

INVITATION

The German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) and the
German Association for East European Studies (DGO)
would like to invite you to a panel discussion

Security in the Baltics: Perception and Reality

Wednesday, 5 September 2018, 6 – 8 pm

DGAP, Rauchstraße 17, 10787 Berlin

Calls for a stronger NATO presence in the Baltics have increased in recent years amid rising security concerns and worries about a possible armed conflict with Russia. The Russian government fueled such fears further with its 2017 military exercise Zapad that included mock attacks on the Baltic countries.

At the same time, however, NATO members are also divided about the alliance's future course in the Baltics, with some arguing that an increased presence of the alliance on its Eastern borders will only provoke Russia.

We intend to discuss how the security situation in the Baltic states has evolved in recent years. We will debate whether the security policies of the Baltic countries match the real security threat Russia presents and which security challenges the Baltics and NATO will face in future relations with Russia.

Speakers: **Riina Kaljurand**
Adviser, Policy Planning Department of the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia, Tallinn

Alexander Golts
Military Expert and Editor-in-Chief of the
Online Platform *Yezhnednevny Zhurnal*, Moscow

Christoph Schwegmann (tbc)
Military-Political Adviser, Policy Planning Staff
of the Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

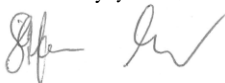
Chair: **Stefan Meister**
Head, Robert Bosch Center for Central and
Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia, DGAP

The event is part of a series of discussions hosted by the German Council on Foreign Relations in cooperation with the German Association for East European Studies (DGO). It is organized by the Robert Bosch Center. The discussions will be held in English. Following the debate, you are kindly invited to a reception.

As seating is limited, please RSVP at your earliest convenience to Yulia Loeva via email (events@dgap.org).

The next event in this series will take place on 20 September and will focus on Estonia's, Latvia's and Lithuania's role in the European Union.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Stefan Meister
Head of the Robert Bosch Center, DGAP



Dr. Gabriele Freitag
German Association for East European Studies