Minos Gent – Belarus: Where is the EU? (20/10/2020)

Panel concept note

1. Speakers & modalities

Elena Korosteleva (Kent University)

Fabienne Bossuyt (Ghent University)

Yauheni Preiherman (Minsk Dialogue)

Nadzeya Husakouskaya (Amnesty International)

As announced, the panel will be held via Zoom. The link to connect will be shared via email.

2. Structure & schedule

We'll have three rounds of questions by the moderator (me), that I'll invite all four of you to answer succinctly (3 minutes or less). I will not really intervene, seeing as you're all colleagues with a similar view on the matter at hand. You are free to respond to each other, if time allows for it. We'll finish with a round of questions from the audience.

What	When
Check-in & foreword	20:00-20:10
Question 1	20:10-20:40
Question 2	20:40-21:10
Question 3	21:10-21:40
Q&A with the audience	21:40-22:00

3. Questions

If you don't like the questions and/or want to reframe them, please let me know, I'm always open to adapting them. Depending on how the panel goes, additional questions might pop up, which we can cover if we have enough time.

Question 1

How effective is the EU policy of enforcing sanctions against targeted individuals in the Belarusian administration?¹

Additionally (if time allows for it)

Is another EU Belarus policy possible? And what could/would that look like?

Ouestion 2

How will Russia's stance of support for Lukashenko impact EU-Russia relations?

Additionally (if time allows for it)

Under a potential Biden administration, what role might the US play in this regard?

¹ Assuming Cyprus eventually agrees to the sanctions package.

Question 3

Many among the main opposition figures in Belarus are women: Svetlana Tsikhanouskaya, Maria Kolesnikova, Svetlana Alexievich, and so on. Is there a gender aspect to the successfulness of the protests?