



Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen
Institute for Human Sciences

Can We Create a Better World Order?

On the evening of the U.S. elections, IWM Permanent Fellow Ivan Krastev invites Stephen Walt, professor of international affairs at Harvard University and one of today's most distinguished geopolitical thinkers, to examine the future of international relations at a moment of sweeping transformation.

Humanity is at a Gramscian moment when “one world is dying, and the new world struggles to be born.” The Cold War order ended in 1992, and the U.S. attempt to construct a global liberal order collapsed in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, the failed wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the global resurgence of populism and authoritarianism. This lecture and discussion will examine the forces that are undermining the current geopolitical order and consider how states can build a new order to preserve the conditions required for sustained human existence, reduce the risk of war, manage the movement of goods, capital, information, and people, and encourage respect for basic human rights—issues that are especially urgent as the world turns its gaze toward the U.S. elections on 5 November, which may fundamentally reshape this global landscape.



Stephen Walt is the Robert and Renée Belfer Professor of International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School. He previously taught at Princeton University and the University of Chicago, and was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2005. Walt is a columnist for *Foreign Policy* magazine, where he comments regularly on global affairs. His most recent book is *The Hell of Good Intentions: America's Foreign Policy Elite and the Decline of U.S. Primacy*.

From September to December 2024, he is a Guest of the Institute at the IWM.

Ivan Krastev is a permanent fellow at the IWM and director of the Centre for Liberal Strategies in Sofia. Beyond that, he is a founding board member of the European Council on Foreign Relations, a member of the global advisory board of Open Society Foundations, New York, and a member of the advisory council of the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) and the European Cultural Foundation (ECF). Krastev regularly comments on global affairs for the *Financial Times* and is the author of *Democracy Disrupted: The Politics of Global Protest* (2014); *After Europe* (2017), *The Light that Failed. A Reckoning* (2019), and, most recently, *Is it Tomorrow Yet? Paradoxes of the Pandemic* (2020).



About Geopolitical Talks:

Since 2018, this event series, initiated by IWM Permanent Fellow Ivan Krastev in cooperation with the [Austrian Ministry of Defense](#), has brought leading foreign policy experts and former politicians to the IWM to discuss the return of geopolitics, the political and economic ambitions of new global players as well as security risks and general threats to democracy. Previous speakers include the former Foreign Secretary of the Republic of Turkey, [Ahmet Davutoğlu](#), the Former Foreign Secretary of India, [Shivshankar Menon](#), and [James O'Brien](#), the former Sanctions Coordinator at the U.S. State Department.

Save the date:

Geopolitical Talks: Can We Create a Better World Order?

When: 5 November 2024, 18:00

Where: Institute for Human Sciences, Spittelauer Lände 3, 1090 Vienna

More information and a registration link can be found [here](#).

Contact information:

Institute for Human Sciences

Jakob Angeli

Content & PR Manager

+43-1-313-58-207

iwm-pr@iwm.at