



On the Agenda

Russia, sanctions and human rights

11 March 2021, 14h00 – 15h00 (CET)

Zoom Webinar

ABOUT THE EVENT

With the EU foreign ministers' decision on 22 February to apply sanctions to Russian individuals involved in the Navalny assassination attempt/poisoning case, EU-Russia relations have grown a degree cooler.

Following on from the heavily criticised visit of HR/VP Josep Borrell to Moscow in February, this new line shows a more coordinated EU response. These sanctions will also be the first time that the Magnitsky Act, approved by MEPs at the end of 2020, has been invoked to counter human rights violations. Whilst the details of the sanctions remain to be confirmed, it seems likely 4 individuals will be subject to travel bans and asset freezes.

In parallel, discussions surrounding the Nord Stream 2 pipeline are brewing further, again highlighting the tension between energy security and fighting for human rights and democratic principles in Russia.

How can the EU strive to maintain an open dialogue with Russia while upholding its values? How far should the EU go in this new round of sanctions and what might the Magnitsky mechanism mean for future EU-Russia relations?



EVENT SCHEDULE

13h55 Participants connect to the Zoom event

14h00 Opening Remarks

Lauren Mason, Projects Coordinator, European Liberal Forum

14h02 Introduction by the Moderator

Andrei Constantin, Programme Officer, European Liberal Forum

14h05 First intervention

Petras Auštrevičius, Member of the European Parliament, Renew Europe Group

14h15 Second intervention

Alice Stollmeyer, Executive Director, Defend Democracy

14h25 Moderated debate

14h57 Closing Remarks

15h00 End of event

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