
Debates on Europe 2015/2016:

***Neighbourhood in Europe –
Perspectives of a Common Future***

Symposiums and Round Table Discussions in Belarus, Estonia, Russia and Ukraine

Since 2012, S. Fischer Foundation, German Academy of Language and Literature, and Allianz Cultural Foundation have been organizing international debates on current topics with a significant impact on Europe. European intellectuals from German speaking countries as well as from South, Central, and Eastern Europe have entered into discussion with prominent civil society representatives of several countries in focus. Debates have brought together discussants from various fields, such as arts and sciences, journalism, literature, politics, but also from other areas of society.

The topic of the **Debates on Europe 2015** is ***Neighbourhood in Europe – Prospects of a Common Future***. In Belarus, Estonia, Russia and Ukraine, the local civil societies intensively deal with the questions of their respective identities and their historic and current positions in Europe, especially because these nations have been closely interwoven since many centuries. Through four symposiums and round table discussions, the *Debates on Europe* aim to establish a transnational platform to develop forms and prospects of European neighbourhood. The goal of the *Debates* is to give country-specific topics a common European context.

The *Debates on Europe* take place both as closed-door conferences as well as public events open to audiences. A lot of emphasis is given to the possibility to meet and exchange views on the margins of the official program. Papers and outcomes of the five conferences will be distributed through EUROZINE, an online network of over 80 European cultural magazines, and will be available for publication in at least 33 countries.

Conference venues and topics 2015/2016:

Estonia (Narva) – October 5-7, 2015

*Creating Neighbourhood.
Culture, Language and Identity.*

Belarus (Minsk) – December 7-10, 2015:

*Identities lived – nation conceived?
Nation between politics and day-to-day life*

Ukraine (Kharkiv) - December 10-13 2015:

*Talks about the future.
Perspectives of living together in regions of conflict.*

Russia (St. Petersburg) - May 15-18 2016

¿Russia in Europe - Russia and Europe?

The initiators of *Debates on Europe*:

The S. Fischer Foundation has been actively engaged in cross-border cultural projects in Europe since its formation in 2003. Events dealing with European issues have become the core element of the Foundation's activities. Special emphasis is given to Central, Southern and Eastern European topics, books, and writers.

The German Academy of Language and Literature joins together renowned German speaking writers and scientists from Germany and abroad. One of its key activities is to promote a European engagement for the freedom of the word and a differentiated culture of debating. Find out more on: www.deutscheakademie.de.

Allianz Cultural Foundation has been supporting art and culture projects all around Europe since 2000. The priority is given to networking between young emerging scholars and artists and actors of civil society. Find out more on: <https://kulturstiftung.allianz.de> and www.evs4all.eu.

Debates on Europe

A series of events initiated by the S. Fischer Foundation, the German Academy of Language and Literature, and Allianz Cultural Foundation.

Kontakt: debate@s-fischer-stiftung.de

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