

Agenda

Italian-German Strategic Dialogue – Second Edition

26 January, 2024, 9.30–15.30, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Ludwigkirchplatz 3–4, 10719 Berlin

The Italian-German Strategic Dialogue, co-organised by the Istituto Affari Internazionali and the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, in collaboration with the Hanns Seidel Stiftung, follows on from the annual 'Italian-German Strategic Forum on Europe', originally initiated in 2016. Traditionally, the Strategic Dialogue focuses on bilateral issues between Italy and Germany, as well as on critical EU topics. This recurring meeting is featured as a closed event for selected experts from government institutions, business community and think-tanks from Germany and Italy, held alternately in Berlin and Rome. This year, the debate will address the topics of Italian-German economic security in the European dimension, and the latest developments in defence cooperation between the two countries. In both areas, the two countries have a long history of successful cooperation and a considerable potential for further development. A few months after the signature of the ambitious German-Italian Action Plan of November 2023, intended to intensify cooperation between Rome and Berlin in the face of the current Geopolitical challenges, this event aims at exploring two strategic sectors at the core of the agreement between the two countries.

25 January

19.30 **Welcome dinner hosted by Armando Varricchio, Ambassador of Italy to Germany**
(Embassy of Italy in Berlin, Tiergartenstr. 22)

26 January

9.30–10.00 **Registration and welcome coffee**

10.00–10.30 **Opening Remarks**
Stefan Mair, Director, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)
Ferdinando Nelli Feroci, President, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)
Silke Schmitt, Head of office in Rome, Hanns Seidel Stiftung (HSS)

Introduction

Sibylle Katharina Sorg, Director-General for European Affairs at German Federal Foreign Ministry
Nicola Verola, Director General for the European Union and International Trade Policy, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (online)

Economic security in the new EU agenda 2024-29

10.30–12.00

Inputs

Birgitt Ory, Deputy Director General – Commissioner for Economic Security, Foreign Economic Policy and Foreign Trade Promotion, German Federal Foreign Office

Paolo Quercia, Director of the Research division, Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy

Raffaele Langella, Director General, Confindustria

Matthias Wachter, Head of Department International Cooperation, Security, Raw Materials and Space, BDI

Discussion

Chair:

Stefan Mair, Director, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)

12.00–13.30

Lunch Break

Italian-German cooperation on defence

13.30–15.00

Inputs

Carsten Stawitzki, Vice Admiral, National Armaments Director, Directorate-General for Equipment, Federal Ministry of Defence

Angelo Pansini, General Management Business & Operations Chief of Staff, Leonardo

Enrico Della Gatta, VP Head of Geopolitical Studies & Advocacy, Fincantieri

David Hoeder, Head of Programme Organisation Defence, Vice President, Rheinmetall

Discussion

Chair:

Federico Castiglioni, Researcher, “EU, politics and Institutions” programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)

15.00**Concluding remarks**

Maria Adebahr, Deputy Ambassador, Head of the Economic Office, German Embassy in Rome

Luigi Estero, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Italy to Germany

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