

# A New Security Policy for Eastern Europe?

An Analytical Report by Dr Falk Bomsdorf

Résumé

Kharkiv, Kramatorsk and Sloviansk – Ukraine 2017



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# **A New Security Policy for Eastern Europe?**

## **„Future of Freedom“ Annual Consultation for East and Southeast Europe Ukraine 2017**

### **Résumé**

**Dr Falk Bomsdorf**

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The report outlines the security policy situation in Eastern Europe. Threats mainly stem from Russia and its pursuit of a course of aggressive and military-backed revisionism. Strengthening of defence capability is therefore inevitable. Security, however, also has a strong civilian component. Accordingly, undesirable developments in the Eastern European states themselves can seriously jeopardise the security of these states. The same consequence may be brought about by the unilateral orientation of some Western European states towards Russia. The key conclusions of the report are: Western Europeans must engage with Eastern Europe and refrain from adopting a paternalistic attitude. Eastern Europe should not be classified predominantly under geopolitical criteria. Security ultimately lies in the legitimation of the state and society, in their sustainability. The political agenda of the liberal forces in Eastern Europe must respond to this. This takeaway applies also and especially with regard to Ukraine. Lastly, one must not continue to evade the takeaway: the Kremlin is waging a political war against Europe and the West as a whole. The German liberals must also seek to resist it, and do their utmost to advocate that Germany and the European Union invest in the stability of Eastern Europe and thus in the security of Europe.