

## EU's security defined through 3Cs: Cohesion, Competitiveness and Competences

9 April 2025  
- online event, Zoom -

### CONTEXT:

As part of the “European News in the Spotlight” series, the European Institute of Romania is organising a new event in relation to the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Under the motto “*Security, Europe!*”, Poland has the Presidency of the Council in the first half of 2025. The priorities addressed focus on security matters, tackling external, internal, information, economic, energy, food, and health dimensions.

In this context, EIR proposes a debate on defining EU's security through 3Cs: cohesion, competitiveness and competences. In terms of cohesion, this year marks the start of the preparation work for the next *Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)*. Given that the European Commission has recently announced that Member States will have the possibility to use cohesion funds to increase defence spending, it is to see how this process might impact the commitments in the next MFF. On competitiveness, the twin transition launched in the previous mandate of the European institutions is now evolving towards multisectoral flexible processes that can ensure the growth of the European economy against a background marked by increased turbulences and disruptive events. To achieve all the objectives, efforts to build the *Union of Skills* are undertaken, a strategy aiming to improve education, training, and lifelong learning.

The debate will also address matters of utmost importance such as combatting disinformation and hybrid threats, regional cooperation and the transatlantic relations.

### MAIN DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- Strengthening EU's internal cohesion for enhanced security: measures and mechanisms.
- The status quo and the role of digital transformation for EU's security.
- Boosting competitiveness in a changing world and dynamic alliances.
- Developing the European citizens' competences. Fighting disinformation and preparing for the future.
- Ways to increase regional cooperation for a higher global influence of the European Union.
- The state of transatlantic relations. Where to from here?



The event is organised within the EIR's online debates series

## AGENDA

10:45 - 11:00 (\*) Online registration of participants

11:00 - 11:10 **Welcome Address**

Oana-Mihaela MOCANU, Director General, European Institute of Romania

11:10 - 13:00 **EU's security defined through 3Cs: Cohesion, Competitiveness and Competences**

**Alina BÂRGĂOANU**, PhD, Professor, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, President of EIR Administrative Board, Romania

**Marlena GOŁĘBIOWSKA**, PhD, Doctor in economics and finance, Academic lecturer at the Institute of Economics and Finance of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Senior analyst at the Institute of Central Europe, Republic of Poland

**Valentin NAUMESCU**, PhD, Professor, Faculty of European Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

**Anna SKOLIMOWSKA**, PhD, Director of Institute of Political Science and Public Administration - UKSW, Republic of Poland

**Jakub ROMANIUK**, Programme Director, Foundation Institute for Eastern Studies, Republic of Poland

**Radu MAGDIN**, Global analyst, CEO, Smartlink Communications, Romania

*Comments, questions and answers*

**Moderator: Mihai SEBE**, Head of European Affairs Department, European Institute of Romania

(\*) Bucharest time

*The event will be registered audio-video  
Working language: English*