



Book Launch

Germany and a Europe of Defence Global responsibility requires the end of small-state particularism

**Brussels, March 16th 2020
16h00-18h00**

Venue:

**Centre for European Policy Studies
Place du Congrès 1,
1000 Brussels**

The question of whether Europe should develop its own defence capabilities has acquired a new urgency. America, formerly a protective power, is drifting away. Failing states and civil wars in Europe's neighbourhood, cyber-attacks, Russia, jihadists – these are only a few of the growing threats to peace and freedom. In the face of that, both NATO Europe and EU Europe are hampered by a kind of small-state particularism.

Hans-Peters Bartels, former chair of the Defence Committee of the Bundestag and currently Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces, argues in his latest book (Dietz Verlag, 2020) that Europe urgently needs military integration, as well as islands of functional cooperation.

Individual examples of this have long been with us. They have gradually been amalgamating and forming a mainland. But at national level, resistance remains stubborn, even in Germany and France. How can the visionary project of a European army be realised, at long last? Please join us for a public debate against the background of the EU's ambitions to build up muscles and have stronger geopolitical impact.

Draft Programme

15h30 **Registration & Welcome Coffee**

16h00 **Welcome by the organisers**

Introduction: Steven Blockmans (Head of EU foreign policy, CEPS)

Presentation by Hans-Peter Bartels (Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces)

16h30 **Comments:**

General Erhard Bühler, Commander, Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, NATO

Simona R. Soare, Senior Associated Analyst, EU Institute for Security Studies

Elena Lazarou, Policy analyst, European Parliamentary Research Service

Debate/Q&A

Moderation: **Steven Blockmans** (CEPS)

18h00 **End of the event**