



PISM

**POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH
THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

How can the EU act on its own in foreign affairs? Prospects for open strategic autonomy

Date: 29 November 2021

Venue: Polish Institute of International Affairs, 1a Warecka, Warsaw

10:30 Welcome

Sławomir Dębski, Director, Polish Institute of International Affairs

10:35 – 11:20 Opening speeches

- *What should be the priorities of EU open strategic autonomy in foreign affairs?*
- *How can EU strategic autonomy be reconciled with its relations with the U.S.?*
- *How can the EU act more autonomously in its closest neighbourhood?*

Sławomir Dębski, Director, Polish Institute of International Affairs

Konrad Szymański, Minister for EU Affairs of the Republic of Poland

Charles Fries, Deputy Secretary-General, the European External Action Service

11:20 – 11.40 Coffee break

11:40 – 13.10 Turning ideas into action: possible instruments of EU open strategic autonomy

- *How can the EU become an effective security player?*
- *What can the EU do to better compete with China?*
- *How can the EU strengthen its impact in the neighbourhood vis-à-vis its systemic rivals?*

Daniel Fiott, Security and Defence Editor, European Union Institute for Security Studies

Charles Powell, Director of the Elcano Royal Institute

Kristi Raik, Director of the Estonian Foreign Policy Institute, International Centre for Defence and Security

Justyna Szczudlik, Deputy Head of Research, Polish Institute of International Affairs

Chair: **Elżbieta Kaca**, Senior Research Fellow, Polish Institute of International Affairs

13:10 Lunch