



Centre for British Studies  
Großbritannien-Zentrum



# The UK in Europe

## Prospects of Resetting Relations with the EU and Bilateral Partnerships

Bertelsmann Stiftung, Haus Berlin

26th and 27th June 2025

Joint conference by  
Bertelsmann Stiftung  
German Association for British Studies (AGF)  
Centre for British Studies (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

### Thursday, 26th June 2025

**10:00**                      **Registration**

**10:30**                      **Welcome**

**10:45**                      **Panel I: The Legacies of Brexit**

Reset in name only? The sticky legacy of the Brexit negotiations  
*Cleo Davies and Hussein Kassim*

The Windsor Framework: 'Full and Faithful Implementation' as a Reset  
Pre-Requisite... No More?  
*David Phinnemore*

Redefining relations: trust and cooperation between the UK and the EU in  
the post-Brexit era  
*Thibaud Harrois*

<b>11:45</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Panel II: Drivers of British Foreign Policy</b>  Labour's Love's Lost? The Starmer Government's Re-Engagement with EU Foreign and Security Policy <i>Benjamin Martill</i>  The UK in the Post-Brexit Era: Which Way Is the Pendulum Swinging – Towards Brussels or Washington? <i>Sascha Arnautović</i>  Scottish Politics and European Security: The Dilemma of Nuclear Disarmament <i>Philipp Rückheim</i>
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
<b>14:00</b>	<b>Roundtable Discussion (tba)</b>
<b>15:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>15:45</b>	<b>Panel III: European Security Cooperation</b>  European Union, crisis management, civil-military relations, hybrid threats, strategic autonomy <i>Isabella Neumann</i>  The UK and the European Political Community: Enhancing Security Cooperation and Bilateral Partnerships Post-Brexit <i>Fatima Binte Umar</i>
<b>16:25</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>16:45</b>	<b>Keynote by Sir Ivan Rogers</b> <i>Former UK Permanent Representative to the EU and G7/G20 Sherpa</i>
<b>18:15</b>	<b>Reception</b>

**Friday, 27th June 2025**

**9:00**

**Panel IV: Bilateral Relations I**

Access through the Back Door? UK-EU Member State Bilateralism as a Foreign Policy Compensatory Mechanism

*Helena Farrand Carrapico, Agathe Piquet and Sarah Wolff*

The Ghosts of 1983: Cold War continuities in contemporary British foreign policy

*Luke Thrumble*

Strategic convergence or European fragmentation? The UK-Italy partnership and Europe's policy responses to Trump

*Luca Cinciripini, Luca Barana and Nicoletta Pirozzi*

**10:00**

**Coffee Break**

**10:15**

**Panel V: Bilateral Relations II**

Rebuilding British-German relations – a route to closer UK-EU cooperation, a detour or a block in the road?

*Julie Smith*

Post-Brexit Franco-British Relations: Crisis and Renewal

*Pauline Schnapper*

Examining the role of Wales's devolved cultural strategy in resetting post-Brexit bilateral ties with France and Germany

*Kirsty Warner*

**11:15**

**Coffee Break**

**11:30**

**Panel VI: Regional Conflicts**

Reassessing the UK's Post-Brexit Role in Baltic Security: Between Strategic Continuity and Resource Constraints

*Anna Zaccaro*

Parallel Missions, Shared Interests? EU-UK Naval Operations in the Red Sea, 2023-2025

*Giovanni Parente*

**12:10**

**Lunch Break**

<b>13:30</b>	<b>The Reset in Practice: Structure, Scope and Stakes of the Current Negotiations</b>
<b>14:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>14:45</b>	<b>Panel VII: Global Competitors</b>  Narratives of the 'New Cold War': A Comparative Study of Image Building and Political Discourses on Russia (phobia) in Germany, the UK, and the Western Balkans <i>Matilda Bako</i>  Framing the Dragon: Comparing UK and EU Discourses on China as the 'Other' <i>Birgit Bujard and Monika Brusenbauch Meislová</i>  Towards a joint liberal future? Prospects of cooperation in Europe-China security relations <i>Unai Gómez-Hernández</i>
<b>15:45</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>16:00</b>	<b>Panel VIII: Mobility, Education and Culture</b>  Mobility, Higher Education, and Culture sector: A Cooperation Opportunities <i>Lasha Svanishvili</i>  Making sense of the UK-EU youth mobility controversy <i>Ed Turner</i>  From Global Beacon to Funding Fiasco? Navigating the UK Higher Education Dilemma of Borders and Budgets <i>Andreas Busch</i>
<b>17:00</b>	<b>Conclusions and End of Conference</b>

## Contact

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