

**„President Donald Trump and the U.S. foreign and security policy:
Expectations and possible evolutions”**

Donald Trump’s election was a surprise, considering that few people believed it possible when the Republican Party started the competition to elect the candidate for the White House. Donald Trump is a strong personality, voluntariness, who will rather follow his instincts than the counselors. From the beginning, he will probably try to show he is something else than the White House experienced until now. His businessman reflex will push him towards direct negotiations, person to person, including in case of President Vladimir Putin, in order to demonstrate he can release critical situations, almost impossible to handle. On April 27th 2016, during a speech on foreign policy, Donald Trump was showing his intentions to negotiate directly and was also upholding his ability to close what it is called „a good deal”. Donald Trump argued then that „we will have to identify a common denominator based on mutual interests. Russia, for example, has also faced the horrors of the islamic terrorism. I believe that relaxing the tensions and improved relationships with Russia, from a strong position, is possible, absolutely possible. Common sense says this cycle, this horrible hostility clycle must end. Some people say that the Russians cannot be reasonable. I intend to find out”.

Regarding the transatlantic dialogue, this might not be so predictable. The newer NATO members from Eastern Europe are expecting to see if the new president, Donald Trump, will continue to support a strong involvement of the USA in sustaining NATO’s new military posture in this area. The European Reassurance Initiative, a program conceived by the USA to finance military drills, to increase the cooperation capacity especially with the Eastern allies and to improve the military infrastructure in this area, means, not just USD 3.4 billion investment in the last year, but mainly a solid political engagement. Yet, the Eastern Europe mostly desires to see the first gestures of the new American Administration towards the Russian Federation. In Moscow, the first reactions showed moderate optimism, as the Russians are waiting for the new governmental team in Washington to be configured and Trump’s investiture at the White House, in order to start official discussions.

Until we will see President Trump’s clarifying declarations, there are many questions about the first foreign policy gestures of the future Administration. What will be the relationship with the EU? What would be the interest on economic agreements such as the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) or the Trans-Pacific Partership (TPP), in conditions in which economic protectionism was one of the important thesis during the election campaign? What kind of relations will the US develop with Israel and the Arab partners? Will there be changes in Washington’s relationships with Ankara or Iran? And, not lastly, after the Brexit, would the US elections influence the elections results in Europe, or the perfomences of the nationalist parties from the Western and Northern Europe, with xenophobe rhetoric, or the nationalist-conservative ones in Central Europe?