



INVITATION

The Troubled Partnership – Where are transatlantic relations heading?

On the occasion of the visit of Alexander Vershbow, Distinguished Fellow at the Atlantic Council and former Deputy Secretary General of NATO, the Atlantic Council Northern Europe Office, in cooperation with Allmänna Försvarsförbundet (AFF), cordially invite to an exclusive discussion on the status of the transatlantic relationship and its prospects ahead.

In 1965, Henry Kissinger analyzed the transatlantic link in “The Troubled Partnership” and noted: “*Perhaps the deepest danger we face is that, as with all great achievements, nostalgia for the patterns of action that were appropriate when America was predominant and Europe impotent may become an obstacle to the creativity needed to deal with an entirely new situation.*”

In the past year, the US and Europe have ended up on opposite sides on a range of issues, spanning from the Paris Climate Agreement to the Iran Deal. Despite a growing American military engagement on the continent, Europeans are concerned and distrust is increasing. Europe is dependent on the US for its security and prefers to have the US a partner in the global system also in the future. What is the way forward for the transatlantic relationship?

The conversation will address a range of core issues ahead:

- How dangerous for the long-term transatlantic partnership are the wedges that have been driven in between the US and Europe in the past year?
- Sweden and Europe’s partnership with the US is crucial for the security situation in the Baltic Sea region. Is there a risk for a spill-over effect on security if there are disagreement in other policy fields?
- How should Europe effectively deal with the US to preserve a strong transatlantic link?
- Is a drift inevitable, or could this be the beginning of an era in which the US and Europe end up as more equal partners, sharing the burdens and responsibility of world leadership?

Date: June 5, 2018

Venue: Medelhavsmuseet, Fredsgatan 2, Stockholm

Program:

08.00 – 08.30 Coffee and registration

08.30-09.30 Welcome remarks and discussion

Alexander Vershbow, Distinguished Fellow, Atlantic Council
Erika Bjerström, Senior Correspondent Foreign News, SVT

Moderator: Anna Wieslander, Director for Northern Europe, Atlantic Council, and Secretary General, AFF

Please confirm your participation by May 29 to eschiffer@atlanticcouncil.org