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Konrad
Adenauer
Stiftung

**“Between NATO and European Union –
Common Security and Challenges”
XXVII International Security Conference in Cracow**

April 16th, 2018

**The conference is organized by Foundation Institute for
Strategic Studies**

In cooperation with

NATO Headquarters and KAS in Poland

On 16th April 2018, the Institute for Strategic Studies is organizing the spring edition of its regular conference on security and foreign affairs in cooperation with KAS in Poland and NATO Headquarters. It is part of the New Shape of Euro-Atlantic Security program which aims to address the emerging and constant challenges NATO is facing as well as trying to discuss the changed security framework in the context of a co-existing trans-Atlantic and European security program.

During the NATO Summit in Warsaw, a number of measures were agreed on to strengthen the Alliance's eastern flank. Some of them, such as the creation of four battalion groups in Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, have already been completed. Other tasks are still being implemented. Moreover, bilateral agreements strengthening the security of Central European countries were arranged outside the



framework of the North Atlantic Alliance. In Poland, an American brigade has been deployed, which is a reflection of Washington's concern with the aggressive Russian policy over recent years. Furthermore, a range of ad hoc responses to the effects of the war in Syria, the rise of the Islamic state and the increasing tensions in the Persian Gulf were discussed and NATO is still in the process of adapting to the threats that have emerged on its southern flank in recent years.

All of this is accompanied by a joint initiative of France and Germany aiming to rebuild the Common Security and Defence Policy, backed by Italy and Spain, testifies the readiness of some parts of Europe to assume greater responsibility than ever before for their security. The European Union's Global Strategy, its implementation plan, and, in particular, the decision of the European Council to launch permanent structured cooperation (PESCO) create a new environment that allows some EU member states to deepen their existing military cooperation but at the expense of creating a "two-speed Europe".

To discuss the issues described is of necessity. They can lead to fundamental changes in the Euro-Atlantic security architecture. Therefore, the main issues that will be discussed during the conference will be:

- The implementation of solutions adopted at the NATO summit in Warsaw strengthening the eastern and southern flank of the Alliance;
- Finding effective responses to terrorism and counterterrorism approaches in the Middle East;
- Ways to address the Alliance's internal challenges;
- Analysis of activities undertaken within the EU's Common Security and Defense Policy
- The interaction of the EU Common Security and Defense Policy with the Euro-Atlantic Security Policy

The conferences in Cracow organized by the ISS Foundation, KAS Poland, and NATO Headquarters are the meeting place for the most prominent security and defense experts as well as international relations. The conferences are attended by



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representatives of the academic community, students and researchers dealing with international relations, as well as politicians and journalists. The conferences usually gather early 150 guests – politicians and experts from a dozen countries.

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