

Explaining Tensions Around Ukraine: Implications for the EaP Region

Virtual Round Table Discussion

January 27, 2022
17:00 – 18:30 (UTC +4)

Zoom Platform

Program:

Moderator: **Dr. Stefan Meister**, Head of Program, International Order and Democracy,
German Council on Foreign Relations

17:00 - 17:10

Welcome Remarks

Renata Skardžiūtė-Kereselidze, The Georgian
Institute of Politics (GIP)

17:10 – 17:20

Dr. Volodymyr Dubovyk, Department of
International Relations, Odesa Mechnikov
National University

17:20 – 17:30

Dr. Stanislav Secrieru, The European Union
Institute for Security Studies

17:30 – 17:40

Prof. Kornely Kakachia, The Georgian Institute
of Politics (GIP)

17:40 – 17:50

Prof. Andrey Makarychev, Johan Skytte Institute
of Political Studies, University of Tartu

17:50 – 18:30

Q&A

About the event:

The world is witnessing yet another Russian massive military build-up at the border of Ukraine. The OSCE chair has warned that the risk of war in Europe was highest in the last 30 years, while the United States is expecting Russia to invade Ukraine at any point. The Kremlin has proposed a package of an agreement to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization that should create a legal framework preventing NATO's enlargement further to the East.

So far, meetings between the high-level diplomats over this proposal have produced no results. Western countries formally remain committed to the 2008 Bucharest summit declaration and NATO is not willing to reconsider its open-door policy. The outcome of the current crisis will have consequential implications for the geopolitical future of the Eastern Partnership region and the European security architecture in general.

The roundtable discussion organized by the Georgian Institute of Politics together with the Think Tank Network on the Eastern Partnership and The European Union Institute for Security Studies will be focused on the following questions:

- What are Russia's foreign policy designs in Ukraine?
- What are some implications of the ongoing standoff for Eastern Partnership and the role of EU and the West?
- What should be Georgia, Ukraine, and Moldova's short-term and long-term security strategy? What can the EU do to address the existing security challenges in the region?