Europäische Akademie Berlin

DRAFT

A briefing for journalists from Czechia and Slovakia in Prague

Germany in Europe
Politics, Security and Cooperation

Tuesday, 08. December 2026 | 09:00 to 15:00
Arrival and dinner: 07. December 2026
German Embassy in Prague

As of: 16 November 2026

About

How is Germany's role in Europe changing, and what does this mean for its partners? The seminar at the German Embassy in Prague offers around 20 journalists a forum for background briefings, critical questions and an exchange of perspectives from across Europe. Discussions will be held in English without interpretation.

The programme focuses on three themes: the EU's future and reform, Germany's responsibility for European security, and the influence of populism on German politics. Discussions will explore the EU's capacity to act and enlargement, cooperation between NATO and the EU, and support for Ukraine. The third session examines how the AfD's electoral success is reshaping party competition, public debate and democratic cooperation.

Monday, 07 December 2026

Individual arrival / informal dinner

Tuesday, 08 December 2026

09:00 bis 15:00 Uhr | German Embassy in Prague

09:00 bis 09:30 Uhr	**Welcome and Introduction** Welcome by the German Ambassador, Dr **Peter Reuss**. Introduction and round of introductions with **Manuel Knapp**, Director of Studies at the European Academy Berlin.
09:30 bis 10:45 Uhr	**Talk 1: Public service broadcasting under pressure in Europe** In some EU Member States, public service broadcasting has found itself caught between pressure to reform and fundamental criticism. What might a modern public service broadcasting system look like in the age of AI and social media? What is the state of media freedom in Europe, and how does Germany compare with the rest of Europe? **Prof. Dr. Cornelia Mothes**, Professor of Journalism and Media Management at Macromedia University of Applied Sciences in Leipzig (tbc
10:45 bis 11:00 Uhr	**Coffee Break**
11:00 bis 12:15 Uhr	**Talk 2: European Security: NATO, Defence and Ukraine** Germany's responsibility, support for Ukraine and European defence capabilities. Joint procurement, burden-sharing and differing threat perceptions. Introductory remarks and discussion with: **Ehrhard Bühler,** retired NATO General, participation to be confirmed
12:15 bis 13:15 Uhr	**Lunch and Networking**
13:15 bis 14:30 Uhr	**Talk 3: Germany and Populism: How the AfD's Electoral Success Is Changing Germany's Political Landscape** The drivers of populist mobilisation, responses from political parties, and implications for government formation and public debate. Economic insecurity and the role of the media. Introductory remarks and discussion with **Dr. Jürgen P. Lang**, Political Scientist and Journalist at Bayerischer Rundfunk (tbc)

14:30 bis 15:00 Uhr	**Closing Discussion and Farewell** Insights for journalistic reporting, outstanding questions and feedback. Moderated by Manuel Knapp. Individual departure following the seminar.

MODERATION

Manuel Knapp, Director of Studies
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Projektmanagement

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About the European Academy Berlin (EAB)

Understanding Europe. Shaping Europe. This guiding principle reflects the mission of the European Academy Berlin. Since 1963, the EAB has been an independent, non-partisan educational institution focusing on European affairs. It is a recognised provider of European civic education, an experienced partner in international education, seminar and project management, and a distinctive venue for learning, exchange and events.

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