

INVITATION

25 September 2025

19:00
to 21:00

Brasserie MEEUS

Rue du Luxembourg
17, 1000 Bruxelles

Closed-Door Expert Roundtable:

Who Needs Allies? A Conversation on the Transatlantic Partnership

For more than seven decades, the transatlantic partnership has been a cornerstone of international security, prosperity, and shared democratic values. Yet, in recent years, the alliance had to face shifting global power dynamics, emerging and unexpected security threats and diverging domestic priorities on both sides of the Atlantic. Sheltered under the protection of the United States, Europe has been able to develop and prosper economically. Today, however, politics is increasingly driven by national self-interest, and autocratic regimes threaten to undermine stable democracies. At the same time, rising geopolitical tensions offer opportunities for Europe to overcome years of stagnation, to advance much-needed reforms and to strengthen its own capabilities. Thus, in an era of growing self-interest, do allies still matter?

What role should and could the Transatlantic Partnership play in addressing geopolitical competition, security and technological transformation? How can allies sustain public and political support for cooperation, while managing differences and expectations?

At a moment when global challenges, such as climate change, technological transformation, and threats to global security demand collective responses, we invite you to explore, in particular, how the transatlantic partnership can adapt and remain relevant in the years ahead.

Programme

19:00 Registration

19:15 Welcome:

Dr. Thomas LEEB

Director Brussels Office of the Hanns Seidel Foundation

19:20 Impulse Statements and Open Discussion:

Dr. Peter HEFELE

Policy Director, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies (WMCES)

Karel LANNOO

Chief Executive of the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

Moderator: **Dr. Thomas LEEB**

21:00 End of event

Conference languages: English

Organisation and Contact:

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