

INVITATION

The Second Nagorno-Karabakh War in 2020 has brought much human suffering to the region – and tipped the scales in the South Caucasus: Russian Peacekeepers are securing the fragile ceasefire, while Moscow seems to closely coordinate its actions with Ankara. The OSCE was sidelined, the US was preoccupied with presidential elections over much of 2020 – and the EU, to many, seemed helpless. Yet it is not clear how peace and future coexistence in the region can be achieved and how far the EU and other multilateral actors will get involved in further humanitarian aid, reconstruction and engage again in overcoming the crisis and preventing a freezing of the Karabakh conflict. And it seems unclear what role civil society can play for future peacebuilding and reconciliation in the region.

Against this background, the online meeting, co-organized by the Working Group on Peace and Development (FriEnt) and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), has a double aim: In the first part, we will brainstorm with political decision makers and experts from the region, what chances and opportunities there are to bring the EU back into the region. What can the EU and its member states contribute to securing peace and to better relationships in and between the societies? How to encourage reconciliation between Armenia and Azerbaijan? What is needed to ease the dire humanitarian and economic situation without feeding the divide?

In the second part, we aim at an exchange between peace and development experts from governmental and non-governmental organizations, think tanks, research and civil society representatives from the region about the way forward. It will feature discussions in different working groups (see below), focusing on the elaboration of recommendations for conflict sensitive engagement of EU in fields of humanitarian aid, reconstruction and sustainable development and economic cooperation.

Working language will be in English and discussions will be under Chatham House Rule.



PROGRAMME

PART I, 10H30-12H15 (CET)

10:30 OPENING

10:45 NAREK SUKIASYAN –
INPUT SPEAKER FROM ARMENIA

FES Armenia

11:00 SHAHLA ISMAYIL –
INPUT SPEAKER FROM AZERBAIJAN

Chairwomen Women's Association for Rational Development (WARD), Baku

11:15 Q&A

11:35 MARINA KALJURAND, MEP – PERSPECTIVE FROM THE EP

Chair of the European Parliament's Delegation for Relations with South Caucasus

11:45 PERSPECTIVE FROM THE EEAS (tbc)

11:55 Q&A

12:15 BREAK

PART II, 13H45-16H00 (CET)

13:45 SHORT RECAP

14:00 GROUP WORK

- 1. Humanitarian Aid
- 2. Peace & Reconciliation focusing on Media
- 3. Peace & Reconciliation focusing on Youth
- 4. Peace & Reconciliation focusing on Women
- 5. Peace & Reconciliation focusing on Crosscommunity Trust Building
- 6. Trauma Relief and Peacebuilding
- 7. (Legal) Investigation of War Crimes
- 8. Foreign Policy Options (also looking at Russia / Turkey)

14:45 BREAK

- 15:00 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS
- 15:20 FINAL DISCUSSION ROUND
- 15:50 WRAP UP AND CLOSING

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING TECHNICAL AND PROCEDURAL ASPECTS

- > Your confirmation will arrive via E-mail on the day before the webinar and include a link to enter the meeting room.
- > Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung uses the software of the US company Zoom for its webinars. Zoom's technical infrastructure is stored on US servers. FES does not store any data from webinar participants in the zoom system. Following the principle of data economy. There is no obligation to use the audio, chat webcam function during the webinar session (https://zoom.us/de-de/privacy.html).
- > Zoom works well with PC, smartphone or tablet. You can find the app »Zoom Cloud Meeting« in the respective App Store. Otherwise, when opening your personalized entrance-URL, a free client program for PC, Mac or Linux is being installed. Please just follow the instructions.