Between Brussels and Gazprom

Internationalisation of security threats
The Third Decade idea: for the first time in modern history CEE countries live in secured, peaceful and stable environment without any imminent existential threat for more than two decades

- NATO has shaky future, but has deterrent effect
- terrorist threat: not probable
- borders are secured and stable
- economy and basic legal framework secured due to EU membership

It is upon us how we shape our future, we cannot blame outsiders. OR COULD WE?
► Our homework: in a search of next BIG IDEA

- anticorruption measures
- independence of justice system
- state finances (reforms of health care and other systems dependent on public finances)
- lack of political leadership
- Roma issue as ticking bomb

► Where to look around for external influence?
Brussels: legal framework, bureaucratic threat, but we are part of the game and having voice

Gazprom as metaphor for socialist or Russian or autocratic or nondemocratic mindset

- mindset of socialist thinking

- low level of historical education + low level of civic (democratic) involvement = better to be dependent on state (Krastev: the end of liberal consensus)

- reality: energy dependence

used as political tool

Where is the practical example? Is it just Rusophobia as presented in Brussels?
Energy security as prime example how twenty years after the change old mindset and structures prevail:

- Nord Stream issue: Germany and Russia over our heads
- East – West pipes vs. North – South pipes
- Russian companies in EU business: not playing according to market rules
- Shale gas in Poland as gamechanger?

Where is the US? Do we need them and do they need us?
► The United States and Central Europe
- inspiration of freedom (individual, political)
- close relations during 1990s
- NATO Treaty art. V.: guarantee of independence
- attempt with missile defense
- New Europe vs. Obama's night calls
- Polish shale gas as new bridge to Washington

► But Brussels is closer, isn't it?
The European union and Central Europe

- security guarantee in Baltic countries
- source of money
- source of law and good habits
- basic legal framework
- socialist experience: different approach to relation state – citizen (habit to be to dependent vs. liberal conservative approaches)

What our guests think about it? Are we more dangerous to ourselves than Gazprom or Brussels?