

REPORT

PESCO: What role for the V4 in developing European Strategic Autonomy

Monday 9th of April 2018, 16:00 – 18:00
Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU

- **The roundtable titled 'PESCO: What role for the V4 in developing European Strategic Autonomy' took place on Monday 9th of April 2018 at the Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU.**
- **The roundtable aimed at bringing forward opinions and ideas from different actors within the EU, regarding contributions to the PESCO projects and the vision of European Strategic Autonomy.**

The event was organised by the Think Visegrad Platform in cooperation with the Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU.

Introductory remarks were provided by three panellists: **Tomáš Szunyog**, Deputy Head of the Czech Permanent Representation to the EU and Permanent Representative to PSC; **Justyna Gotkowska**, Researcher at the Centre for Eastern Studies OSW, Poland and **Gergely Varga**, Associate researcher at Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary. The event was moderated by **Martin Michelot**, Deputy Director at EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy. Furthermore, the roundtable included participants from the EDA (European Defence Agency), EEAS (European External Action Service) and many representatives of the Permanent Representations to the EU. The event followed the Chatham House rule.

The debate covered a range of topics surrounding the PESCO initiative such as the challenges of implementing the first set of 17 PESCO projects; the improvements these projects will bring to the capabilities of member states; the impact that PESCO could bring to national defense industries; the participation of third countries, specifically the UK, to these projects and furthermore, the relationship between NATO and the EU, especially under the more general framework of the transatlantic relationship, during these new advancements in European Defence. Moreover, the panellists and the participants commented on questions regarding the different perspectives and motives of the V4 countries in joining PESCO; the level of integration between the EU Capability Development Plan, PESCO, CARD and EDF and lastly the level of political cooperation at the level of PSC and EUMC in pushing forward the projects.



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