

Online discussion

Towards more cohesion in EU enlargement policy: French, German and Polish perspectives and the potential of the Weimar Triangle

22 September 2021, 10h30-11h45 CET via Zoom

In the past couple of years, France, Germany and Poland have all played an active role in enlargement matters. While fraught with notable differences, their respective approaches to enlargement do intersect with one another in key areas of EU-Western Balkans relations. The three countries do not support enlargement with the same energy; they consider the reform of the accession process from different perspectives; and although they recognise the importance of conditionality, they draw different conclusions when it comes to promoting it. But these dissimilarities do not preclude the pursuit of converging security-related, geopolitical and economic objectives in the region as well as a shared interest for regional cooperation and good-neighbourly relations. Where do the French, German and Polish understanding of enlargement converge? What is the potential of enhanced intergovernmental cooperation between the three countries in this area? What are the key obstacles? And how does this dynamic reflect on the broader enlargement debates in the EU?

This online discussion will build on the policy study [“Towards more cohesion in the EU enlargement policy – tapping the potential of the Weimar Triangle”](#). It is organised in the context of the 30th anniversary of the Weimar Triangle, the German Summit of the Berlin Process and EU-Western Balkans Summit, and in the run-up to the French Presidency of the Council.

Discussion

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