



European  
Movement  
International

EVENT REPORT



CAN EUROPE

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MAKE US FEEL  
**SAFE?**



## European Movement International

On 5 April 2016 the European Movement International organised an event in an attempt to find an answer to one of the most crucial questions in the past few months; **Can Europe Make us Feel Safe?** In the aftermath of the shocking Brussels attacks, in a changing global security environment and at a time of multiple challenges and threats at European borders, what needs to be done to promote cooperation among Member States and to foster the security of EU citizens? We gathered experts to debate these issues and look at whether a joint response can be provided to the complex security challenges Europe is facing today.

### Ioan Mircea Pașcu

Vice-President of the European Parliament,  
Vice-Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

"All of a sudden Europe discovered that the euro Atlantic dimension of security has become internalised, with unrest coming to our own streets. The vague concept of global security has become tangible to every citizen as now it is our personal safety that is at stake. This is why policy makers should focus on a grassroots approach, starting by finding ways to address people's fears. A security strategy should only be a final outcome of such a process. Morgherini's Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy can't exist in its current form, especially considering that the mandate was given to her over a year ago. The events which have happened in the meanwhile cause a major problem: the designed strategy does not respond to actual concerns of citizens."

### Jo Leinen MEP

President of the European Movement International,  
Chair of the Delegation for relations with the People's Republic of China

"In the past the basis of the EU narrative was peace. The question remains if this narrative is still appealing today. We are facing new challenges which call for a strong response – like cybersecurity or migration crisis – and at the same time have loads of subjects which need to be addressed in relation to security questions, such as climate change or development policies. So far the common security strategy was a dwarf politically, focused more on providing humanitarian aid to developing countries. What we need now is a fundamental "Sicherheit" in the heart of the old continent. The Lisbon Treaty provides us with numerous instruments which are not used to improve the feeling of security in Europe. Thus, what is expected from Morgherini's Global Strategy is the provision of tools necessary to build more Europe and more safety."



# European Movement International

## Steven Blockmans

Senior Research Fellow and Head of EU  
Foreign Policy, CEPS

"Ways to improve the European security situations are out there, enough to mention intelligence sharing. There is an urgent need to call for more cooperation on the EU level and perhaps offer services complementary to what NATO is doing. The need for unity and cooperation is challenged by certain Member States' political leadership, who think they will be better off on their own, closing their borders and isolating countries. The EU's soft power as democracy and human rights promoter is difficult to maintain, still the European Neighbourhood Policy has already displayed a more pragmatic approach towards our partners and ways forward on the international fora, emphasising the need of applying tailor-made, individual policies in specific each case."

 European Movement Retweeted



**Matleena Heikkinen** @matleenahei · Apr 5

Erik de Feijter @EU2016NL adds: Europe can make us safe doesn't mean we feel safe #perception of #security / reality



**European Movement** @EMInternational

"The definition of security is more than the absence of war" @jo\_leinen #EurMove

## Erik de Feijter

Deputy Permanent Representative of the Netherlands  
to the EU Political and Security Committee

"The Global Security Strategy stands for creating a narrative where Europe can finally position itself. It cannot be treated like a magical solution to all existing problems, but a useful exercise. The 2003 European Security Strategy opened with the words, "Europe has never been so prosperous, so secure nor so free." This feeling does not apply now. Europe is learning what it actually means to be a security actor; not long ago all conflicts were happening "out there", outside of the EU borders, now they affect us directly on our own "playground". Sadly a concept of stronger Europe does not present itself well when faced with the populist narration in changing times witnessing less European spirit."



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## Event Follow Up

See the pictures from the event on our **Flickr**.  
Check out the **EMI Policy Position on Security**.  
For anything else, go to our **event webpage**.

## Contact us!

If you have any further inquiries, we will be happy to address them.

Write to us at **secretariat@europeanmovement.eu**

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## Learn More!

You can find out more about the European Movement on our website  
[www.europeanmovement.eu](http://www.europeanmovement.eu)

**Facebook:** European Movement

**Twitter:** @EMInternational #EurMove

The European Movement is an international organisation open to all political, economic, social and cultural trends in civil society. Its objective is to contribute to the establishment of a united, federal Europe founded on the principles of peace, democracy, liberty, solidarity, and respect for basic hu-man rights.

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