



Niedersächsisches Ministerium  
für Bundes- und Europaangelegenheiten  
und Regionale Entwicklung



**LEUPHANA**  
UNIVERSITY OF LÜNEBURG



European  
Centre for Advanced  
Studies

## Invitation

On 25 November 2019, the European Centre for Advanced Studies, together with Leuphana University Lüneburg and the Ministry for Federal and European Affairs and Regional Development of Lower Saxony, will celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Council of Europe with a conference on the topic

### “The Role of the Council of Europe in Challenging Times”

The Council of Europe was founded in 1949 to promote and uphold democracy, human rights and the rule of law in Europe. It has 47 member states and is best known for the European Court of Human Rights, which judges alleged violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. Its anniversary is not only a great opportunity to reflect on its achievements, but also to discuss the challenges the Council of Europe is currently facing and likely to face in the future.

We therefore cordially invite you to our conference, where issues such as the past and future of the Council of Europe, the role of non-EU Member States and the impact of digital transformation on democracy, the rule of law and human rights, are discussed by renown experts in this field. Further information can be found in the attached programme.

Registration: Participation in the conference is free of charge. Due to limited seating, please confirm your participation until **18<sup>th</sup> November 2019** at [kpeper@leuphana.de](mailto:kpeper@leuphana.de).

Date: **Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019**, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Venue: **Libeskind Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
Leuphana University Lüneburg  
Universitätsallee 1  
21335 Lüneburg/Germany

Organizers: Ministry of Federal and European Affairs and Regional Development of Lower Saxony  
Leuphana University Lüneburg  
European Centre for Advanced Studies (ECAS)

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## Programme

- 9.30 a.m. Arrival & Coffee**  
The conference takes place on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Libeskind building.
- 10 a.m. Welcoming Addresses**  
Christoph Pohlmann, *Ministry of Federal and European Affairs and Regional Development of Lower Saxony, Hanover, Germany*
- Prof. Dr. Jörg Philipp Terhechte, *Academic Director European Centre of Advanced Studies & Vice President Leuphana University Lüneburg, Germany*
- 10.30 a.m. Keynotes and Discussion: “The Past and Future of the Council of Europe”**  
Moderation:  
Prof. Dr. Anze Erbeznik, *European Parliament, Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, Brussels, Belgium*
- Keynotes:  
**“The Council of Europe in the Shadow of the Crimea Crisis”**  
Prof. Dr. Marten Breuer, *University of Konstanz, Germany*
- “The Council of Europe – Safeguarding Human Rights in Challenging Times”**  
Dr. Paulina Starski, *Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg, Germany*
- “The Past and Present of Council of Europe Monitoring Bodies”**  
Prof. Dr. Stefan Oeter, *University of Hamburg, Germany*
- 12 p.m. Lunch Break**

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**1 p.m.                      Keynotes and Discussion: “Beyond the European Union – The Role Non-EU Members in the Council of Europe”**

Moderation:

Prof. Dr. Christian Tams, *University of Glasgow, Scotland*

Keynotes:

**“Opportunities and Challenges Resulting from the Ever Closer Strategic Partnership between the Council of Europe and the European Union – The Perspective of Non-EU Members”**

Prof. Dr. Jörg Polakiewicz, *Director of the Directorate of Legal Advice and Public International Law of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France*

**“Turkey and the Council of Europe: Values, Violations and Visions”**

Prof. Dr. Bertil Emrah Oder, *Koç University Law School, Istanbul, Turkey*

**“The Council of Europe and the Russian Federation”**

Prof. Dr. Caroline von Gall, *University of Cologne, Germany*

**2.30 p.m.                      Coffee Break**

**3 p.m.                      Keynotes and Discussion: “Digital Transformation Processes and the Council of Europe’s Task in Upholding Democracy, the Rule of Law, and Human Rights”**

Moderation:

Prof. Dr. Markus Kotzur, *Europa-Kolleg and University of Hamburg, Germany*

Keynotes:

**“Silencing and Censorship on Social Media – A European Outlook”**

Prof. Dr. Alessandra Asteriti, *Leuphana University Lüneburg, Germany*

**“The Council of Europe and the Changing Shape of Democracy: From the Right to Free Elections to Political Micro-Targeting”**

Dr. Paolo Cavaliere, *University of Edinburgh, Scotland/UK*

**“Propaganda and the Limits of Tolerance in a Democratic State: Council of Europe Principles for a Connected World”**

Dr. Rachael Craufurd Smith, *University of Edinburgh, Scotland/UK*

**4.30 p.m.                      Farewell**

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