



4th BMW Foundation Global Table

June 11-14, 2015

Lusławice, Poland

Concept Note

Towards Improved Energy Security and Governance – Exploring Cooperation with Eurasia

In the midst of a severe crisis with Russia over the destabilization of Ukraine, we are witnessing a serious loss of trust between the European Union member states and the Russian Federation. Moscow's geopolitical posturing, the European and US sanctions, and the EU's declared intention to de-link its energy security from Russia create a pathway that will deepen the rift between these regions, leaving both Europe and Russia worse off. At this pivotal time for regional security, the event opens the space for a trans-sectoral group of leaders from Europe, Central Asia and other relevant emerging powers to rethink the opportunities and convergence of interests that can keep these relationships on a pathway of cooperation and economic interdependence.

Our goals:

- incorporating new perspectives into the public debate to rebuild trust between these regions, defuse the tension and build towards common interests throughout 2015;
- tapping into new concepts that are taking shape in the geo-political space, such as China's New Silk Road strategy, to use innovation partnerships for energy as a driver of political alignment;
- promoting strategic public-private cooperation to build energy infrastructures and improve electricity interconnectivity in the region to enhance the long-term relationship between Europe, Russia and other emerging economies.



Our conference venue, the European Krzysztof Penderecki Centre for Music near Krakow, is a symbolic location. Nestled between Germany, Ukraine, Slovakia and the Czech Republic – in the heart of current European conflict zones –, the Centre stands out from conventional multilateral conference venues as a highly innovative expression of contemporary European culture.

About

The BMW Foundation Global Table engages decision-makers from Europe, the United States, and the emerging powers in a strategic dialogue across sectors and generations. We want to raise awareness for the importance of shared leadership in addressing global challenges. By enabling a frank and diverse dialogue outside existing international frameworks, we invite the participants to be open to mutual interests and areas of convergence instead of focusing on preconceived positions.

The first cycle of the BMW Foundation Global Table focuses on the issue of "resource security." It features five Global Tables alternating between Europe and the new global powers and will conclude with the Berlin Global Forum in November 2015. We are organizing this cycle together with the Earth Security Group (ESG), a London-based company in the field of resource security and international risk assessment.