She serves on the Committee on International Trade and the Subcommittee on Human Rights. Ms Hautala has maintained a keen interest in Russia's democratic development since the 1990s and has had extensive contacts with Russian civil society. In 2015, she was blacklisted by Russia and barred from the country along with dozens of other European Union politicians. In Finland, Ms Hautala served as a Member of Parliament from 1991 to 1995 and from 2003 to 2009. From 2011 to 2013, she was the Minister for International Development and State Ownership Steering. She holds a Master's degree in Agriculture and Forestry.

Stefano Sannino is the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service (EEAS) of the European Union since 1 January 2021. He has previously held the posts of the Deputy Secretary General for economic and Global Issues at the EEAS, Ambassador of Italy to Spain and Andorra, and Permanent Representative of Italy to the EU in Brussels. After a period at the Cabinet of the President of the Commission he joined the Directorate General for External Relations as Director for Crisis Management and Representative at PSC, then Director for Latin America and finally as Deputy Director General for Asia and Latin America. In 2008 he was the Diplomatic Advisor to the Italian Prime Minister and his Personal Representative to G8 summits. Mr Sannino is fluent in Spanish, English and French beyond his native Italian.



STEFANO SANNINO
Secretary-General of the EEAS



PAUL SCHMIDT
Secretary-General of ÖGFE

Paul Schmidt has been Secretary General of the Austrian Society for European Politics since 2009. Previously he has worked at the Österreichische Nationalbank, both in Vienna and at their Representative Office in Brussels. He studied International Relations and Political Science at universities in Austria, Spain and USA and holds a diploma from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. His current work mainly focuses on the analysis and discussion of current issues regarding European integration. Paul's comments and op-eds are regularly published in the Austrian and international media. He is co-editor of the book series "The Future of Europe: views from the Capitals", a project initiated by TEPSA.



Moderator: JIM CLOOS
TEPSA Secretary-General
& Senior Associated Fellow, Egmont

Jim Cloos is a high-ranking European official of longstanding esteem. Having taken on a key role in drafting the Maastricht Treaty during the Luxembourgish Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 1991, Mr. Cloos has an intricate expertise on EU Affairs and the internal functioning of the European institutions. In the 1990s he served at the European Commission, first as Head of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Agriculture, and subsequently as Head of Cabinet to the President of the European Commission and his G7/8 Sherpa. Mr. Cloos has been a close collaborator of High Representative Javier Solana in shaping the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy. Before his election as TEPSA Secretary-General, he served as Deputy Director General for General and Institutional Policy at the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union.