**Warsaw Euro-Atlantic Summer Academy**

**Natolin, July 2013**

Successful transitions to democracy and market economy require political will, indigenous leadership and   
a long-term commitment of resources. These factors are sustained by local ownership and understanding of democratic institutions and processes, without which systemic change often falters. Improving the knowledge base amongst decision-makers, experts, opinion leaders as well as broader groups of society played a key role in the successful post-communist transitions in Central Europe in the 1990s, framing economic and political reforms, and paving the way to NATO and EU memberships. Today, support is offered to EU Eastern Partnership countries.

The College of Europe Natolin, the German Marshall Fund of the United States and the Polish-American Freedom Foundation establish a program titled: Warsaw Euro-Atlantic Summer Academy. WEASA aims to work with analysts and policy advisers from Eastern Europe and South Caucasus on systemic transformation, European Union integration and transatlantic relations.

WEASA will present a system of values and mechanisms essential for building a modern civil society. It will reveal the political, social and economic foundations of modern Western democracies, especially the European Union and the transatlantic community. The Academy will offer support to analytical and advisory institutions and groups in formulating transformation programs for individual countries as well as in evaluating operations implemented by various public policy bodies.

Key WEASA characteristics:

**Countries of interest**:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

**Number of participants**:

45

**Profile of participants**:

Policy analysts, advisers and experts between the ages of 30-40. Candidates below this age limit may be considered exceptionally on a case-by-case basis.

**Dates**:

July 14-28, 2013

**Location**:

Natolin College of Europe, Warsaw, Poland.

**Curriculum**:

The curriculum will cover the foundational values of Western democratic tradition, the principles of parliamentary democracy, party organization, civil society building, as well as the institutional design of the EU and NATO. Participants will follow a coherent educational program. A number of classes will be conducted in a small-group seminar environment. There will be three course-themes: 1. European integration; 2. System transformation; 3. Transatlantic relations.

**Faculty:**

The faculty will consist of academics, analysts and practitioners, both from the United States and Europe.

**Language**:

English (English-Russian simultaneous interpretation will be provided).