

INVITATION

TURKEY IN 2017

Friend or Foe of the West?

Panel Discussion

Sunday, 19 February 2017, 2.00–4.00 p.m.

Hotel Bayerischer Hof, Palaishalle
Promenadeplatz 2–5, 80333 Munich

Turkey looks back at an eventful year: terrorist attacks by DAESH, the PKK, and others, troop deployments to Syria and Iraq, millions of refugees at home and a “deal” with the EU to keep them there, realignment with Russia and crisis with the West, a failed military coup attempt, an ongoing state of emergency, thousands in jail, the Lira in free fall, re-Islamization and de-Kemalization, and a proposed profound revision of the constitution to replace the existing parliamentary system with presidentialism. Especially the failed coup attempt on 15 July 2016 and the ongoing threat of terrorist attacks have increased concerns in Turkey and abroad about the country’s long-term stability: How effective is the Turkish security sector in the aftermaths of the “purge” from allegedly subversive Gülenist forces? How big is the potential of radicals and terrorist cells in the country? Does the government have a convincing strategy to cope with the multitude of threats? Will the empowerment of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan allow him to re-stabilize the country?

This panel discussion will shed light on current developments in Turkish foreign and domestic policy and draw scenarios for the future, focusing particularly on Turkey’s regional role and its relations with Europe. Following key questions will be addressed: What is President Erdogan’s end goal both domestically and in the foreign policy realm? Will more Syrians and Iraqis take refuge in Turkey, and will the refugee deal with the EU endure? What would be the consequences for Europe of a failure aforementioned deal? How will Erdogan’s authoritarian tendencies and the upcoming elections in France, the Netherlands, and Germany affect each other? Finally, what effect will the network of relations between Trump, Putin, and Erdogan have on the MENA region?

Dr. Helmut Pisecky
Research Director, ÖGP

Dr. René Rieger
Chairman, MEIA Research

Dr. Benedikt Franke
Chairman, Munich Regional Association of the
CSU Foreign and Security Working Group

PROGRAM

Sunday, 19 February 2017

2:00 p.m. **Arriving**

2:15 p.m. **Welcoming and Opening Remarks**

Dr. Benedikt Franke (ASP), **Dr. Helmut Pisecky** (OGP), **Dr. René Rieger** (MEIA Research)

2:30 p.m. **Panel Discussion**

Brigadier General (ret.) Dr. Erich Vad

Former liaison officer of the German Ministry of Defense at the Federal Chancellery

Dr. Magdalena Kirchner

Research Fellow at RAND Corporation

Mehmet Murat Yetkin

Editor-in-Chief at Hürriyet Daily News

Efgani Dönmez

Former member of the Austrian Federal Council

Moderation:

Ludwig Schulz

MEIA Research/German Orient Institute

4:00 p.m. **Welcome Reception**

The Austrian Society for Policy Analysis, MEIA Research, and the Munich Regional Association of the CSU Foreign and Security Working Group would greatly appreciate your presence at the event.

Due to limited capacity, we kindly ask for your registration
by 15 February 2017 via email to turkey2017@meia-research.org