

Webinar on Zoom

IN SEARCH OF EU STRATEGIC AUTONOMY: WHAT ROLE FOR EU ENLARGEMENT POLICY?

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The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic has put to test EU's cohesion and effectiveness not only with regards to its internal governance, but also in relation to its strategic partnerships with neighbouring countries, starting from the enlargement countries in the Western Balkans. While a series of multiple crises in the EU were already contributing to cement resistance towards the enlargement agenda, the pandemic seems to have exacerbated pre-existing problems of this policy, which is today crumbling under the pressure of current emergencies. Indeed, the process of EU enlargement in the Western Balkans is today marred by ambiguities, not providing a clear path to follow towards EU membership. Can the ongoing debate about European strategic autonomy give new impetus to EU-Western Balkans relations to move from halfway commitments toward a common agenda?

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DRAFT PROGRAMME

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