50 Years of Enlargement of the European Union

Evening Lecture by Marek Prawda

(De)Constructing Europe Workshop

18th October, 2023, 6 p.m. at GHI Warsaw

The 50th anniversary of the first enlargement of the then European Communities prompts reflection on different visions of European integration in the Member States. From the very beginning, Eurosceptic movements have been a threat to the unity of Europe, and they have been growing in strength in all countries, including Poland, in recent years.

The anniversary is an excellent opportunity to discuss the dynamics of the European integration processes, the directions of EU development and the problems faced by individual countries. In this context, it is worth examining the expectations of Poles towards the European Union before accession, expressed during the referendum campaign, and reviewing these ideas in the context of the functioning of Poland as a full member of the EU.

A few days after Poland’s parliamentary elections, Marek Prawda, one of the the central figures in recent German-Polish history, will reflect these questions and discuss them with members of the (De)constructing Europe research group and invited guests at the German Historical Institute Warsaw.

Marek Prawda – Polish ambassador to Germany in 2006–2012; after the mission in Berlin, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the European Union in Brussels (2012–2016) and Director of the European Commission Representation in Warsaw (2016–2021); from 2022 a lecturer at the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder) and Collegium Civitas in Warsaw