



Hybrid Conference

Migration challenges in National and European politics

29 April 2024 18h00-20h00 CET

Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe, Hahngasse 6/24, Vienna

Context

Migrations, prompted by rising insecurity, socio-economic disparities and environmental poverty, are back on the top of the EU's political agenda. To consolidate the EU's approach in this policy-area, the European Parliament and Council adopted in December 2023 a New Pact on Migration and Asylum. This New Pact, which seeks to strike a balance between solidarity, responsibility and respect for human rights, comes after years of gridlock. But much remains to be done as migrations remain a highly politicised topic in most member states, and a sensitive one domestically. Ideas once rather promoted by far-right political forces have now become mainstream. In the run-up to the European Parliament elections of June 2023, the topic is, once again, expected to take an important role in election campaigns and political discussions.

What are the new dynamics in migration flows to Europe? Will the EU's New Pact on Migration become the coherent strategy on migration the EU needs? How misaligned do national interests and priorities remain in this area? How are migrations used in political discourses and campaigns today in Europe? What political impact do they have in countries like France and Austria and on the EU level?

Working language: English

18h00 *Opening*

Sebastian **Schäffer**, Director of the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM)

18h10 *Keynote*

Rainer **Münz**, Visiting Professor at the Central European University (CEU) and former Adviser on Migration and Demography at the European Political Strategy Centre

18h25 *Panel Discussion*

Catherine **Wihtol de Wenden**, Director of research at the Center for International Studies Science Po, Paris

Alida **Vračić**, Co-founder and executive directress of *Populari*, Member of Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group (BiEPAG), Sarajevo

Maurizio **Ambrosini**, Senior Advisor at the Italian Institute for International Political studies (ISPI) and professor of Sociology and Migration at the University of Milan

Vít **Hloušek**, Vice-dean for research and doctoral studies at the Faculty of Social Studies at Masaryk University, Brno

Modération: Malwina **Talik**, Research Associate at the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM), Vienna

19h55 *Conclusion*

Dietmar **Schweisgut**, Secretary General, Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe

20h00 *End of the discussion*