Extremism and terrorism have been key issues in the Federal Republic since the 1970s, although they were long overshadowed by the Cold War. With the terror attacks of 11 September 2001 they returned to the top of the agenda of both internal and external security actors, especially in relation to Islamist extremists. But certainly since the attacks by the Nazi underground in Germany, and the massacres on Utøya island in Norway and in Christchurch in New Zealand the threat of right-wing extremism has been brutally evident. Within the framework of our podium discussion we would like to analyse, together with noted international experts, how the threat of extremism has developed and changed internationally. On this basis we would like to discuss the possible consequences for the new German national security strategy, which is currently being debated.

Aspects of Internal Security

International trends in extremism and terrorism
21 June 2022, 6pm CEST (12:00 EDT) – FES Berlin

PROGRAMME

17:30 CEST / 11:30 EDT  Registration
18:00 CEST  Welcome
Marius Müller-Hennig, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
18:05  Introduction to the topic
Jan Raudszus, political scientist
18:10  Podium discussion
Tore Hamming, International Center for the Study of Radicalisation, King’s College
Cynthia Miller-Idress, American University, Washington DC – live via Videolink
Miro Dittrich, Center for Monitoring, Analysis and Strategy (CeMAS), Berlin
Moderation: Jan Raudszus, Political Scientist
19:15  Opening up of the discussion to the public
19:45 CEST / 13:45 EDT  Conclusion of the discussion and close of the event with a light snack

Live-Stream will be available at: https://www.fes.de/lnk/livestream-2022-06-21-security
Simultaneous translation English/German will be provided
Registration for local participation in Berlin at: https://www.fes.de/lnk/facetten-innerer-sicherheit
ASPECTS OF INTERNAL SECURITY

BACKGROUND:

In the coalition agreement the federal government committed itself to developing a national security strategy for Germany. Generally, this is naturally associated with issues of international security policy. But what is the state of internal security in Germany, the European Union and our partners? What role will it play in a future national security strategy? This is the initial question for the dialogue series »Aspects of internal security«. In Part 1 of the series we would like to tackle threats to internal and transnational security. In recent decades Islamist terrorism has been at the forefront in this respect, as well as right-wing extremism. But we would also like to look at organised crime, traditional espionage and a wide range of other forms of foreign influence exertion that affect German security policy.

In Part 2 of the dialogue series we would like to turn our attention from security threats to security actors. What are their threat aversion and law enforcement capabilities, both in Germany and in the EU as a whole? Which actors perform which tasks? And how can the security agencies be effectively supervised democratically, but without constraining them excessively?

FORMAT OF THE DIALOGUE SERIES

Events are envisaged as standard podium discussions oriented towards both the expert community and citizens interested in security policy issues. First of all, the (from two to four) speakers have 5–10 minutes for their introductory statements based on guidelines drawn up by the FES and the moderator. Then the topic will be discussed on the podium for 15–30 minutes under the guidance of the moderator. Finally, the discussion will be opened up to the audience for 30 minutes or so. To maximise accessibility, however, all events will also be available online and later, recordings of the events will be made available at https://fes.de/apb.

FORTHCOMING FURTHER TOPICS OF THE DIALOGUE SERIES:

THREATS TO THE INTERNAL SECURITY OF GERMANY AND ITS PARTNERS

German trends concerning extremism, terrorism and politically motivated crime

Organised crime

Threat to internal security from state actors abroad (espionage, covert operations, influence operations)

WHAT IS THE STATE OF GERMANY’S SECURITY AGENCIES TODAY?

Present and future of Germany’s intelligence services

The police between security and law enforcement

Civil protection

Referat Beratung Recht und Sicherheit
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Abteilung Analyse, Planung und Beratung
Hiroshimastr. 17, 10785 Berlin
E-Mail: recht-und-sicherheit@fes.de
Internet: https://www.fes.de/apb

21 June, 6pm CEST
(12:00 EDT)
House 1,
Conference Hall