



Center on the
**United States
and Europe**
at BROOKINGS



What can Europe do for Iraq? Recommendations for a new U.S.-European collaboration

Joint Workshop – Invitation only

April 1st, 2009, 9am – 12:30pm

The Brookings Institution

1775 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC

In late 2008, the European Union officially affirmed its desire to "re-engage" in Iraq, and in the past few weeks, Baghdad has seen several high-level visits by European officials and heads of state. President Barack Obama is expected to approach Europe to become more active in and around Iraq. This is, after all, essential for the European Union's own interests, as a direct neighbor to the region. But what can, and what should, Europe do? And how shall this be articulated with the American effort?

In order to analyze potential developments in and around Iraq with respect to security interests of the EU, and to provide specific policy recommendations to the EU and its member states, the Heinrich Böll Foundation commissioned a [study](#) by a renowned group of international experts covering a range of interrelated topics on Iraq. The Brookings Institution and the Heinrich Böll Foundation have embarked on an effort to disseminate and discuss the findings with political decision makers and foreign policy experts from Europe and the United States, and thus contribute to a new start of cooperation between Europe, the United States and regional partners to tackle the challenges in Iraq and to bring peace, stability and development to the region.

9:00-10:30am:

1st panel

Domestic perspective - Recommendations for EU actions inside Iraq

Economic aspects, domestic security, training, state building, democracy, human rights situation

Chair: **Justin Vaisse**, Brookings

Presentation

Daniel Serwer, US Institute of Peace, co-author of hbf study

Discussants

Stephen White, EU Council (invited)

Michael O'Hanlon, Brookings

Marina Ottaway, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

11:00am-12:30pm:

2nd panel

Regional perspective - Recommendations for EU actions in the region

Role of Iraq's neighbors, refugee situation, regional security

Chair: **Sebastian Graefe**, hbf North America

Presentation

Cem Özdemir, European Parliament

Discussants

Ken Pollack, Brookings

Elizabeth Ferris, Brookings

Richard Gowan, European Council on Foreign Relations, co-author of hbf study