

**EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy**

and

**Embassy of the Republic of Latvia in the Czech Republic**

kindly invite you to the seminar:

***“Does the solidarity matter?”***

*Solidarity in the EU external relations*

**Tuesday, May 19, 15:00–17:00**

**European House, Jungmannova 24  
110 00 Praha 1**

***Speakers***

**Aldis Austers**, Board Member, European Latvian Association  
**Martin Ehl**, Journalist, Hospodářské noviny  
**Ivo Šlosarčík**, Researcher, EUROPEUM  
**Karel Svoboda**, Researcher, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

***Moderator***

**Vladimír Bartovic**, Director, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy

Please register [here](#) , or contact us via [europeum@europeum.org](mailto:europeum@europeum.org)

As the crisis in Ukraine has unfolded, politicians, institutions and experts have all highlighted that European solidarity is the strongest weapon of support to Ukraine and to deter Russian aggression. However, for 28 countries with different sets of priorities and historical experiences, the active exercise of solidarity has proven to be a challenging task. A heavy price of this was paid with the annexation of the territory of a European Union neighboring country, an event few expected to be possible in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

After this, it seems that the EU and NATO were able to foster successful first steps of solidarity, but the question remains: Is European solidarity durable, in regards to the Ukraine crisis? Is it possible to create long-term solidarity, and is the solidarity of consensus even necessary? How do current levels of solidarity affect important foreign policy issues such as the Ukraine crisis, the recognition of Kosovo and Palestine, existing and future common European Union missions in Africa, or fighting the Islamic State group? Does solidarity matter in solving these issues? Can we make a case for solidarity to be regionally divided, or perhaps, to be showcased only in specific cases such as economics, and most importantly sanctions, but not, for example, in military issues?

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