

# Listen to the East!

Invitation  
to an online event



ZdK

Zentralkomitee  
der deutschen Katholiken



Renovabis

Solidaritätsaktion der deutschen Katholiken  
mit den Menschen in Mittel- und Osteuropa



KATHOLISCHE AKADEMIE  
IN BERLIN e.V.

**Thursday, March 24, 2022, 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.**

## Serbia: A country in a dead end?

**The elections on April 3 will set the course for the region**

As the war in Ukraine grows, so do concerns in Europe about new tensions in the Western Balkans. Although the Serbian government did not vote in favour of Russia in the UN Security Council, the country's tabloid media are positioning themselves against Ukraine and celebrating Putin's conduct of the war. This is causing concern and unrest in neighbouring countries, especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina or Kosovo. For the EU, the question of closer rapprochement in the region is coming more to the fore again.

The presidential and parliamentary elections in Serbia on 3 April will be an important date for the future direction of the country. The populist President Aleksandar Vučić, who has been in office since 2017, wants to run again. A change of power is hardly to be expected, the opposition is weak and divided. Serbia has been a candidate for EU membership since 2012, and at the same time the government is seeking foreign policy and economic proximity to Russia and China. The mood among the population is divided: Some want to move closer to the EU, while others are primarily interested in the traditional closeness to Russia.

**Participants:** – Prof. Dr. Marie-Janine Calic, Historical Seminar,  
Ludwig Maximilians University Munich  
– Dr. Vedran Džihčić, Austrian Institute for International Affairs, Vienna  
– Aleksandra Tomanić, European Fund for the Balkans, Belgrade

**Moderation:** Gemma Pörzgen, freelance journalist with a focus on Eastern Europe,  
editor-in-chief of „OST-WEST. Europäische Perspektiven“

### Access data:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86488483996?pwd=Vjh2M0cyOGpIT1pQMggtVINZQi9hZz09>

Meeting-ID: 864 8848 3996, Kenncode: 549198

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