

INVITATION

The Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung has the pleasure of inviting you to a panel discussion on:

Elections in Germany: Analysis and Implications

Wednesday, 25 September 2013

12.00 until 2.30 pm

Representation of the Free State of Bavaria
to the European Union
Rue Wiertz 77, 1000 Brussels

With kind support of the Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to
the European Union



Programme

- 12.00 pm REGISTRATION AND LUNCH
- 12.45 pm OPENING AND WELCOME
- Dr. Gabriele STAUNER**
Director-General, Federal and European Affairs,
Bavarian State Chancellery
- Christian FORSTNER**
Director, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung Brussels
- 1.00 pm KEY NOTE SPEECHES
- Elections in Bavaria and Germany:
An Analysis
- Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Heinrich OBERREUTER**
Political Scientist, former Director of the
Academy for Civic Education, Tutzing
- Elections in Bavaria and Germany:
Political Implications
- Markus FERBER, MEP**
Chairman, CSU Group,
Boardmember, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung
- 1.30 pm FOLLOWED BY A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH
- Markus FERBER**
- Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Heinrich OBERREUTER**
- James ELLES, MEP**
Conservative Party, United Kingdom
- Jean-Dominique GIULIANI**
President, Robert-Schuman-Foundation, Paris
- MODERATION
- Matthias KRUPA**
DIE ZEIT, EU Correspondent
- 2.30 pm END OF CONFERENCE
- Coffee and Pastries -

Conference languages: German and English
(Simultaneous translation will be provided)

Background

On 15 September Bavaria will elect its new State Parliament and one week later Germany will vote on a new Bundestag. The outcome of the elections will give an insight into the stability of the political landscape, the attractiveness of traditional catch-all parties and the ability to govern in a federal system like Germany.

In Bavaria, the CSU's traditional leading role is at stake. After State elections in 2008, the CSU had to enter into a coalition for the first time after decades of one-party governance. The loyalty towards catch-all parties is decreasing; the number of swing voters is increasing. The plummeting turnout figures are a cause for concern for many observers, the system of representative democracy is facing new challenges.

Despite a large consensus amongst established German parties concerning EU policy, the other European countries are intently watching the September elections. Would Germany's EU policy change with a new Federal Government? Bavarian politicians will also have to keep the balance between justified and unobjective EU-criticism. Europe's expectations for a strong and successful Germany as driving force for growth and reform in the EU are huge.

We would like to invite you to discuss the Bavarian and German elections together with policy-makers and experts.

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