

Ukrainian Researchers in Germany: Networking and Cooperation Event 2024

DBB Forum Berlin · Friedrichstraße 169 · 10117 Berlin · 17 – 18 April 2024

Briefing Plenary #2 *Science Diplomacy in Action for Ukraine*

Wednesday · 17 April 2024 · 17:00 – 18:30 hrs. · Atrium

Content

The panel shall focus on

- different facets of German-Ukrainian relations in education and science* (present and future, both in a bilateral and wider EU and international context),
- current major challenges in the war situation,
- realistic perspectives for post-war reconstruction of education, science and innovation, and on
- changes/reforms/novelties in the Ukrainian education and science sector (present and foreseeable), including those of epistemic, discursive and behavioural nature.

In addition, the panel shall reflect together with the input from the audience[#] on concrete forms of Science Diplomacy that can help the Ukrainian education and science now and in the (predictable) future. In this aspect, the (potential) role of the Ukrainian scientific community abroad – including both the current temporary displaced scientists and the longer-standing academic diaspora – shall be emphasised, as this conference addresses these groups.

The panel intends and a realistic and franc approach that is necessary for joint actions to be efficient. At the same time, it intends to be positive and solution-oriented in approach.

* education and science = refers to the entire knowledge chain from higher education to basic and applied research to transfer, innovation and development, both in academia and extramurally

audience = round 200 Ukrainian scientists that have received or are receiving funding from a German or European funding organisation

Panellists

Oleksiy KOLEZHUK	Professor of Physics, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv; Deputy Chair, Scientific Committee of the National Council for Science and Technology Development of Ukraine; Philipp Schwartz Fellow, University of Mainz
Andriy LUZHETSKYY	Professor of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, University of the Saarland & Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland; Coordinator of the German-Ukrainian Core of Excellence in Natural Products Research CENtR
Susan STEWART	Senior Fellow, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik – German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin
Schamma SCHAHADAT	Professor of Slavic Literatures and Cultures, University of Tübingen & Member of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences
Lucian BRUJAN Moderator	Senior Scientific Officer for International Relations at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina; Member of the European Commission's Group of Experts on Science Diplomacy

Commentators

Oleksandra ANTONIUK	National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine/Kyiv Academic University; Chairwoman, Scientific Committee of the National Council of Ukraine for Science and Technology Development
Mikhail LESHCHENKO	Science Lead, German Embassy Kyiv

Proposed choreography

17:00 – 17:05 05'	Lucian BRUJAN Opening of the panel; short reference to the aims; short introduction of the panellists (longer biographies are available on the conference app)
17:05 – 17:50 08' input per panellist followed by one short question from the moderator and a short answer in total max. 10' per panellist	Each panellist shall start with an input statement highlighting her/his key messages, as follows: Oleksiy KOLEZHUK <i>Current Challenges in the Ukrainian Academic Sector</i> Andriy LUZHETSKYY German-Ukrainian Academic Cooperation Susan STEWART <i>Key Issues of Ukraine's EU Accession Process and Options for Researchers to Shape the Debate</i> Schamma SCHAHADAT <i>New Academic and Societal Discourses in Ukraine and Germany</i>
17:50 – 18:00 10'	Two reaction comments from: Oleksandra Antoniuk, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine/Kyiv Academic University; Chairwoman, Scientific Committee of the National Council of Ukraine for Science and Technology Development Mikhail Leshchenko, Science Lead, German Embassy Kyiv
18:00 – 18:15 15'	Q&A with the audience
18:15 – 18:27 02' for each panellist; 10' in total	Final round of questions by the moderator; one for each panellist
18:27 – 18:30 03'	Wrap-up by the moderator; closure of the panel

Tentative content and questions?

Please see the following merely as proposals for orientation. If you feel you should add or leave out some aspects, feel free to do so. Please kindly consider the general direction put forward in the "Content" section above.

Oleksiy KOLEZHUK: *Current Challenges in the Ukrainian Academic Sector*

Which are the main challenges for the Ukrainian science and academia in Ukraine against the backdrop of the prolonged war? Which are the urgent and the chronic problems?

How does the academic community in Ukraine cope with the challenges? Which groups are particularly affected and in which ways? How do the Ukrainian policymakers engage?

Which challenges/uncertainties are faced by the community of temporarily displaced scientists, students and pupils? What can be improved/offered by the host countries? How is this community connected to the developments in Ukraine? What can be improved?

Andriy LUZHETSKYY: *German-Ukrainian Academic Cooperation*

How can the current state of German-Ukrainian bilateral scientific cooperation be assessed? What initiatives have started to produce positive effects? Where do you see seeds of excellence?

Where are the potentials for the further development of this cooperation in higher education, R&D? What can realistically be done during the war situation? And what needs to be planned for the post-war time?

How can sustainable links between Ukraine and Germany be built in higher education and R&D? And how can the community of Ukrainian scientists abroad contribute in this?

How can the prospects of the post-war reconstruction of education and science in Ukraine be assessed? How realistic are the ongoing discussions? Is the academic community in Ukraine and abroad shaping these discussions (enough)?

Susan STEWART: *Key Issues of Ukraine's EU Accession Process and Options for Researchers to Shape the Debate*

How can Ukraine's EU candidate status be understood in (geo)political and institutional terms? Which are the realistic prospects of opening accession negotiations in the near future? How will most probably the war influence this process?

The EU candidate status brings a challenging legislative and reform agenda, flanked by a complex, at times bureaucratic and longsome, negotiation process (see examples Turkey and the Western Balkans); how do you estimate Ukraine's negotiation process in terms of efficiency and effectiveness?

Which role can the EU accession negotiation play for education and science (R&D/R&I)? How to start addressing the reforms for the integration into the European Research Area and the European Education Area, even before full EU membership?

Schamma SCHAHADAT: *New Academic and Societal Discourses in Ukraine and Germany*

The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine has led to a shift in academic-intellectual thinking in Ukraine (at home and abroad); which are the main tendencies that can be observed?

Which are the main societal discourses in Ukraine and how are these translated into behavioural patterns? How is the current war situation and the prospects of ending the war being perceived in Ukraine? Which are the predominant discourses on Ukraine in Germany and how did they evolve since 24 February 2022?

As of 12 April 2024. Subject to change.

Lucian Brujan