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HEINRICH
BÖLL
STIFTUNG

Tuesday, 7 December 2010, 19:00 – 21:00

Jour-Fixe: The Turkish-Russian rapprochement in a changing world order

Russia and Turkey define themselves as important actors in the discussion about an emerging new world order of the 21st century. Next to Russia as the old world power Turkey also appears increasingly more self confident – also towards the European Union and the USA. Both countries are geographically situated at the crossroads between Europe and Asia and present themselves as strong, but more importantly, independent actors on the international stage.

The strategic aim of EU-membership is no longer seen as only foreign policy option for Turkey. Instead it is trying to emancipate itself from past constraints and alliances by employing a more confident rhetoric. Despite of its newly grown confidence, Russia is still searching for a new role as a former world-power. Looking out for new alliance partners is part of this search. This is why Turkish-Russian relations need to be scrutinized more closely. In the past two years Russia and Turkey signed a series of agreements, that include next to easier visa policies more importantly cooperation on energy and economic issues. How is this rapprochement to be understood in the light of the foreign policy strategy of each country? Concerning which questions – developments in the Caucasus, peace process in the Near East, Iran – there are shared interests or rather a potential for conflict? How is the Russian-Turkish rapprochement understood from an EU perspective?

We would like to debate with you about these and other questions.

Speakers:

Ahmet O. Evin – Executive Member of the İstanbul Policy Centre and Dean at Faculty of Social Sciences at Sabanci University

Dmitry Trenin – Director of the Moscow Center of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Jürgen Trittin – Chairman of the Fraction of the Greens in the German Parliament

Moderation: Jens Siegert, Director Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Russia

Simultaneous translation from English to Russian and vice versa will be provided during this event. Free entry, no registration required.

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Venue:

Conference room (2. floor)
Sakharov Museum and Public Center
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