



Konrad
Adenauer
Stiftung

50 JAHRE ZUSAMMENARBEIT WELTWEIT



INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
PRAGUE

New Stage, Old Roles?

Long-term patterns in German, Czech and Polish national roles and the implications for their respective European policies

Public roundtable.

Monday 19th November 2012, 16.00 – 18.00

Institute of International Relations,
Nerudova 3, Prague

Opening: Werner Böhler, Head of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Office in the Czech Republic and Slovakia

Chair: Vladimír Handl, Institute of International Relations, Prague

Sebastian Harnisch, Institute for Political Science, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg:
To lead or not to lead? The politics of Germany's response to the Euro-Crisis

Vít Beneš, Institute of International Relations, Prague:
The Czech Republic: European Dilemmas of an Heretic

Cornelia Frank, Universität Trier:
Poland's Striving for a Leadership Role within EU: Endurance Test Passed?

Member states and societies change their attitudes vis-à-vis integration when European institutions and norms hit home. Yet, international institutions depend on complementary roles played by their member states. The literature on Europeanization has largely focused on the diffusion of European norms, but hardly addressed the ideational backlash from respective domestic societies.

The roundtable will analyze and explain the institutional preferences of Germany, Czech Republic and Poland vis-à-vis the past institutional reform (the Lisbon treaty) and their institutional priorities with regard to the euro crisis. Special attention will be paid to the differences in the institutional preferences of these three countries. Where do their divergent institutional preferences stem from?

We will try to answer this question by looking at the way how the three states conceptualize their roles on the European political scene. The speakers will take a historical perspective and have a look at the long-term ideational factors behind their institutional preferences. More precisely, they will try to identify the continuities and changes in the way how Germany, the Czech Republic (Czechoslovakia), and Poland conceptualize their long-term national role in a wider European set-up. How do they define the “national mission”? A civilian power? A reluctant European? How did their great power ambitions or their fear from the great powers shape their foreign and European policies? How did the long-term patterns in foreign-policy thinking shape their institutional preferences in the EU?

RSVP: Please confirm your participation to the Conference Service of the Institute of International Relations (e-mail: registrace@iir.cz) by Sunday 18th November 2012 at the latest.