

# INVITATION

**to the round table discussion**  
***EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL IDENTITY***  
***IN A VOLATILE CONTEMPORARY***  
***ENVIRONMENT***

Date:

**Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Time:

**16:00 Round table discussion**

**18:00 Networking discussion with coffee or tea**

Location

**Hotel Amadria Capital, Jurisiceva 22, Zagreb**

Moderator:

**Morana Kasapović, Journalist, HRT**

Opening Remarks:

**Klaus Fiesinger, Regional Director for Southeast Europe, Hanns Seidel Foundation**

**Sandro Knezović, Senior Researcher, IRMO**

Participants:

**Eckart D. Stratenschulte, Deutsche Nationalstiftung, Hamburg**

**Domagoj Bebić, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb**

**Željko Trkanjec, editor in chief, Euroactiv.hr**

The issue of European identity has been the fundamental glue of the European project that proved capable of bridging numerous national differences and specificities, acknowledging their importance and respecting multidimensional character of 'the Old Continent'. Nation states, as the principal elements of the EU, preserve a fair share of importance in the European political project, regardless of the trend of increasing transfer of authorities on the supranational level, i.e. to the European institutions. The normative power of the European identity has been challenged over the past years for many reasons. The economic crisis, institutional difficulties in the EU, terrorism, immigrations and assertive actions of neighbours are only few of them, putting substantial pressure on EU's capacity to gain political compromise, as a solid basis for swift and implementable actions. This of course backfired on the very concept of the European identity and questioned its viability in the period to come, especially if tested against booming populist requests for 'more statehood' in European policy.