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INVITATION – Europe’s geopolitical choice: to win the war or to save Putin’s face? - United for Ukraine Network - 2 June 2022, 13.00-14.30 CEST (Brussels time) via Zoom



Dear Colleagues,

Herewith, let me cordially invite you to a discussion **“Europe’s geopolitical choice: to win the war or to save Putin’s face?”** organised by the Global Network of Parliamentarians “United for Ukraine” (U4U). The discussion is organised in cooperation with the Friends of European Russia Forum.

Today, Ukrainians defend not only their homes and their land; they are dying for the values, on which the EU is built. Therefore, this war is also Europe’s war. European countries must give Ukraine all the support it needs - this is the opinion of the vast majority of European citizens across the EU.

Part of the responsibility for Putin’s war on Ukraine lies with the collective West and European leaders, many of whom promoted dialogue with V. Putin in different forms and under different titles - from reset to selective dialogue - for years. Many voices had warned that the lack of robust reaction to the Kremlin’s acts of aggression would only embolden it. They were not listened to, neither after the 2008 war on Georgia, nor after the 2014 military invasion into Ukraine. 8 years later, this brought about Putin’s all-out war against Ukraine and against the West in general. This war proved in the most painful way that not only was the appeasement approach morally wrong; it was also damaging to the security of the European continent, since it inspired Putin to go for this war against Ukraine.

As Russia is losing in the battlefield in Ukraine and starts to face the consequences of both, the economic sanctions as well as increasing deliveries of Western military support to Ukraine, the narrative of the need to engage Putin creeps back into EU’s political discourse. Actually, the higher Russia’s losses in the war, the louder the voices become calling to save Putin’s face not to allow Ukrainians to defeat him and his army, and even pressing Ukraine to sign immediate cease-fire and concede parts of its territory to the occupier.

Has Europe learned the lessons of this war? Is Europe ready to win this war? Is there a strategy, effective enough to not only bring this war to an end, but also to ensure long-lasting peace and security on the European continent?

PANEL:

Andrius KUBILIUS, Member of the European Parliament, Co-President of the European Parliamentary Assembly and Standing Rapporteur on Russia in the European Parliament

Vasyl PAVLOV, Head of expert group, Directorate of Informational Policy, Ministry of Defence of Ukraine

Dr. Anders ÅSLUND, senior fellow at the Stockholm Free World Forum and author

Andrei PIONTKOVSKY, Russian scientist, political writer and analyst

David STULIK, Head of Eastern European Program, European Values Center for Security Policy

Q&A and discussion

The event will take place **2 June 2022, Thursday, 13.00-14.30 (CEST - Brussels time), on the Zoom** and will be held in English with interpretation to Russian.

Please [register](#) for this event **ONLINE by 1 June**, afterwards you will receive the Zoom link.

Looking forward to welcome you in our event,

Sincerely,

Andrius KUBILIUS, MEP
Co-President of the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly
Standing Rapporteur on Russia
Coordinator of the United for Ukraine Network
Coordinator of the Friends of European Russia Forum