

National Europe Centre Seminar Series

MONDAY 11 AUGUST, 12.30– 2.00PM

ROUNDTABLE ON EU - NATO RELATIONS

GUEST SPEAKER:

Professor Sven Biscop

Senior Research Fellow, Egmont - The Royal Institute for International Relations & Visiting Professor, College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium

Towards a Two-Pillar NATO?

In terms of operations (who does what?), the at times emotional EU-NATO debate seems to have given way to pragmatism. Member States select the organizational framework that is most suitable for the case at hand. Increasingly however, the political centre of gravity, where the decision to act is taken, is shifting to the EU. Only in a second step, once action has been decided upon, will the organizational framework be selected. This signals the de facto evolution towards a "two-pillar" NATO. In that logic each pillar, the EU and the US, builds its own capabilities. European Allies increasingly do this through cooperation and even integration in the context of ESDP. If mechanisms like "permanent structured cooperation" in the Lisbon Treaty will effectively influence national defence planning of the participating Member States, a rethinking of NATO defence planning seems in order as well.

DISCUSSANTS:

Dr Klaus Klaiber

Distinguished Visiting Fellow, National Europe Centre, Australian National University

Professor Donald R. Rothwell

Professor of International Law, ANU College of Law, Australian National University

PLEASE RSVP: 12.00PM WEDNESDAY 6 AUGUST 2008, europe@anu.edu.au

This Roundtable was organised in collaboration with the Embassy of Belgium.



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