

**New Geostrategic Challenges for Disarmament –
What Role for the UN?**

Luncheon Discussion
November 17, 2009, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m
Restaurant “Palm Too”
840 Second Avenue (btw. 44th and 45th Street)
New York, NY 10017

Organized by FES New York

After many years of stagnation, disarmament is back on the global political agenda. Ever since in 2007 four former US Secretaries of State and Defense called publicly for the complete abandonment of nuclear weapons, various actors have urged for real nuclear disarmament. Yet despite the momentum that is currently building up, to become a reality, disarmament efforts will have to overcome several hurdles. Towards this end, the luncheon discussion will address three topics: First, what are the changes in the global security landscape and the challenges and opportunities they create? Second, what is the unique value that the specific disarmament mechanisms and bodies of the UN could provide? And third, what are the concrete steps that need to be taken to achieve a breakthrough on nuclear disarmament at the 2010 Review Conference of the NPT?

Speakers are **Hannelore Hoppe**, Director and Deputy to the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs; **Rolf Mützenich**, MP Social Democratic Party of Germany and Chair of the Committee on Disarmament, Socialist International (SI); **David Fite**, Democratic Senior Professional Staff Member, Committee on Foreign Affairs, U.S. House of Representative (tbc.). The event will bring together a selected group of about 40 politicians, including a delegation from the SI Committee on Disarmament; diplomats; UN Secretariat staff; and disarmament experts. This intimate setting over lunch is intended as an opportunity to exchange views and hone strategies for future disarmament efforts.