



27 – 29 MAY 2019

# PRAGUE EUROPEAN SUMMIT BROCHURE 2019





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## Words of Welcome

Events that will happen this year will determine directions of European integration in the upcoming years. It is than natural to denote 2019 as Europe's "Year of Change". As we prepare to launch this year's Prague European Summit conference, we anxiously await the results of the European Parliament election that may determine the Union's course for the foreseeable future. Shortly, we will see the formation of a new Commission with a new President at the helm. We will, no doubt, see new developments in the ongoing transformation of the transatlantic relationship – but hopefully no further drifts apart – and in the Union's efforts to shore up and protect its own sovereignty in external affairs and security in the face of global uncertainties. We will most likely see a resolution of the tumultuous, chaotic and mutually damaging situation that is Brexit, with repercussions for the future of the EU27 and its relationship with the United Kingdom. We will see the shape of the new Europe, of its political and social framework, and how it will shape our own discourse and endeavours for the course of the next five years. In the fast-paced world of European politics, progress may have already taken place in some of these areas as we enter the fifth iteration of the Prague European Summit. Time, therefore, is of the essence in opening frank and inclusive dialogue that will help to determine the future of the new Europe. As the Commission President Juncker said, 'The external challenges facing our continent are multiplying by the day. There can therefore be not a moment's respite in our efforts to build a more united Europe.'

The Prague European Summit 2019 opens mere hours after polling stations across Europe close, heralding the beginning of the first major public debate following the European parliamentary elections. It is only fitting that this year's Summit should tackle the key existential issues facing our Union head-on, and attempt to make sense of the new paradigms that have been established by the elections. But, there is much more – as usual – to talk about, and indeed we will: from critical developments in areas such as European sovereignty, common defense, big data and technological advancement, to the state of the transatlantic relationship, EU's cohesion after Brexit and last but certainly not least challenges to the rule of law and democracy.

We invite you to join us at this fifth anniversary of the Prague European Summit to mark the auspicious beginning of a new era in European politics – and to open the way to deeper understanding of not only the issues that have brought us to this moment, but of those global issues which will determine the shape of future discourse for years to come. We hope you will join us in this extraordinarily diverse and therefore unique agora – connecting the worlds of politics, academia, business, technology, science and media – to make the Prague European Summit 2019 the most productive, engaging and comprehensive event of its kind yet.



**Vladimír Bartovic**

Director, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy



**Ondřej Ditrych**

Director, Institute of International Relations Prague

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# About

As an initiative of EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy and the Institute of International Relations, and under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic and the City of Prague, the Prague European Summit has been established to trigger a strategic and open debate on the future of the European Union among high-level political representatives, government officials, business representatives, academicians and journalists from the Czech Republic, EU countries, V4 countries and other.

## ORGANIZERS



### **EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy**

EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy is a non-profit, non-partisan, and independent think-tank focusing on European integration. EUROPEUM contributes to democracy, security, stability, freedom, and solidarity across Europe as well as to active engagement of the Czech Republic in the European Union. EUROPEUM undertakes research, publishing, and educational activities and formulates new ideas and opinions to the EU and Czech policy making.

### **Institute of International Relations Prague**

The Institute of International Relations, Prague (IIR) is an independent public research institution which conducts excellent academic research in the larger field of international relations, which includes European studies, security studies, area studies and other related disciplines. IIR has been the leading academic institution for the study of international relations in the Czech Republic since 1957 and it is also an active member of several international research networks. In its IR research, it sets national benchmarks for the quality of scientific research in International Relations. As an independent institution originally founded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the IIR also provides policy analysis and recommendations. It serves as a hub for academics, policy makers and the general public. It stimulates the expert, intellectual and public debates on the Czech foreign policy, European affairs and global issues. The IIR also publishes a number of academic journals and books, and it offers a joint PhD programme in International Relations and European Studies.



WORLD LEADERS  
ON THE FUTURE OF BUSINESS

# Short Summary

Prague European Summit 2019

## DAY 1

The 2019 Prague European Summit commenced with a discussion on the evolving trends in policy and state behaviors among EU nations in 1989, 2004 and 2019. Czech Minister of Foreign Affairs Tomáš Petříček highlighted some of the factors that have led to this change, including an increase in Chinese interest on the continent and a decrease in involvement from the United States. Moderator Petr Drulák touched on the way the recent European elections have changed the way policy will be made in the near future and the importance of using good policy decisions and positive political discourse to resolve disputes.

Former Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Ana Palacio referenced the existence of the Prague European Summit as an example of European cohesion and the lessening of divisions while also addressing how EU states have recently stopped moving in the same direction in regard to European integration.

Reka Szemerkenyi, Executive Vice President of the Center for European Policy Analysis, called for a strategic reevaluation of the long-term goals of the EU, stressing the importance of large-scale cooperation on the continent in order to preserve European values.

Finally, Pawel Swieboda, who acts as the deputy head for European Political Strategy Centre, an in-house think tank of the European Commission, referenced some specific geopolitical trends that could have an effect on the future of the EU, such as China being projected to overtake the EU's collective defense spending by 2025 and Africa projected to more than double its population by 2050.

The Vision for Europe award, the annually bestowed award for distinguished personalities who have, in the course of their lives, devoted substantial energies to the establishment and development of European ideals, was handed over by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Czech Republic Tomáš Petříček. The ceremony took place in the gardens of the Czernin Palace and the 2019 award went to the former Prime Minister of Slovakia and current President of the Wilfried Martens Centre Brussels Mr. Mikuláš Dzurinda.

During the Urban Talk held earlier in the day, Slovene politician, policymaker and professor Žiga Turk, Director of international think tank RE-DEFINE Linda Zeilina and Atlantic Council member Jakub Kalenský discussed the impact of disinformation on the European elections and other democratic institutions. The speakers focused on how false information created by the Russian media has affected Brexit, the independence of Catalonia and the refugee crisis in Europe.

All agreed on three ways to combat such disinformation. The first was for the government to publish official documents and policies in a timely manner to avoid the spread of rumors. The second was to ensure that the flow of information isn't too controlled by the government or oligarchs. The third was to administer appropriate punishment to individuals and media that disseminate false information.

## DAY 2

The second day of the Prague European Summit mostly focused on the challenges facing the EU in the wake of the European Parliamentary elections, and crises like Brexit, migration, and democratic backsliding of certain member states. The day kicked off with a keynote speech from the Czech Republic's State Secretary for European Affairs Milena Hrdinková. In addition to addressing the benefits of EU membership, Hrdinková mentioned the need for effective policies that will overcome the challenges posed by institutional complexities, such as redundant bureaucracy.

Many panels stressed how the growing populist movement is eroding the EU's core democratic values. In the panel The Future of the European Neighborhood, Political Director of Romania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Stefan Tinca said that the EU's "ring of friends" has turned into a "ring of problems" thanks to migration, Brexit, and the rise of populism. While speakers emphasized the need for clearly defined strategic goals towards different European regions when it comes to issues like China's long-term influence or Russian interference, they also discouraged a one-size-fits-all approach.

The need to strengthen the rule of law was also mentioned in several panels. Eric Maurice, head of Brussels Office at the Robert Schuman Foundation, posed the question of whether the EU or its member states should change in order to address recent violations in Article 7 on the panel Challenges to the Rule of Law and the EU's Fundamental Values. Speakers discussed the integrity of elections and the democratic principles that are at stake because of non-adherence to rule-based order.

However, other panelists on European Sovereignty and Strategic Autonomy: How Can We Make it Work? pointed out that many see the EU as a catalyst for the negative impacts of globalization. In order to avoid being a passive object, the EU must use its tools and supersede the sovereign state. Concern was also raised about the lack of safeguarding the Euro's value against crises similar to 2012 during the The Future Path of Euro panel, but all panelists agreed that it is a resilient currency that would be able to bounce back.

The Brexit stalemate was characterized as a disconnect between a Eurosceptic government in Britain and an incentive-less EU to come up with a better agreement. In Brexit: What Now? Roland Freudenstein, Deputy Director at Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, said that asking Britain to return is a waste of energy because it would bring a very polarized country with many internal battles back into the EU. Suggestions on how to proceed included looking for ways to cooperate in other domains like social justice and military cooperation or going with a soft Brexit. However, all panelists agreed that the future was "clear as mud".

The impact of technological innovations on EU countries was another major theme of the conference. In the Industrial Revolution 4.0 Effects' on European Societies panel, speakers weighed in on the role of automation in creating a stable workforce. Chairperson of the European Union Affairs Committee Kalle Palling called for policies that will prepare the future workforce for the next five years when technology will "change as much as in the last hundred years".

Issues regarding privacy surrounding data usage were also featured in Data as a New Currency, Big Data Governance and Public Policy. The discussion revolved around the need to balance governments and companies' usage of data to improve services and policy with the potential cost to privacy, especially when it comes to accountability and transparency. The panelists couldn't offer any conclusions on if governments and companies could be trusted with personal data, but they did emphasize the need for responsibility from everyone. Speakers at the Big Data, Information and Politics: New Technologies in Focus all had a positive approach to using Big Data but questioned if every country should have its own regulations. Some suggestions were creating an independent body to regulate personal data usage or having it protected under the EU with the same regulation for each member state.

Concerns about Europe's ability to have a technological edge over other countries came up in Competitiveness of Europe in the Field of Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality. Centre for Industrial Studies Senior Partner Laura Delponte pointed out that more than 250,000 tech workers left Europe for the United States and China in search of career advancement, which is disconcerting considering the projected growth of the AI industry. However, Director of Eticas Research & Consulting Gemma Galdon Clavell was skeptical on the ability to implement this tech effectively.

The Summit also touched on issues surrounding gender at the breakfast discussion What Leadership Vision for the EU? which focused on achieving women's rights and gender equality through policies that promote rights, resources, and representation. The speakers called for closer cooperation and shared responsibility in countering populist leaders, a bottom-up approach to bring gender equality into the political mainstream in certain countries, and more women in leadership positions across the EU.

### DAY 3

Great power relations both within and outside the EU were analyzed at the breakfast discussions. In Coalition Building after Brexit, speakers expressed the possibility of building a new ad-hoc coalition of medium-sized states to fill the leadership hole that will be left by Britain. They were also hopeful that consensus building, which has been increasing throughout Europe, won't be impacted by Brexit. Lucinda Creighton, former Irish Minister for European Affairs and CEO of Vulcan Consulting, also expressed optimism that the march of populism might be more muted than anticipated, shown by the European elections which, she believes, were "not as catastrophic" as the media predicted.

Speakers also pondered the question of if China should be considered a friend or a foe in Chinese Influence in (Central) Europe. Beijing's use of soft power is shown by its purchase of media outlets to boost its image in Europe and its investments in infrastructure projects, especially in the Western Balkans. However, speakers don't think this is necessarily a bad thing. Laurent Zylberberg, Chairman of the European Long Term Investors Association, says that if China is willing to take a risk by helping Europe financially, there must be a good reason why.

The third day of the Prague European Summit featured the perspectives and role of Central European states in the EU's future. In the morning session Central Europe as an Active Player in the Aftermath of the European Parliament Elections several ministers weighed in on if making regional distinctions within the EU is helpful. The ministers agreed that the EU needs to overcome these internal divisions and regard its members on an equal playing field in order to be successful. The Czech Republic's Minister of Foreign Affairs Tomáš Petříček also outlined his country's priorities, which included strengthening the single market, fostering more innovation and integrating the Western Balkans and Eastern European countries.

The panel Is It the End of Global Agreements on Common Challenges? examined the strain multilateralism has undergone in the past few decades thanks to known opponents like Russia and China as well as allies like the United States. The speakers did agree in general that global agreements were key to paving the way for important future negotiations, such as modernizing organizations like the World Trade organization. Their main concern was the impact of Brexit on the EU's economy.

Czech's attitudes toward EU issues like populism and free trade were explored in a study presented in Czech Perception of the European Union and How it Differs from Other V4 Countries. While the study shows that the EU has worked for some members more than others, it also shows that Czechs prefer to reform the EU as opposed to leave it. They also care more about security and prosperity over democracy, free trade, and business issues.

The rapid changes technological innovations are bringing to governments were also addressed in several discussions. Panelists in Is Europe Ready for a Dynamic Future? Role of EU Governments and Governance expressed concerns over the EU's inability to keep pace with these advances. MEP Matthijs van Miltenburg suggested that the EU's regulatory bodies need more power to act quickly while also being transparent, so they do not lose the trust of citizens or entrepreneurs. Kalle Palling, Riigikogu's Chairperson of European Union Affairs Committee, also emphasized the need to change the educational system in order to encourage "upskilling" so people and technology can evolve together. An example of how to do this would be adding an expiration date on your diploma to get people to practice or learn new skills.

Evolution of Humans in the Next Century. Superintelligence: Paths, Dangers, Strategies looked at the risks and rewards of artificial intelligence. Speakers all agreed that many of the security concerns raised by experts like Nick Bostrom and Elon Musk are exaggerated, arguing that AI is unable to surpass human intelligence. The panelists highlighted the potential benefits AI will bring when it comes to medicine, climate change, and more. They all agreed that AI will be central to all aspects of human existence within the next twenty to thirty years.

The Prague European Summit ended with Director of the Institute of International Relations Ondrej Ditrych thanking the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the office of the government, the European Commission, the Visegrad Fund, and everyone who participated in the three-day event. "Together we created a singular space for debate on Europe and its future," he said.



# International Programme Board

## Prague European Summit 2019

The International Programme Board is the key advisory body of the Prague European Summit. It meets on a regular basis, at least once a year. The International Programme Board is comprised of leading international thinkers who care about the future of European integration. The Board is essential in shaping the substantive part of the Prague European Summit, and its tasks include the formulation of programme priorities for the upcoming Summit in May 2019 as well as innovative suggestions regarding the Summit's structure, its side-events and its output



## Péter Balázs

Professor, Central European University,  
former EU Commissioner  
& Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary

Prof. Balázs graduated in Budapest at the Faculty of Economics of the "Karl Marx" University (today Corvinus University). He got his PhD degree and habilitated at the same University. He is ScD of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In parallel with his government and diplomatic career, he has been teaching and doing research. He was nominated Professor of the Corvinus University in 2000 and joined the CEU as full time Professor in 2005.

Prof. Balázs is currently holding a Jean Monnet Ad Personam Chair at CEU. His research activities are centered on the foreign policy of the EU and problems of the late modernization and European integration of the Eastern part of the continent. He also analyzes questions of European governance including the future of European institutions. He is regularly teaching at various home and foreign universities, lecturing in English, French, German and Hungarian. In 2005, he established the Center for European Neighborhood Studies (CENS) at the Central European University.



## Vladimír Bartovic

Director, EUROPEUM Institute for  
European Policy

Vladimír Bartovic is the director of EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy. In 2014 he has been appointed external advisor – a member of the Group of External Advisors on the EU policies to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and a member of the Programme Council of the Czech – Polish Forum. In 2015 he has been elected member of the Board of Directors of PASOS – Policy Association for an Open Society.

He graduated in international trade and international politics at the University of Economics, Prague, Faculty of International Relations. He also studied at University of Granada, Faculty of Political Science and Sociology.

From 2011 to 2012 he served as a director of Strategic Planning and Analysis at the Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic. He also worked as an editor in the Integrace magazine. He has been lecturing on topical EU issues at the Institute of Public Administration and the Czech National Bank. He co-operated with OSCE election missions in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Kosovo.



## Steven Blockmans

Head of EU foreign policy  
& Head of Institutional Affairs, CEPS

Steven Blockmans is Head of EU foreign policy and Head of Institutional Affairs at the Brussels-based think tank Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Professor of EU External Relations Law and Governance at the University of Amsterdam, and a founding member of the Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER). He is the author of 'Tough Love: the EU's relations with the Western Balkans' (AP/CUP 2007) and the (co-)editor of more than 10 volumes, including 'The EU's Role in Global Governance' (OUP 2013) and 'Differentiated Integration in the EU: From the Inside Looking Out' (CEPS 2014). He served as leading author of the FES-sponsored Task Force on 'More Union in European Defence' chaired by Javier Solana (CEPS 2015).

For more than 20 years Steven has combined his academic work with contract research carried out for EU and national donors, consultancy activities and training for professionals. He has advised governments of third countries on their relations with the EU and worked on numerous technical assistance projects in wider Europe and Asia. He is a regular speaker at international conferences and a frequent commentator on EU affairs for international media. Before joining CEPS in 2012, Steven was Head of Research at the Asser Institute, an international law centre based in The Hague. From 2010 to 2014, he was a special visiting professor at the Law Faculty of University of Leuven. From 2007 to 2009 he served as a long-term expert on legal approximation in the framework of an EU-sponsored project in support for the Ministry of European Integration of Albania.



## Martin Bútora

Advisor to Slovak President Andrej Kiska

Ambassador (Rtd) Martin Bútora is the advisor to President of Slovak Republic Andrej Kiska (from June 2014). He is the founder and honorary president of the Institute for Public Affairs in Bratislava established in 1997. In 1990 – 1992 he served as advisor for human rights to President Václav Havel. From 1999 to 2003, he was the Ambassador of Slovakia to the United States.

Amb. Butora holds a PhD. in Sociology from Charles University in Prague. He taught at Charles University, Trnava University and University of Economics in Bratislava. He writes on civil society, foreign policy, and democratic transformation. In the last years, he co-authored and/or co-edited Visegrad Elections 2010: Domestic Impact and European Consequences, 2011; Active Citizenship and Nongovernmental Sector in Slovakia, 2012; Alternative Politics? The Rise of New Political Parties in Central Europe, 2013; Collective Defence and Common Security. Twin Pillars of the Atlantic Alliance. Group of Policy Experts report to the NATO Secretary General, 2014.

Ambassador Butora is the recipient of the Democracy Service Medal from the National Endowment for Democracy (1999), Crystal Wing Award for diplomatic achievements (2002), and Knight's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta (2011). He served as Human Rights Advisor to Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel (1990–1992).



### Aleš Chmelař

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for European Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Prior to joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic as a Deputy Minister, Aleš Chmelař worked at the Government Office as State Secretary for European Affairs of the Czech Republic. Before that he was a researcher in the field of financial markets at the Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS), the largest and oldest think-tank in Brussels. From 2014, he worked as head European analyst at the Czech Government Office and Head of EU Economic Policy Coordination. He is specialized in European economic and financial policy, the transformation of post-communist countries and the industrial strategy of Central Europe.



### Ondřej Ditrych

Director, Institute of International Relations Prague

Dr. Ditrych holds degrees in International Relations from University of Cambridge (Mphil.) and Charles University in Prague (Ph.D.) where he is now an academic fellow and becoming the director of the IIR, was in charge of coordinating D. CENT Karl Deutsch Centre for International Political and Social Research at the Department of International Relations. He has gained valuable experience as the Fulbright research fellow at Belfer Center, Harvard University, a visiting researcher at CERI, Sciences Po, Paris and SWP Berlin, an associate fellow at European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) and an analyst for NATO SHAPE. In his current research, he explores terrorism and revolutionary violence in global politics, NATO and European security, ethnopolitical conflicts in the Postsoviet space, and global trends and their analysis and forecasts.

Dr. Ditrych is the author of more than forty academic articles, monographies and book chapters. His articles have been published in leading impacted journals in the field of International Relations. His latest book, *Tracing the Discourses of Terrorism: Identity, Genealogy, and State*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan (2014). Dr. Ditrych has taken part in a number of collective research projects, as well as expert analyses for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, EEAS or the European Parliament. He is currently a principal investigator of PRIMUS 17/HUM/24 Hybrid Revolutionary Actors in Global Politics (2018-) and a senior researcher in an interdisciplinary center of excellence UNCE Violence, Trauma and Justice (2018-).



### Andor Ferenc Dávid

Executive Director, International Visegrad Fund

Andor F. Dávid is an Executive Director of International Visegrad Fund. Before that he was Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Hungary in Ljubljana, Slovenia. He started his career at the Department for Western Balkans at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, where he had various roles, including Deputy Consul and EU/NATO Integration Affairs diplomat and later Advisor to the Secretary General.



### Roland Freudenstein

Policy Director, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

Roland Freudenstein was born in Bonn, Germany. After a two year voluntary military service, he studied political science, economics, Japan studies and international relations in Bonn and Los Angeles. Having worked as a research fellow at the German Council on Foreign Relations, he became a member of the foreign and security planning staff of the European Commission in Brussels in the 1990s. Subsequently, he became the director of the Warsaw office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and later held a leading function in the Foundation's central office in Berlin. After coming back to Brussels in 2004, he represented the German city state of Hamburg to the EU.

Roland Freudenstein is now, since 2008, Head of Research and Deputy Director of the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies. He has contributed to debates and published extensively on European integration, international security, German-Polish relations, global democracy support and recently about the changes in the Middle East. Since 2015 Roland Freudenstein is also a Policy Director of the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies.



### Ivan Hodáč

Founder and President, Aspen Institute Central Europe

Ivan Hodáč is a Founder and Vice-President of the Aspen Institute Prague. He was Secretary-General of the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) from 2001 until October 2013. He is currently member of a special Advisory Group of experts, which advises the European Commission in negotiation of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership with the United States (TTIP). He is also the Chairman of the Board at cabinet DN. The Financial Times listed him among the most influential personalities in Brussels politics. Before joining ACEA, he was Senior Vice-President and Head of the Time Warner Corporate office for Europe. Previously he was Secretary-General of the trade organization IFMA/IMACE, Senior Economist at Didier & Associates, and Assistant Professor at the College of Europe, Bruges. He was born in Prague, where he studied mechanical engineering. He completed his education in economics and political science at the University of Copenhagen and the College of Europe in Bruges (European studies).



### Milena Hrdinková

State Secretary for European Affairs, Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

Ms Hrdinková has been actively involved in international relations and EU affairs during her entire career. She has represented the Czech Republic in EU institutions such as ECOFIN and other international bodies; she had also worked on implementing EU law into the Czech legislation prior to the Czech Republic's accession to the EU, served as a national expert in the European Commission, and chaired an EU Council's working group during the Czech presidency of the EU.

Until January 2019, she had been employed at the Ministry of Finance where she held expert and managerial positions such as department director at the Office of the Minister of Finance and advisor of the Deputy Minister of Finance for Taxes and Customs, and she had also directed the International Relations and Financial Markets section. She specialises in fiscal relations and development assistance and she has served as an external expert for the International Monetary Fund.

She also occasionally teaches at the University of Economics in Prague.



**Rudolf Jindrák**  
Director of International Department,  
Office of the President  
of the Czech Republic

The start of the career of Dr. Rudolf Jindrák was tied with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He started in the Consular Department and served as a General Consul in Munich. He focused mainly on the relationships with Central European states and German speaking states and served as a Head of First Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (bilateral relations with Austria, Germany, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland). He was appointed as the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the Republic of Hungary, to the Republic of Austria, to the Federal Republic of Germany between years 1998 and 2014. He also acted as the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs in 2001 to 2004 and in 2014 to 2015. Since August 2015 he has served in the advisory board of PM Bohuslav Sobotka where he was responsible for fostering of the relations with Germany and Central European cooperation agenda. Since 15 March 2017 he serves as the Director of the Foreign Department of the Presidential Office.



**Dana Kovaříková**  
Head of the European Commission  
Representation in the Czech Republic

At present, she is Head of the European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic. Before taking up this position, she worked as the Acting Head of Representation of the EC to the Czech Republic; a Head of Political Sector as well as a Press Officer in the EC Representation. As regards her Brussels experience, she worked in the Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology (2012–2013) being in charge of relations with stakeholders. Before that she worked in the Secretariat General of the Commission, as a policy coordinator (2005–2006) and then in charge of Briefings for the President (2006– 2012). Earlier, she worked in the Directorate General Press and Communication (2002 – 2005). Dana Kovaříková studied at Masaryk University in Brno, where she obtained a degree in economics and in media studies and journalism; at Katholieke Universiteit in Leuven (Belgium), where she obtained a degree in Sociology of Social Change; and at Université Rennes 1 (France), where she obtained a Diplôme franco-tcheque d'administration publique.



**Petr Kratochvíl**  
Senior Researcher,  
Institute of International Relations in Prague

Petr Kratochvíl is the Senior Researcher of the Institute of International Relations and a lecturer at several Czech universities. He is the Chairman of the Academic Council of the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic as well as a member of a range of academic and scientific councils. Petr Kratochvíl represents the IIR in various international associations such as the Trans European Policy Studies Association or the European Consortium for Political Research.

He has published extensively on European integration, EU-Russian relations, institutional reform and the EU enlargement, the role of religion in international affairs, and international relations theory. The book *The European Union and the Catholic Church: Political Theology of European Integration*, co-authored by Tomáš Doležal and published in 2015 by Palgrave Macmillan, is one of the latest examples of his research activity. He is also often called upon to present his analyses by various Czech and foreign media.



**Pascal Lamy**  
Former European Commissioner  
and Director-General, WTO

From September 2005 to August 2013, Pascal Lamy served for two consecutive terms as General Director- of the World Trade Organization (WTO). A committed European and member of the French Socialist party, he was Chief of Staff for the President of the European Commission, Jacques Delors from 1985 to 1994. He then joined the Credit Lyonnais as CEO until 1999, before returning to Brussels as European Trade Commissioner until 2004. Mr. Lamy holds degrees from HEC School of Management, the Institut d'Etudes Politiques (IEP) and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA).

Pascal Lamy was appointed, in May 2015, as interministerial delegate for the preparation of the French candidature for the Universal Exhibition 2025. He shares his other activities between the Jacques Delors Institute (President emeritus), the presidency of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics, the presidency of the Oxford Martin School Commission for Future Generations, the vice-presidency of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS), the Co-chair of the Equitable Access Initiative (Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria), his participation to the Global Ocean Commission and UNAIDS as well as different subjects related to international affairs.



**Christian Lequesne**  
Professor, Sciences Po  
& Chief Editor,  
European Review of International Studies

Christian Lequesne holds BA and MA degrees from Sciences Po Strasbourg and the College of Europe, Bruges. He then got his Ph.D. in political science and his Habilitation in Sciences Po Paris. Since 1988, he worked as a research fellow and then Professor at Sciences Po. He was also a deputy director of CERI, and later director of CERI. Furthermore, he worked as a director of the Centre français de recherche en sciences sociales (CEFRES) in Prague and as a professor at the European Institute of the London School of Economics. He is a regular visiting professor at the School of Government of LUISS University, the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna, and the Department of Social Sciences of Charles University in Prague.

He is currently Co-Chief Editor of European Review of International Studies, member of the editorial board of The Hague Journal of Diplomacy, Journal of European Integration and member of the scientific committees of Politique européenne and Etudes européennes. Moreover, he is member of the Scientific Board of the Institut für Europäische Politik (Berlin), the Fondation Robert Schuman and the Finnish Institute of International Affairs. Was awarded the F. Palacky social sciences medal by the Czech Academy of Sciences and Chevalier in the Ordre des Palmes académiques.



**Barbara Lippert**  
Director of Research & Executive Board,  
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik

Dr. phil. Barbara Lippert studied Political Science, Contemporary and Eastern European History and Slavonic Studies at the University of Bonn and the Free University Berlin between the years 1981-1987. She then acquired her Doctorate (Dr. phil) at the University of Bonn. In 1990-1992, she worked as a Senior Associate at the Institute for European Politics (IEP) in Bonn and Berlin and between 1992-2009 as a Deputy Director of the Institute for European Politics (IEP) in Berlin.

Since April 2009, she has worked as a Director of Research and Member of Executive Board of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs of the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) in Berlin.

Her areas of expertise are EU enlargement policy, development of the political system of the EU, Germany and European integration and the European Neighbourhood Policy.



**Ana Palacio**  
Former Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ana Palacio is an international lawyer specializing in international and European Union law and founder of Palacio y Asociados (Madrid, Brussels and Washington DC), a law firm specializing in European and International Law, and arbitration. Ms. Palacio sits on the corporate boards of Pharmamar (biotech), Enagás (gas systems), and AEE Power (energy infrastructures); she is a member of the European Advisory Committee of Investcorp (investment), and the International Advisory Board of Office Chérifien des Phosphates -OCP- (fertilizers); and a member of the Governing Council of the Instituto de Empresa (business school). Ana Palacio serves on the Executive Board of The Atlantic Council of the United States and is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council. She further participates on the governing bodies of several research centers and public institutions, among them as member of the Scientific Council of the Real Instituto Elcano, member of the Council of the ECFR, and member of the Board of Visitors of the MD Anderson Cancer Center. She is a visiting professor at the Edmund E. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.

Ms. Palacio served as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain (2002-2004) and was a member of the Spanish Parliament (2004-2006) where she chaired the Joint Committee of the two Houses for European Union Affairs. She has been Senior Vice-President and General Counsel of the World Bank Group and Secretary General of ICSID (2006-2008). From 1994 until 2002, she was a member of European Parliament where she chaired the Legal Affairs and Internal Market Committee, the Citizens Rights, Justice and Home Affairs Committee, as well as the Committee of Committee Chairs. Ms. Palacio publishes regularly in periodicals and journals. In particular, she maintains a monthly column at Project Syndicate.



**Ernst Stetter**  
Secretary General,  
Foundation for European Progressive  
Studies

Ernst Stetter has been the Secretary General of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) since its creation in 2008. He is also a regular commentator on EU affairs in the media.

Ernst Stetter is an economist and political scientist. He studied in Tübingen and Heidelberg (Germany) focusing on international trade, finance, economic and social policy as well as development issues. In 1980 he obtained his PhD in political science for his dissertation entitled The Association of ACP-Countries (Lomé I and II) to the European Community and the STABEX-System.

From 1980 to 2008 he worked for the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) in various positions. After serving as the Head of the Africa Department and the Head of the Central Europe Unit, in 1997 he moved to Paris and became the Director of the FES Office in France while in 2003 he was appointed as Director of the EU-Office of FES in Brussels.

In 2003 he received the French decoration of Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Mérite.



**Pawel Swieboda**  
Deputy Head, European Political Strategy  
Centre, European Commission

Prior to joining the European Political Strategy Centre (EPSC), an in-house think tank of the European Commission reporting directly to President Juncker, as Deputy Head, Pawel Świeboda was President of demosEUROPA – Centre for European Strategy, an EU policy think tank based in Warsaw, from 2006 to 2015. Earlier, he was Director of the EU Department at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the years 2001-2006 and EU Advisor to the President of Poland from 1996 to 2000.

A graduate of the London School of Economics (BSs in Economics), and the University of London (MA in International Relations), he is a member of a number of advisory boards of European think tanks as well as a member of the Global Agenda Council on Europe of the World Economic Forum. In 2013/2014, he was Rapporteur of the Review of European Innovation Partnerships.



**Vessela Tcherneva**  
Deputy Director of European Council on  
Foreign Relations and Head of ECFR Sofia

Vessela Tcherneva is the co-founder of Sofia Platform, a venue for dialogue between members of NGOs, the media, and politics from Europe, the Middle East, and the United States. From 2010 to 2013 she was the spokesperson for the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a member of the political cabinet of Foreign Minister Nickolay Mladenov. She has been the head of the Bulgarian office of the European Council for Foreign Relations since 2008, as well as programme director for Foreign Policy Studies at the Centre for Liberal Strategies in Sofia. Between 2004 and 2006 she was secretary of the International Commission on the Balkans, chaired by former Italian prime minister Giuliano Amato. She has been a supervising editor for Foreign Policy Bulgaria magazine since its launch in 2005.



**Nathalie Tocci**  
Director, Istituto Affari Internazionali

Nathalie Tocci is Director of the Istituto Affari Internazionali, Honorary Professor at the University of Tübingen, and Special Adviser to EU HRVP Federica Mogherini, on behalf of whom she wrote the European Global Strategy and is now working on its implementation, notably in the field of security and defence. Previously she held research positions at the Centre for European Policy Studies, Brussels, the Transatlantic Academy, Washington and the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, Florence. Her research interests include European foreign policy, conflict resolution, the Middle East and the Mediterranean. Her major publications include: Framing the EU's Global Strategy, Springer-Palgrave Macmillan, 2017 (author); The EU, Promoting Regional Integration, and Conflict Resolution, Springer-Palgrave Macmillan, 2017 (co-editor); Turkey and the European Union, Palgrave Macmillan, 2015 (co-author); Multilateralism in the 21st Century, Routledge, 2013 (co-editor), Turkey's European Future: Behind the Scenes of America's Influence on EU-Turkey Relations, New York University Press, 2011 (author); and The EU and Conflict Resolution, Routledge, 2007 (author). Nathalie is the 2008 winner of the Anna Lindh award for the study of European Foreign Policy.



**Vaira Vike-Freiberga**  
President, World Leadership Alliance/Club  
de Madrid and former President of Latvia

Dr. Vaira Vike-Freiberga is President of the World Leadership Alliance/Club de Madrid and former President of Latvia (1999-2007). She played a leading role in achieving membership in the EU and NATO for her country and was Special Envoy on UN reform. She was vice-chair of the Reflection group on the long-term future of Europe, and chaired the High-level group on freedom and pluralism of media in the EU in 2011-12.

She is a member, board member or patron of 30 international organisations, including ECFR, Nizami Ganjavi International Centre (Co-chair), Library of Alexandria, Trust Fund for Victims of the ICC, Panel of Eminent Persons on European Security of OSCE, Advisory Council of CEPA, as well as five Academies. She has been awarded 34 Orders of Merit and 19 Honorary doctorates.

Born in Riga, Vaira started her schooling in refugee camps in Germany, continued in Morocco, and obtained a Ph.D. at McGill University (1965). After a distinguished career as Professor of psychology at the University of Montreal, she returned to her native country in 1998 to head the Latvian Institute. Less than a year later she was elected President by the Latvian Parliament and re-elected in 2003.

# Speakers

Prague European Summit 2019



## Tony Barber

Associate editor and European affairs commentator, Financial Times

Tony Barber is Europe Editor of the Financial Times. He is a former foreign correspondent in Austria, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Poland, the former Soviet Union, the US and the former Yugoslavia.

Financial Times (1997-2019): Frankfurt bureau chief (1998-2002). Rome bureau chief (2002-2007). Brussels bureau chief (2007-2010). Europe editor (2011-2018). Reuters correspondent in US (1982-83), Poland (1984-85), USSR (1985-87), US (1987-88), Yugoslavia (1989). The Independent: East Europe editor and Europe editor (1990-97).



## Vladimír Bartl

Deputy Minister for European Union and Foreign Trade, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Czech Republic

Mr Vladimír Bartl graduated from the Czech Technical University in Prague with specialization in Geodesy and Cartography. In the period from 1989 to 1993 Mr Bartl worked in Geodézie ČS, a.s. and gained professional experience in geographic information systems in Paris. He co-founded the firm HOUDEK s.r.o., focused on metrology and transfer of technologies. Mr Bartl joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1999 and he worked at Czech Embassy in Ottawa from 2000 to 2004. After that he was adviser to the Vice Minister of Industry and Trade from 2004 to 2006 as co-author of Export Strategy 2006–2010 and of the project: "The new System of State Commercial and Economic Services Abroad". He absolved a study focused on "Negotiation techniques in EU" in 2005. Mr Bartl worked at Czech Embassy in Paris from 2006 to 2010. He co-organized the "Czech and French Economic Year" during the successive French and Czech Presidency in EU. He was a team member for the localization of the Galileo Managing Centre to Prague. After that in 2010 he was involved in commercial projects of the company BCM Control s.r.o., and successively in 2011 he acted as representative of the Minister of Industry and Trade for international commercial competitiveness and for promotion of Czech commercial interests abroad. Mr Bartl was named Vice Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade as of 15th March 2014. He manages the Section of European Union and Foreign Trade. Mr Bartl also likes to promote traditional Czech engineering products in an unconventional way – sometimes he flies Czech airplanes or drives Czech motorcycles during his official journeys.



## Annika Ben-David

Ambassador-at-large for Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden

Annika Ben David is an Ambassador-at-large for Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law at Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden. In the past, she worked at Embassy of Sweden in Israel or Tanzania and was also an ambassador of Sweden to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She studied, among others, at Geneva's Institute of Higher International Studies.



## Jiří Boudal

Managing director, Behavio Labs

Jiří Boudal is a sociologist and a managing director at Prague-based market research agency Behavio Labs. In the past, he was a manager of the Reconstruction of state initiative, where he was responsible for PR supervision, communication with key partners or strategic planning. He holds a Master's degree in sociology, which he studied at Charles University.



## Larissa Brunner

Policy Analyst, European Policy Center, Brussels

Larissa Brunner is a Policy Analyst at the European Policy Centre (EPC), working primarily on Brexit. Before joining the EPC, Larissa worked as Western Europe Analyst for Oxford Analytica in the United Kingdom.

She holds a BA in Economics and Management from the University of Oxford and a Double Master's degree in European and International Relations from Sciences Po, Paris, and Fudan University, Shanghai.



## Rosa Castro

Senior Scientific Policy Officer, Federation of European Academies of Medicine, FEAM

Rosa Castro is a Senior Policy Officer at the Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM). She holds a PhD and Master/LLM dual degree in Law and Economics. Dr. Castro has carried out research and managed projects in areas at the intersection of science and health policy, including intellectual property law and the biosciences. She has been a Lecturer on Intellectual Property Law and International Health Law at LUISS University in Rome, and at the University of Bologna.

Before joining FEAM, she was a Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute (EUI), a postdoctoral associate at Duke University and Managing Editor of the Journal of Law and the Biosciences and Senior Policy Advisor at Milieu Consulting (Brussels).



## Lucinda Creighton

CEO, Vulcan Consulting

Lucinda Creighton is a former Irish Minister for European Affairs and CEO of Vulcan Consulting Ltd. As a member of the Irish Parliament for nine years, she ran Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2013, and represented the EU in trade talks with the United States, leading to the formal start of TTIP negotiations in 2013. From 2012 to 2014 she also served as Vice President of the European People's Party – the largest political party in Europe. Lucinda is an advisory board member of the International Republican Institute and the European Council on Foreign Relations. By training, she is a barrister and qualified as a New York attorney.

In addition to leading Vulcan Consulting, she is retained as a special advisor on Brexit by Fipra, the international public affairs company. Through this connection, she also collaborates with the London School of Economics providing advisory services on the fallout from Brexit. Additionally, Vulcan Consulting advises a range of corporate clients on EU policy, regulatory and political issues. They specialise in assisting CEOs and other members of leadership teams in understanding the political and decision making environment in Europe.



**Petr Drulák**  
Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of the Czech Republic

Professor Petr Drulák, Ph.D. (1972) is the Ambassador of the Czech Republic in France (since February 2017). From 2014 to 2015 he had a position of the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and from 2015 to 2016 he was the Political Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In past he had worked as a director of the Institute of International Relations in Prague. Since 2012 he has been a professor of political science at Charles University, Prague. Among his research interests belong political theories, European integration and theories of international relations. During his rich academic career Petr Drulák has published many research articles in international journals (EJIR, JEPP, JIRD, Osteuropa) and books (Regional and International Relations of Central Europe, Palgrave, 2012; The Return of Geopolitics in Europe?, Cambridge University Press, 2012). In Czech language he wrote couple of textbooks and books, the latest one is Politika nezájmu: Česko a Západ v krizi, SLON, 2012. Nowadays, he actively contributes to Czech newspapers and media.



**Mikuláš Dzurinda**  
President of Wilfried Martens Center for  
European Studies and Former Prime  
Minister of Slovakia

Mikuláš Dzurinda was elected president of the WMCES in December 2013. He is the former prime minister of Slovakia (1998-2006) and has held various positions in government since first entering politics in 1990. Once he became prime minister and formed a coalition government in 1998, Dzurinda introduced far-reaching reforms which have enabled Slovakia to begin the process of joining the EU and NATO. After being re-elected in 2002, Dzurinda led Slovakia to become a member of the EU and NATO in 2004, a process which he actively took part in from the beginning.

Since Slovakia gained independence in 1993, Dzurinda has also held the position of Minister of Transportation and more recently that of Minister for Foreign Affairs (from July 2010 to April 2012). Dzurinda is a founding member of the Slovak Democratic and Christian Union – Democratic Party (SDKÚ-DS) and was chairman of the party from 2000 to 2012. From 2012 to 2016 he was a member of the Slovak Parliament. In 2007 he was awarded the F.A. Hayek International Prize for reforms and fight against bureaucracy. He is also a marathon runner.



**Oldřich Dědek**  
Board Member, Czech National Bank

Born on 26 November 1953 in Chlumec nad Cidlinou. After graduating from the University of Economics in Prague he joined the Economic Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in 1978, where he worked as a researcher until 1992. Then he moved over to the post of Deputy Director of the Institute of Economics at the State Bank of Czechoslovakia. In 1996-1998 he was an adviser to the CNB Governor and the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic. In 1999-2005 he held the post of the CNB Vice-Governor and the associated post of alternating Governor at the World Bank. Since June 2005, he has been lecturing on financial markets, corporate finance and European economic integration at the Institute of Economic Studies at Charles University. He is the head of the Department of Macroeconomics and Econometrics and is responsible for the master's programme in economics. In March 2007 he was appointed the national coordinator for euro adoption in the Czech Republic. In 2012 he was named professor of economic theory. He extended his education with stays at the London School of Economics, the University of Warwick and the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Oldřich Dědek became a member of the Bank Board of the Czech National Bank on 13 February 2017.



**Radka Fléglová**  
Internet institute

Radka Fléglová is a young expert at the Internet Institute, an AI enthusiast, marketer, and a supporter of multidisciplinary research related to technologies. She graduated in Marketing communication and PR at the Charles University, Faculty of Social sciences. Besides she also studied at The Paris Institute of Political Studies known as Sciences Po and Industrial design at the Czech Technical University. Currently, she is pursuing her master's degree in New Media Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University. During her studies, she falls in love with data analysis, the impact of new media on the society and the studies of human-computer interaction. Her work experience consists of promoting new technologies to everyday consumers and public, digital marketing, and also event and project management. In the field of research, she is mostly interested in Artificial Intelligence, its prospects and the impact on society. However, she is not afraid of niche topics related to new media such as pornography or death. Her last two talks at conferences were Afterlife of data on social networks and Contemporary myths about AI.



**Adrian Gahan**  
Independent Public Affairs Consultant

Adrian Gahan is an independent public affairs consultant, specialising in UK and EU politics. Adrian has 12 years of political experience in London, Brussels & Washington DC. From 2010-2017 he was Managing Director of Sancroft, a London and Washington DC based consultancy chaired by former Environment Secretary, John Gummer, Lord Deben.

Adrian was Special Adviser to Conservative MPs Greg Clark, Greg Barker and Charles Hendry from 2007-2010. He has also worked at BP Alternative Energy and with the Delegation of the European Commission to the United States. Adrian has a degree in European Studies from the University of Cambridge and is a dual British-Irish national.



**Gemma Galdon-Clavell**  
Director, Eticas Research & Consulting

Dr. Gemma Galdon-Clavell is a policy analyst working on the social, ethical and legal impact of data-intensive technologies. She is the Founder and Director of Eticas Research and Consulting and was a 2017 EU Women Innovators Prize finalist. Eticas currently employs 30 multidisciplinary staff, and has ongoing research contracts and grants from the European Commission (FP7 and H2020 programs), the European Agency for Fundamental Rights and the Open Society Foundation, among others. Dr. Galdon-Clavell has led research as a Principal Investigator in more than 10 large projects. She is a scientific and ethics expert at the Directorate General for Research and Innovation at the European Commission and sits on the board of Privacy International and Data & Ethics. She was recently shortlisted for the Booking.com Technology Playmakers Award.

Her work is focused on building socio-technical data architectures that incorporate legal, social and ethical concerns in their conception, production and implementation. She is a policy analyst by training and has worked on projects relating to surveillance and human rights and values, the societal impact of technology, smart cities, privacy, security policy, resilience and policing. Her recent academic publications tackle issues related to the proliferation of data-intensive technologies in urban settings, urban security policy and community safety, security and mega-events, the relationship between privacy, ethics and technology, and smart cities.

She completed her PhD on surveillance, security and urban policy at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, where she also received an MSc on Policy Management, and was later appointed Director of the Security Policy Programme at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC). Previously, she worked at the Transnational Institute, the United Nations' Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the Catalan Institute for Public Security. She teaches topics related to her research at several foreign universities and is a member of the IDRC-funded Latin-American Surveillance Studies Network. Additionally, she is a regular analyst on TV, radio and print media.



**Thomas Gomart**  
Director, French Institute of International Relations

Dr. Thomas Gomart (PhD in History at Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, and EMBA at HEC) is Director of Ifri. He previously was its Vice President for Strategic Development (2010-2015) and the Director of its Russia/NIS Centre (2004-2013).

Before joining the think tank industry, Gomart was a scholar (Assistant Professor at La Sorbonne, 1996-1999), a cadet officer in the Army (2000), and a policy entrepreneur (2001-2004). Joining Ifri in 2004, he set up the Russia/NIS centre. His academic and professional background has been closely related to post-Soviet space, but also to wider international issues (security, energy, and digital governance). As Lavoisier Fellow at the State Institute for International Relations (University-MGIMO – Moscow), Visiting Fellow at the Institute for Security Studies (European Union – Paris) and Marie Curie Fellow at the Department of War Studies (King's College – London), Gomart has acquired a diversified international experience.

As Researcher, he is currently working on Russia, digital governance, country risk, and think tanks. He recently published *Notre intérêt national. Quelle politique étrangère pour la France?* (ed., with Thierry de Montbrial), Editions Odile Jacob, 2017; *Europe: Subject or Object in the Geopolitics of Data?*, (ed., with Julien Nocetti and Clément Tonon), Etudes de l'Ifri, July 2018; as well as *L'affolement du monde - 10 enjeux géopolitiques*, Editions Tallandier, 2019.

Thomas Gomart has been a member of the Strategic Review Committee on the Strategic Review of Defence and National Security 2017 (French Ministry of Armed Forces). He is also a member of the editorial board of the French journals *Politique étrangère*, *Etudes*, and *Revue des deux mondes*.



**Charles Grant**  
Director, Centre for European Reform

Charles Grant helped to found the Centre for European Reform in 1996. In January 1998 he left *The Economist* to become the CER's first director. He is the author of numerous CER publications, including *Russia, China and global governance* (2012) and *How to build a modern European Union* (2013). He works on, among other subjects, EU foreign and defence policy, Russia, China, the euro and Britain's relationship with the EU.

After studying modern history at Cambridge University, Charles took a diploma in French politics at Grenoble University. Returning to London, Grant joined *Euromoney*, the financial magazine, in 1981. He moved to *The Economist* in 1986, where he wrote about the City. In 1987 he began a series of articles which exposed the County NatWest-Blue Arrow scandal, which led to two Department of Trade and Industry inquiries and a long criminal trial.

In 1989 *The Economist* posted Charles to Brussels, to cover the European Community. In 1993 Charles returned to *The Economist's* London office, soon becoming defence editor. His biography of Commission President Jacques Delors (*Delors: Inside the House that Jacques Built*, published by Nicholas Brealey) appeared in 1994. It was subsequently translated into French, Japanese and Russian.

He was a director and trustee of the British Council from 2002 to 2008. He is a member of the international advisory boards of the Moscow School of Civic Education, the Turkish think-tank EDAM and the French think-tank Terra Nova. He is a member of the council of the Ditchley Foundation, and chairman of the foundation's programme committee. In 2004 he became a chevalier of France's *Ordre National du Mérite*, and in 2013 a Companion of St Michael and St George (CMG) "for services to European and wider international policy-making". In 2015 he was awarded the Bene Merito medal by the Polish government and in December 2015 he was presented with the Star of Italy medal by the Italian government.

Charles is a regular contributor to the *Financial Times*, the *International New York Times* and many other publications.



## Sylvia Hartleif

Principal Advisor, Leader Foreign Policy Team European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission

Sylvia Hartleif is Principal Advisor and leader of the foreign policy team at the European Political Strategy Centre, the European Commission's in-house think tank. The EPSC provides strategic analysis and policy advice to the President and the College of the Commission.

Prior to joining the EPSC, she was for nine years senior advisor to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the German Bundestag and secretary of the Sub-Committee on Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation. From 2001 to 2003 she served as deputy secretary to the EU Affairs Committee and legal advisor to the Bundestag's delegation in the Convention on the Future of Europe on which she has published articles and co-authored two books. Her earlier professional commitments include the Parliamentary Assembly of NATO, the World Bank and the European Commission.

A graduate of Harvard Kennedy School, USA, and the Law School of Passau University, Germany, she is a member of the German Council on Foreign Relations and a Marshall Memorial Fellow of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.



## Vít Havelka

Research Fellow, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy, Ph.D. student, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Vít Havelka is a Ph.D. student at the Department of European Studies, Institute of International Relations, Charles University in Prague. Mr. Havelka focuses on institutional relations of the EU and its member states, the EU budget, Europeanisation, and the transformative power of the EU. Since 2016 Vít Havelka was employed as the Political Officer at the Norwegian Embassy in Prague, and from February 2018 he is a Research Fellow at EUROPEUM.



## Florian Herrmann

Head of the State Chancellery and Minister for Federal and European Affairs and the Media of Bavaria

Dr Florian Herrmann is a lawyer, Bavarian politician (CSU), Member of the Bavarian State Parliament and head of the Bavarian State Chancellery, and Minister of State for Federal and European Affairs and the Media.

Dr Herrmann studied law at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, the Goethe University in Frankfurt, and at the University of Bonn. Dr Herrmann joined the Christian Social Union (CSU) in Bavaria in 1998. He began his political career in 1999 as Managing Director of the CSU Local Association in Freising and was first elected to the Bavarian state parliament in 2008. From December 2011 to October 2013, he served as Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Local Issues and Internal Security. He was re-elected in State elections in 2013 and was then elected chairman of the Committee on Local Affairs, Homeland Security, and Sport. In 2018 he was appointed head of the Bavarian State Chancellery and Minister of State for Federal Affairs and after his re-election in 2018, the responsibilities of the ministerial office have been extended to European Affairs and the Media.



## Nikola Hořejš

Director of European Programme, STEM

Nikola Hořejš is a political psychology specialist and an advisor for public awareness and political campaigns at Institute for empirical research STEM (CZ). In the past he directed a foreign affairs desk at an economic daily newspaper or led the anti-corruption campaign at the Reconstruction of state initiative.



## Juraj Hošťák

InnovEYtion Hub Manager / EY's Smart City Coordinator

Juraj is the Manager of EY's regional InnovEYtion Hub, he specializes in innovation management and coordinates EY's Smart City activities. His main focus is on Innovation maturity assessment through EY's InnovEYtion Maturity Model, and supporting clients in process and service transformation, including digitization and change management. Juraj also manages the Hub's support to EU institutions, primarily in the area of innovative policy making and EU-wide innovation support.



## Wojciech Jakobik

Editor-In-Chief & Analyst, BiznesAlert.pl

Wojciech Jakobik is Editor-In-Chief at BiznesAlert.pl. He has studied Jagiellonian University in Krakow and holds MA in international relations & BA in political science. Wojciech is also author of multiple analyses on disinformation and information policy, especially in energy sector.



## Karel Janeček

Czech Mathematician, Visionary and Author of Voting System D21 (Janecek Method)

Mgr. Karel Janeček, MBA, PhD. is a Czech mathematician, visionary and author of voting system D21 (Janecek Method). Worked as a mathematical analyst for the hedge fund Market Research Ltd., and served as Researcher in the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

On the basis of his experience, he started the firm RSJ Algorithmic Trading, which has become the biggest market maker in derivatives exchanges worldwide. He founded a few endowment funds – Anti-corruption endowment fund, Neuron – fund for support Science and Research, Endowment fund of help for people suffering from irrational bureaucracy and Karel Janecek Endowment fund supporting education and civic society activities. He currently devotes his time to promoting accountable government through citizen action and electoral reform and further intensely supports for scientific research and anti-corruption.



**Jakub Jaňura**  
Big Data Expert,  
Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic

Jakub Jaňura studied Regional geography and regional development at Masaryk university. The academic activities were focused on the field of socio-geographical regionalisation and the issues of spatial accessibility from the point of view of people with special needs.

After that worked as a manager of Voluntary union of municipalities Čistá Jihlava and part of Local Action Group 'Podbrněnsko', both with focus on local development and strategic cooperation with local mayors.

Since 2016 in civil service in the Ministry of Interior. There he was dealing with the issues of reform of the administrative geography of the Czech republic. As a leader of the team responsible for implementation of the Strategic goal "Reviewed and Optimised Public Governance at Territorial Level" of Strategic Framework of the Development of Public Administration in the Czech Republic in 2014-2020 he continued in reform activities from wider perspectives.

Recently he works as a Head of the Unit for Coordination of Public Administration and International Relations, which is focused particularly on the project management of overall reform of public administration in the Czech republic, based mostly on forementioned Strategic Framework.



**Jakub Kalenský**  
Senior Fellow, Eurasia Center, Atlantic Council

Jakub Kalenský joined the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center in fall 2018 as a non-resident senior fellow focusing on disinformation.

In this capacity, Mr. Kalenský helps raise awareness about pro-Kremlin disinformation campaigns via articles, reports, interviews, public speeches, and briefings for government officials and journalists in Europe. He also serves as disinformation lead of the Eurasia Center's Ukrainian Election Task Force. Between 2015 and 2018, Mr. Kalenský worked for the European Union's East StratCom Task Force as the team lead for countering disinformation. There, he was responsible for the EUvsDisinfo campaign and its flagship product, the weekly #DisinfoReview. This work also included briefings and trainings for journalists and civil servants, as well as background briefings for the media. Before that, Mr. Kalenský worked as a political correspondent in numerous print, online, and TV news outlets in the Czech Republic. He was awarded for his work in 2011 with a prize for promising junior journalists. He holds degrees in Philosophy and Russian language and literature.



**Ivana Karásková**  
Analyst at the Association for International Affairs, ChinfluenCE project coordinator

Ivana Karásková is an international relations specialist, trained journalist and China analyst. She lectures on Chinese foreign and security policy at Charles University and works for the Association for International Affairs (AMO) as its in-house China research fellow.



**Eliška Kodyšová**  
Chairwoman of the Czech Women's Lobby,  
Director of APERIO – Healthy Parenting Association

Eliška Kodyšová is a social psychologist and activist for women's rights. She has a Master's degree in psychology (1999) and a Ph.D. in social psychology (2013) from the Charles University, Prague. Since 2005, she's collaborated with APERIO - Healthy Parenting Association, developing and coordinating programmes focused on helping vulnerable groups of women (mothers after parenting leave, single parents) back to work and empowering expectant mothers in making informed choice about maternity care. Currently (since 2016) she's APERIO's CEO. She has been chairwoman of the Czech Women's Lobby since 2018.



**Jan Kovář**  
Senior Researcher,  
Institute of International Relations, Prague

Jan Kovář is a Senior Researcher at the Institute of International Relations in Prague and also Teaching Fellow with University of New York in Prague and Metropolitan University Prague. Main interests of Dr Jan Kovář lie in EU politics, migration, and Central and Eastern European region. He has a Ph.D. in International Relations and European Studies from Metropolitan University Prague.



**Ivan Krastev**  
Chairman, Centre for Liberal Strategies,  
Sofia & Permanent Fellow,  
Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna

Ivan Krastev is the chairman of the Centre for Liberal Strategies in Sofia and permanent fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna. He is a founding board member of the European Council on Foreign Relations, a member of the Board of Trustees of The International Crisis Group and is a contributing opinion writer for the New York Times.

In 2018-2019 Ivan is appointed as the Henry A. Kissinger Chair in Foreign Policy and International Relations at the John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress. His latest books in English are "After Europe" (UPenn Press, May 2017) "Democracy Disrupted. The Global Politics on Protest" (UPenn Press, May 2014); "In Mistrust We Trust: Can Democracy Survive When We Don't Trust Our Leaders?" (TED Books, 2013). He is a co-author with Stephen Holmes of a forthcoming book "The Light that Failed" (with Penguin) on perils of the politics of imitation.



## Jean-Pierre Landau

Professor, Economics Department,  
SciencesPo Paris; Senior Research Fellow,  
Harvard Kennedy School

Jean-Pierre Landau has worked in the French Government for most of his career. From 2006 to 2011 he was Deputy Governor of the Banque de France. He also served as Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (Washington), Undersecretary at the Ministry of Finance, and Executive Director at the EBRD (London).

He has been Visiting Lecturer at Princeton University (Woodrow Wilson School) and Visiting professor at SAIS (John Hopkins - Washington DC). He is currently associate Professor of Economics at SciencesPo (Paris). He was Dean of the School of Public Affairs in 2014-2015.

He has been appointed a Senior Research Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School for the period 2018-2020



## Silvie Lauder

Editor, Respekt

For the past 14 years, Silvie Lauder has worked at the Respekt weekly magazine. She specializes in domestic politics as well as social issues. In 2013, she was awarded the Czech Journalism award by the Open Society Fund Prague.



## Marika Linntam

Director General of the Department for  
European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs of Republic of Estonia

Marika Linntam works at the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is Director General of the Europe Department, responsible for bilateral relations as well as general European Union issues, including Brexit coordination in Estonia.

At the Ministry since 2001, she has devoted her career to EU issues, first during the preparations for Estonia's accession to the EU and then during Estonia's 15 years of Membership. During this time Marika Linntam has worked on EU reform, represented Estonia before the EU Court of Justice, and as Antici assured the coordination across different policy fields in the Estonian Permanent Representation to the EU. For her contribution to the preparations and running of Estonia's first-ever Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2017, the President of Estonia awarded her the Order of the White Star (5th class).

Marika Linntam has a law degree from the University of Tartu in Estonia and a master's degree in EU law from the University of Rennes I in France. She has herself lectured and given seminars on EU competences and decision-making.



## Jan Macháček

Chairman of the Board, Institute for Politics  
and Society

Jan Macháček is an analyst for the daily newspaper Lidové noviny. Before, he worked for Respekt, which he co-founded after the Velvet revolution. His main fields of interest are political economy, the Eurozone crisis, European integration etc. He publishes his daily online column, Monitor, for Lidové noviny. He teaches journalism at NYU Prague. During the communist era, he was a vocal dissent of the regime and is a signatory of Charta 77. He was involved in samizdat publishing and underground music culture. He is currently the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Institute for Politics and Society and formerly, he was the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Václav Havel Library. He has been repeatedly awarded as the best journalist in the country (for instance, he received the Ferdinand Peroutka Award in 2010).



## Michael Matlosz

President of EuroScience

Professor Michael Matlosz holds a BS degree in chemical engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and a PhD in electrochemical engineering from the University of California at Berkeley (USA). He began his professional research career in 1985 in the department of materials science at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL) in Lausanne (Switzerland), prior to appointment in 1993 as university professor of chemical process engineering at the University of Lorraine in Nancy (France).

More recently, Professor Matlosz served from 2014 to 2017 as President and Chief Executive Officer of the French National Research Agency (ANR) in Paris. An elected member of the National Academy of Technologies of France since 2011, Professor Matlosz was also President of Science Europe, the Brussels-based advocacy association for European research performing and research funding organisations. Currently a distinguished professor of chemical engineering at the University of Lorraine, Professor Matlosz began in July 2018 a four-year term of office as President of EuroScience, the European Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology.



## Eric Maurice

Head of Brussels Office,  
Robert Schuman Foundation

Eric Maurice joined the Fondation Robert Schuman, a French think-tank on EU affairs, in 2018 after a career in journalism. He was editor in chief of the Brussels-based website EUobserver from 2015 to 2018. He was previously editor in chief of the multilingual pan-European news website Presseurop, from 2009 to 2014. He started his career at the French weekly magazine Courrier international. He holds a master of Contemporary History of International Relations from the Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne University and graduated from the Paris Ecole Supérieure de Journalisme. He is also an alumni from the Executive Course in European Studies of France's Ecole Nationale d'Administration.





## Jaanika Merilo

Advisor to Minister of Infrastructure,  
Advisor to Mayors of Dnipro and Lviv

Jaanika Merilo has 20 years of experience in IT and 15 years in TMT investment management. During these years she participated in creating Estonian government backed Estonian Development fund, dedicated to financing high export potential innovative projects, was Managing Director of Investment fund US Invest, and since Maidan has dedicated her work and time to create the good business and investment environment in Ukraine by implementing e-government solutions from e-democracy to open budgets and procurements. Jaanika is considered as one of the main drivers of Ukrainian Digital Revolution and was nominated in 2015 by Google and Financial Times to top NE100 of "Innovators whose innovations change the world for better". Jaanika has graduated her masters from the University of Cumbria in UK and studied Executive Management in Cornell and is lecturing in several leading universities in Ukraine.



## Matthijs van Miltenburg

Member of European Parliament

Matthijs van Miltenburg is been serving as a Member of European Parliament since 2014, affiliated with the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) and part of the Dutch delegation of D66. He is a full member of the committee for Regional Development (REGI) and a substitute in the committee for Transport and Tourism and Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO). Within the committee for Regional Development, Matthijs van Miltenburg serves as coordinator for the ALDE delegation within that committee. Finally, Matthijs van Miltenburg is a member of the delegations for European-Latin American affairs.

Previously, Matthijs van Miltenburg has worked at the Brabant Investment Agency as project manager foreign investments, and has gained international experience at the North-Brabant region and the ministry of Transport and Water. Furthermore, he has served as a local councillor for D66 in the city of Den Bosch.



## Lucia Mokrá

Dean of the Faculty of Social and  
Economic Sciences, Comenius University

Lucia Mokrá graduated in Political Science and Law. She had been awarded title „philosophiae doctor“ from Constitutional Law and associate professorship from International Law and European Law. She is graduate of „Diploma in an Introduction to English and European Union Law“, organised by University of Cambridge.

She is author of many research work, papers and text-books at home as well as abroad. She is participating in many research projects focusing on European law from the institutional point of view, as well as from implementation practice. Her main research area are International Law, European Law, European Institutions, Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. She is actively involved in lecturing process at universities abroad (United Kingdom, Slovenia, Poland, Czech Republic and Italy). She is serving as dean of Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences of Comenius University in Bratislava, rapporteur of Intergovernmental Council of UNESCO MOST programme and board member of TEPSA. She is national coordinator of RAUN programme for Slovakia.



## Oliver Moody

Berlin correspondent, The Times

Oliver joined The Times as a trainee in 2011 and subsequently worked for the newspaper as an environment reporter and leader writer. From 2015 to 2018 he was The Times' Science Correspondent, concentrating on biomedicine and artificial intelligence. He was named Science Commentator and Young Commentator of the year at the 2018 UK Comment Awards. Last September he moved to Berlin, and now covers northern and central Europe.



## Vassilis Ntousas

Senior International Relations Policy  
Advisor, Foundation for European  
Progressive Studies

Vassilis is International Relations Policy Advisor at the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS), where he coordinates various international projects and activities and conducts political research. Vassilis received his MSc in International Relations from the London School of Economics in 2011, specialising mainly in foreign policy analysis and international security issues. He had previously received a First Class Honours for his BA in International Relations and Politics from the University of Sheffield in 2008. Prior to joining FEPS, Vassilis worked as senior communications and political advisor at the Municipality of Thessaloniki, Greece, providing advice in the areas of international affairs and intercity diplomatic relations. He has extensive experience in strategic and tactical political communications, with a particular focus on crafting comprehensive, tailor-made messaging, engagement and outreach strategies.

Vassilis began his career in Brussels taking part in a traineeship at the Secretariat General of the European Commission, where he carried out political analysis on the proceeding of various committees of the European Parliament, related to international affairs. Following this, he worked as a public affairs consultant at APCO Worldwide, representing a variety of high-profile clients, advising on policy-making and regulatory processes within the EU institutional landscape.



## Kalle Palling

Chairperson of European Union Affairs  
Committee, Riigikogu of the Republic of  
Estonia

Since 2007, Kalle has been an active member of the Estonian parliament, making him one of youngest members ever elected. Additionally Kalle has served as a Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Environment Committee and a member of the Economic Committee.

He has been responsible for implementing the 3rd energy package on a gas market in Estonia, as well as opening the electricity market. He's spending lot of time in his parliamentary work to promote e-governance in Estonia and abroad. Estonia has decided to embrace disruptive technologies and Kalle Palling has played a major role in drafting and negotiating the rules for many sectors. The latest success was a new law that took in to effect last week that regulates ride-sharing company's like Uber & Bolt to operate in Estonia on the books. It's one of the first times this has happened anywhere in Europe.

Kalle Palling has also worked as a member of the supervisory board at Eesti Energia (Enefit), an international energy company, that operates in the energy market of the Baltic and Nordic countries. Also as a member of supervisory board at Tallinn Airport and Estonian Environmental Research Center.

Kalle is also a co-founder in a startup called Cachet. Cachet is changing the traditional insurance model by putting the person to the center point. They'll give customers the possibility to influence their insurance price by sharing relevant data with the insurance provider, while still remaining in control of their data.



**Tomáš Petříček**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Tomáš Petříček was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, in charge of setting the overall policy and strategic goals of the Foreign Ministry. He previously served as Deputy Minister of Social Affairs of the Czech Republic. He is a member of the Czech Social Democratic Party.

Before joining the government, Mr Petříček was a senior advisor in the European Parliament and had a successful career in local government in the City of Prague. He also served as a lecturer in International Political Economy at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University.

He holds a PhD in International Relations and is fluent in English and conversational in French.



**Jaroslava Rezlerová**  
Managing Director, Manpower

Jaroslava Rezlerová has spent five years at the French Chamber of Commerce. She is Member of the Board of People Management Forum - a non-profit organization for HR professionals, which brings together the largest team of professionals in the field of human resources in the Czech Republic and also a founding member and the president of the Association of providers of per-sonnel services - APPS.

Since 2001 she is a Managing Director of Manpower, company dedicated to enriching people's lives with meaningful employment and development opportunities, and providing companies with innovative workforce solutions that help them increase agility, improve productivity and boost the bottom line.

Jaroslava Rezlerová is a graduate of philosophical faculty, Charles University, specialised in Czech and French language and literature. She holds a DESS and MBA degree by the University in Lille, France.



**František Ružička**  
State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic

Ambassador František Ružička was the Chef de Cabinet to the President of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly (2017-2018).

Ambassador Ružička was Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations from September 2012 to August 2017, during which time he served as Chair of the Fifth Committee for the 69th Session of the General Assembly, co-chair of the Ad hoc Working Group on Revitalization (68th Session), member of Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing (68th Session) and Member of the Secretary General Independent Panel to Assess and Enhance Effectiveness of the UN-Habitat (May-September 2017).

From October 2004 until his appointment as Permanent Representative to the UN, he was Director General of the European Affairs Section at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bratislava, except for the periods August 2011 to May 2012, when he was in charge of the United Nations Department, and May 2005 to February 2010, when he served as Ambassador to Poland. Between September 2003 and April 2005, he was Director of the Department for Internal Affairs and Institutions of the European Union. Alternating foreign diplomatic postings with service at headquarters. His extensive career spans the period when his country was part of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic.

He was Deputy Chief of Mission at Slovakia's embassy in Prague, Czech Republic, from August 1999 to August 2003; Director of the First Territorial Department (North America and Western Europe) at the Foreign Ministry from December 1998 to July 1999; Deputy Director General of the Political Section, from January to November 1998; Director of the Department of International Economic Cooperation from October 1996 to December 1997; and Deputy Director of the Office of the State Secretary from August to September 1996. Ambassador Ružička represented Slovakia at many high-level summits of the European Union (1999-2012), participated at the negotiations of the Lisbon Treaty. While posted in Washington D.C. took part in regular talks of the Bretton-Woods institutions (1993-1996). Prior to a brief earlier stint in the Department of Economic Cooperation, from May to August 1996, Mr. Ružička was First Secretary for Economics at Slovakia's Embassy in Washington, D.C., from January 1993 to May 1996; First Secretary (Press), Embassy of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic in the United States, from July to December 1992; and Deputy Director of the Press Department at the Foreign Ministry, from January to July 1992.

He worked in the Press Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Prague from July 1990 to December 1991, having had his first overseas posting as Third Secretary (Press) in Madrid, and after joining the Ministry's Press Department as a Desk Officer in July 1989.

He graduated from Charles University in Prague in 1991, and from the Moscow Institute for International Relations in 1989. He speaks English, Russian, Polish, passive Spanish and French.

He is author of several publications on Slovak foreign policy, EU integration and author of the book "European Diplomacy" (2012) on the role, work and policies of the European External Action Service.



**Constanza Sanhuesa**  
Research Fellow, WZB Berlin Social  
Science Center & Research Associate  
V-Dem Institute

Dr. Constanza Sanhuesa Petrarca is a Research Fellow at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Research Associate with the V-Dem Institute and Associate Editor of Representation, a Journal of Representative Democracy.

She has worked at Sciences Po Paris, with the Electoral Integrity Project at the University of Sydney, and was a Marie Curie Fellow at the University of Mannheim. She also has designed and delivered various political science courses at the Universities of Mannheim, Oslo, Gothenburg, Humboldt in Berlin and Sciences Po Paris and worked as a consultant for different national and international organisations including the European Commission and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).



**Oliver Schenk**  
Head of the State Chancellery  
and Minister for Federal and  
European Affairs of Saxony

As the head of the State Chancellery, Mr Oliver Schenk aids the Minister-President determine policy regulations and is also responsible for media policy and media law in Saxony. As a State Minister he acts as the contact person for issues concerning the State territory and its subdivision, as well as general issues relating to the State administration and the authorities' structural organisation.

After completing his schooling, he studied Economics in Münster. Having graduated as an economist, Mr Oliver Schenk began his professional career in the Saxon civil service in 1994, initially at the State Ministry for the Environment and Regional Development. In 1999, he moved to the Ministry of Finance, initially as a speech writer and later as the Finance Minister's chief clerk.

From 2002 to 2005, Mr Oliver Schenk was the chief clerk of Minister-President Georg Milbradt, and between 2005 and 2009, he was the head of the departments of Portfolio Co-ordination and Political Planning, Federal Affairs & International Affairs at the Saxon State Chancellery. Mr Schenk then moved to the Saxon State Ministry of the Interior as the head of the Administrative Upgrading and IT department.



**Hanni Schoelermann**  
Economist, European Central Bank

Hanni Schoelermann is an Economist in the Directorate-General International & European Relations of the European Central Bank. Prior to joining the ECB, she worked at the IMF Europe Office in Brussels. She holds a degree in Economics from the University of London and a Master's degree in Public Policy from the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin.



**Jaana Sinipuro**  
Project Director, The Finnish Innovation  
Fund Sitra

Jaana Sinipuro is an experienced ICT professional who works as Project Director responsible for the IHAN® – Human-driven data economy focus area and also sees to the final stages of the Digital Health HUB projects. The aim of Isaacus – the Digital Health HUB is to put Finland's poorly managed and forgotten data reserves to better use to serve the needs of research, product development and leadership. The new IHAN® project expands the opportunities of data economy to develop a sector-neutral standard for consent-based exchange of information between various operators. Jaana has more than 17 years' experience in analytics and big data. She has background from management accounting and ICT projects. Her passion is to facilitate dialogues between business and ICT people in data driven world.



**Nadine Smith**  
Director, Centre for Public Impact

Nadine leads the Centre for Public Impact's (CPI) global mission to understand how to strengthen trust and legitimacy for government in a fast-paced age, with high expectations of public services and institutions, rising inequalities and disengaged populations. CPI works to enable people and institutions to have more productive relationships so that policy can be better designed and informed, with better outcomes for people as its goal. - Nadine is as a former media spokesperson and strategist in various UK government departments. She has dedicated her time since then to advising governments around the world on how to understand and embrace the values and expectations people, particularly minority and vulnerable groups, place on leaders.

Prior to this, Nadine advised BCG's global public sector practice helping to promote BCG's thinking on well-being, education, employment and the effectiveness of government. Nadine was the founding director of communications at the Institute for Government, helping to build its reputation as a credible thinker, teacher and commentator on effective government. Nadine is also a journalist and mother and leads CPI's global communications function.



**Attila Steiner**  
Deputy State Secretary for EU  
Relations of Hungary

Mr. Attila Steiner was appointed Deputy State Secretary for EU Relations on 1st of June 2018, after the State Secretariat for EU Relations has established within the Prime Minister's Office of Hungary in the new governmental structure. The main focus of the State Secretariat's work is improving bilateral relations with Member States and also put great emphasis on relations with the EU institutions, especially with the European Parliament and the European Commission.

Prior to his appointment, he worked as a political advisor at Prime Minister's Office of Hungary and dealt with energy policy. Earlier stations of his career include a 4-year service as a political advisor at the European Parliament, also in the field of energy policy. He graduated as an economist. Apart from his native Hungarian, he speaks fluent in English and German languages.



**Hilary Sutcliffe**  
Director, SocietyInside

Hilary runs London-based not-for-profit SocietyInside. The name is a riff on the famous brand 'Intellinside' and its focus is the desire that innovation should have the values of people and planet at its heart - not scientific kudos or the need simply to make money.

She is the co-chair of the World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Values, Ethics & Innovation and co-driving a WEF supported project on Trust & Tech Governance (TIGTech) which explores the learning from past governance failures to inform how the governance of future tech, including AI, can perhaps better earn societal and political trust.



**Reka Szemerényi**  
Executive Vice President,  
Center for European Policy Analysis

Reka Szemerényi has been EVP of CEPA since 2017. Her previous positions include being Ambassador to the US of Hungary, security policy advisor to the Prime Minister, senior advisor to the Chairman and CEO of MOL Group, research fellow of the IISS in London, visiting professor at the University of Milan. Her PhD thesis topic was Soviet energy policies towards the satellite states in the Cold War.



**Peter Szenasy**  
Managing partner, EPDOR

Peter Szenasy is an international energy expert and founder of EPDOR (Prague, Czech Republic and Paris, France), a private company focusing on the latest available technologies in energy and ICT. Over the past two decades, he has held several leadership positions in the energy industry in Central Europe. His career includes various executive leadership with Czech energy operator CEZ. At some point in his career he worked as a member of the statutory body of a new project for a nuclear power plant in Slovakia, an energy company in Bulgaria and a traditional Czech engineering company Škoda Praha. Finally, he focused on implementing modern IT applications to support large capital projects. In 2013, his ICT project was among the 5 best IT projects in the Czech Republic.

EPDOR was founded in 2015 on the initiative of Peter Szenasy and Grant Thornton Advisory. Peter is the executive partner of EPDOR and its majority shareholder. Although it is committed to the traditional energy industry, its goal is to become a consultant in the new energy industry by seeking new opportunities and projects for smart environmental technologies for energy efficiency, emission reductions, the environmental impact of self-driving vehicles, the Internet of Things applications for energy sector or hydrogen as an alternative energy source. The company has achieved double-digit growth every year since 2015 and established a branch in France in 2018. In 2019, EPDOR became the finalist of the Franco-Czech Chamber of Commerce Award in the "Business Story" category. Peter received B.A. with honors at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, USA and M.B.A. from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Peter speaks four languages and has participated in several training programs, including seminars at Harvard Business School and INSEAD.



**Adnan Tabatabai**  
Chief Executive Officer, CARPO – Center  
for Applied Research in Partnership  
with the Orient

Adnan Tabatabai is co-founder and CEO of the Germany-based Middle East think tank CARPO – Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient. As an Iran analyst he is consulted by European policymakers and businesses on Iran-related affairs. Tabatabai holds an assigned lectureship at the University of Dusseldorf and is author of the German book "Morgen in Iran" (Oct. 2016, Edition Körber-Stiftung)



**Wojtek Talko**  
Advisor and Member of Cabinet  
of Commissioner Věra Jourová on Justice,  
Consumers and Gender Equality

Wojtek Talko is a member of the cabinet who advises European Commissioner for Justice, Gender Equality and Fundamental Rights Věra Jourová on all aspects of data protection issues and communication.

Wojtek has worked for the European Commission since 2009 and dealt with variety of issues, including EU trade policy, negotiations of the multi-annual EU budget (MFF) and EU development policy.

Before joining the European Commission, Wojtek worked mainly in public affairs in London and Brussels. Embracing the opportunities created by the EU he studied and worked in many European cities, including the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, the London School of Economics, the University of Ljubljana and Bergen, respectively.



**Emily Tamkin**  
Freelance reporter, formerly of Foreign  
Policy, BuzzFeed News, Washington Post

Emily Tamkin is a freelance reporter and writer focused on foreign affairs and based in Washington, DC. She was formerly a staff writer at Foreign Policy and BuzzFeed News and has written for the Washington Post, Politico, and the Economist, among other publications.

She is currently working on a book about George Soros for Harper Books. She has a BA in Russian literature from Columbia, a MPhil in Russian and East European Studies from Oxford, and conducted research on Soviet dissidence on a Fulbright in Bremen, Germany.



# PRAGUE european summit

27 - 29 MAY 2019

A silhouette of the Prague skyline, including various church spires and buildings, set against a blue background. The skyline is positioned below the main title and above the logos.

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**Vita Anda Terauda**  
Chairperson of European Affairs  
Committee, Saeima of the Republic  
of Latvia

Vita Anda Terauda is an elected Member of Parliament from Development/For (Attīstībai/Par) since 2018. She chairs the European Affairs Committee, as well as the Media Policy Sub-committee.

Vita Terauda was the founding director of the Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS, leading the think tank through its first decade, establishing PROVIDUS as a strong, sustainable voice in domestic policy-making, and as a trusted knowledge partner regionally and internationally. Terauda has a long association with PASOS, a regional network of think tanks, serving in various capacities - as Board Chair, Board Member and Executive Director.

As Director of the Soros Foundation – Latvia from 1995 to 2002, Terauda supported democratic development in Latvia via a wide range of grant-making and operational programming in areas such as criminal justice reform, introduction of new models of bilingual education, youth exchange programs, establishment of the Riga Graduate School of Law, civil society development, governmental transparency and accountability, judicial reform. Vita Terauda held government positions in the early 1990s, including the Minister of State Reform, spearheading the post-Soviet transformation of Latvia's executive branch of government, including establishment of the civil service, the School of Public Administration, freedom of information regulations, conflict of interest legislation, administrative remedies, and overhauling the decision-making process at the centre of government.



**Stefan Tinca**  
Political Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of Romania

Stefan Tinca is currently the Political Director of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Tinca joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania in 1995. Between 1997 and 2000 he was CFSP counsellor at the Romanian Mission to the EU. In 2000-2002, he served as Director for the EU in the MFA. Between 2002 and 2006, he was posted again to the Mission of Romania to the EU (EP, ESDP and then deputy PSC). In 2006, he returned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Deputy Political Director, to become Director General for Political Affairs in 2007, a position he held until 2011. He then served as Director General for Regional Affairs within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2011-2012). Between October 2012 and April 2016, he was Ambassador of Romania to the Kingdom of Belgium. In April 2016, he was appointed State Secretary for Defence Policy at the Ministry of Defence of Romania.

Tinca joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs again in early 2017, as the Political Director. He holds a PhD degree in International Relations from the Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj Napoca (Romania).



**Helena Truchlá**  
Editor, *Aktualne.cz* & *Hospodářské noviny*

Helena Truchlá writes and edits articles for *Aktualne.cz* and *Hospodářské noviny*. She focuses on Czech foreign policy, migration, EU and digital societies. Truchlá studied Political Science at the Masaryk University in Brno.



**Iliyana Tsanova**  
Deputy Managing Director of the European  
Fund for Strategic Investment, European  
Investment Bank

Ms. Iliyana Tsanova is Deputy Managing Director of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) – a EUR 33 billion guarantee facility, launched jointly by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank Group to stimulate investments in the European Union. Prior to joining EFSI, Ms. Tsanova had over 12 years of development banking experience with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, London, UK. Ms. Tsanova held a number of non-executive board positions with infrastructure funds and utility companies. In 2013 and 2014, Ms. Tsanova was appointed Deputy Prime Minister in two caretaker governments of Bulgaria. In 2015 Ms. Tsanova was named Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum (WEF), Switzerland. Ms. Tsanova's academic background is in Corporate and Business Finance. She holds a MSc. in Finance from University for National and World Economy – Sofia, Bulgaria, and a postgraduate studies in Financial Management as visiting scholar at Georgetown University – Washington DC, USA.



**Žiga Turk**  
University of Ljubljana,  
Slovenia & Martens Center, Brussels

Žiga Turk is a Professor in Construction Informatics at the Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. In addition to his academic career where he worked on design communication, computer integrated construction and internet science, he was twice a minister in the Government of Slovenia and Secretary General of the Felipe Gonzalez's Reflection Group on the Future of Europe.



**Peter Varga**  
CEO, Lafluence

Peter Varga is a founder and CEO of Lafluence - Online curated influencer marketplace that connects brands looking for reaching new customers, with influencers looking for monetisation of their online presence. Ex-Googler, turned Tech Entrepreneur, currently leading Lafluence on it's mission to make influencer marketing more efficient.



**Caroline Vernailen**  
Global Manager PR & Community Building,  
Democracy International

Democracy International is a Germany-based NGO working on the promotion of direct democracy and citizen participation worldwide. As Democracy International's Global Manager for PR & Community Building, Caroline Vernailen advocates for more transparent and participatory policies and supports activists worldwide. One of Democracy International's key focuses has been to ensure citizens get a seat at the table in the European Union. Caroline Vernailen studied International Relations at the University of Leuven and Broadcast Journalism at the Erasmus University College Brussels. Before joining Democracy International in 2017, she worked for the Belgian Development Agency in Morocco and UNOPS in Switzerland.



## Daniela Vincenti

Spokesperson and Strategic Communication Adviser to the President, European Economic and Social Committee

Mrs Vincenti has led the pan-European media network EURACTIV as editor-in-chief for 10 years. She joined EURACTIV in 2008 as parliamentary editor, leading the coverage of the European elections and managing 33 professionals across Europe.

She worked as a journalist for more than 25 years in Italy, the United States and Germany, where she was the financial correspondent for Italian daily Il Messaggero. Upon her arrival in Brussels in 2002, she developed the communication activities of the Platform of European social NGOs (Social Platform) and in 2007 joined Paris-based think-tank Notre Europe to promote the first pan-European deliberative poll (Tomorrow's Europe).

She was educated at the Sorbonne in Paris and Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism in New York.



## Lucia Yar

Senior Editor, EURACTIV Slovakia

Lucia Yar is a Senior Editor of EURACTIV Slovakia, focusing on external and security affairs of the EU. Prior to that, she held an advisory position at the Ministry of Defence of the Slovak Republic and since 2014 she has been lecturing at the Comenius University in Bratislava and European Security and Defence College. For over ten years, she has been a contributor and commentator for various Slovak media, focusing on the Middle East and Turkey.



## Linda Zeilina

Director of RE-DEFINE London and Fellow, RSA & Think Visegrad Fellow, EUROPEUM

Linda is the Director of the RE-DEFINE London office, where she oversees the strategic development and research priorities of the think tank. She also carries out and supervises its work on sustainability and sustainable finance, and digitalisation. She has written a range of policy documents on sustainable investing and European governance and is a frequent speaker and moderator at European conferences. Her recent work has focussed on drafting a new social contract, populism and tackling wide-spread misinformation or fake news.

Previously, Linda has worked as an adviser and speechwriter for a number of prominent policymakers in Europe, and was consulting for a Berlin-based think tank. For several years she also actively participated in the European Youth Parliament network in a variety of roles. Linda is currently a Fellow at the Royal Society of Arts and is this year's Think Visegrad Fellow at EUROPEUM. Linda holds degrees from University of Glasgow and the London School of Economics, and McGill University.



## Laurent Zylberberg

Director of Institutional, International and European Relations, Groupe Caisse des Dépôts

Laurent Zylberberg, has sociology, political science and public law background. He holds a PhD (1992) in sociology. He is currently Senior Executive Vice-President of the French Caisse des Dépôts in charge of International and Public Affairs. He is also Chairman of the European Long Term Investors Association since 2016. The association gathers the main European public banks and financial institution like KfW, Cassa di Depositi, BGK, CDC...

Political adviser for different Ministers (Home office, Defence, Prime Minister's office, social affairs) from 1989 to 1993, he also taught at Sorbonne University in political science and public law. Social Affairs Counsellor at the French Embassy in London until 1996, then joined "Euroconsultants" a consulting company in Brussels. Back to Paris in 1998, he worked for France Telecom/Orange as marketing director for public services. In 2002, he is appointed Group Director for public affairs. In 2005, he is Group Director for Employee Relations. In 2011, he is appointed as CEO of Orange Vietnam before being designated, in 2013 as Group Chief Compliance Officer.



## Adela Zábrazná

Executive Manager, Slovak Alliance for the Innovative Economy

Adela Zabrazna currently serves as Executive Manager of The Slovak Alliance for Innovation Economy (SAPIE), the largest innovative alliance in Slovakia with 80+ members. She joined SAPIE in 2017 as a project manager for international cooperation. Prior to returning to Slovakia, she worked as a consultant for public sector projects at KPMG Czech Republic. She also worked as analyst and a head of the working group on economy in the Prague-based think tank European Values. She completed her MSc. studies at Advanced Master of European Politics and Policies at KU Leuven and her Master studies at the University of Economics in Prague and University of Edinburgh. Her academic interests include digital economy and policy, and innovation in CEE.



## Věra Řiháčková-Pachta

Advocacy Manager, Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum & Associated Research Fellow, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy

Vera Rihackova Pachta is an Advocacy Manager at the Secretariat of the Steering Committee of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum in Brussels and an Associated Research Fellow with EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy. Her major areas of expertise include EU foreign policy with focus on Eastern Partnership countries, civil society, EU democracy assistance and the EU instruments of external action.

In May 2014 - December 2015 she served as a member of the Group of External Advisors on the EU policies at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. She holds the 2014 PASOS Think Tank Publication Award for her paper "Taking Stock of the EU Civil Society Funding in EaP Countries".



**Petr Šrámek**  
AI Visionary & Entrepreneur

Petr Šrámek is a Czech visionary, entrepreneur, mentor and artificial intelligence popularizer. He believes science and technology can help people achieve higher, richer levels of existence.

After 30 years of a successful business IT career, Petr helps innovative teams in the field of Artificial Intelligence technology to grow into self-confident companies with global ambitions. He provides advice on fundraising, strategy and product management. He advises companies for cooperation with AI startups and help universities to engage in such ecosystem. He works closely with several AI startups.

"There is no room for borders between countries in the field of artificial intelligence. Our borders are limited only by our courage and curiosity, and every day they are moved." says Petr Šrámek.

Petr has been featured in the group of 28 AI leaders in the flagship WIPO study next to Nick Bostrom, Frank Chen, Martin Ford, Kai-Fu Lee, Andrew Ng, Ben Lorica and others.

Petr is a co-founder of the Platform on Artificial Intelligence at the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic, a partner of the European Commission. He is a member of Peter Diamandis's organization Abundance 360, Entrepreneur in Residence at Singularity University and High Commissioner for Czech Republic in the World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF).



**Ingeborg Radok Žádná**  
Vice-Rector for International Relations  
and Artistic Activity, The Academy of  
Performing Arts in Prague

Ingeborg Radok Žádná is a Vice-Rector for International Relations and Artistic Activity of The Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (AMU). Žádná lectures at Music and Dance Faculty (HAMU). She is also a member of the council of Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen (AEC). In 2003, she received the Order of Arts and Letters, awarded by the Government of France.

# Agenda

Prague European Summit 2019

## 1989 – 2004 – 2019: Different Faces of Europe (Opening Panel Discussion)

Some argue that the European Union is more united than ever, following the Brexit negotiations and recent EU crises. Others claim, however, that internal differences are growing and that the next phase of European integration will be characterized by divergences. Therefore, an even broader perspective is needed: following the euphoria of 1989 and the subsequent rounds of Eastern enlargement, has the European Union of 2019 finally overcome the East-West divide? Are new divisions emerging or are the old differences between Member States returning? This panel discussion will focus on the long-term evolution of the European Union (and Europe at large) and analyse the face the European Union will wear in the coming years.

## Annual "Vision for Europe" Award

Vision for Europe is the annually bestowed award for distinguished personalities who have, in the course of their lives, devoted substantial energies to the establishment and development of European ideals such as strengthening peaceful cooperation among European nations, developing a fair institutional arrangement of European integration, making European integration more accessible to European publics, and overcoming prejudices and misconceptions related to the integration process. The awarding ceremony is part of the annual Prague European Summit, and it is accompanied by the European Vision speech, which is delivered by the awardee.

## Assessment and Reflection on the EP Elections Results: A Debate on Future Scenarios and Ways Forward (City Talk)

This year's EP elections have been dubbed by many as the most important EP elections in the EU's history. They present numerous questions pertaining not only to the coming five years of the European Parliament, but for the future of the European Union as a whole. Eurosceptic, nationalist and populist forces have been on the rise in the past years across Europe—will they be more influential in the new parliament or will the established international order hold?

## Atlantic Challenges (Discussion Breakfast)

Tensions in Euro-Atlantic relations – between the European Union and the United States – are deepening. Between the two continents, there is a threat of commercial war. Tariffs on steel and aluminium have been introduced, the US has withdrawn from the Iran nuclear agreement and the danger of duties for European cars is real. Unusually sharp rhetoric has been employed by both European and American representatives. Disputes over the Russian-German Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline are also escalating. The relationship between the United States and the European Union – two key global partners – is now going through a very complicated period. The current functioning of NATO and its future is at the centre of this tension. Trump still insists that NATO members must spend 2% of their GDPs on defence. The European countries are generally unwilling or unable to fulfil this commitment. To what extent are Euro-Atlantic relations damaged? In what areas should we be careful? And what can the Czech Republic do to stabilize this partnership? This discussion breakfast is co-organised by the Institute for Politics and Society.

## Big Data, Information and Politics. Disinformation in Focus (Urban Talk)

In the current data-driven society, cyberwarfare is escalating. Many cyber-offensives have been launched in recent years in a bid to destabilise and influence elections in various countries. Recently, a hacking group has targeted European democratic institutions, including think tanks and non-profit groups, ahead of the highly anticipated EU parliamentary elections in May. Democratic politics are challenged today by the mass-production of fake news and disinformation. Could the situation lead to the European and EU democracy being 'hacked'? Is Europe doing enough to protect the integrity of the elections and prevent the erosion of democratic politics?

## Big Data, Information and Politics. New Technologies in Focus (Urban Talk)

In 2018, the Facebook-Cambridge Analytica data scandal sent ripples across the world. The use and misuse of personal data by the political consultancy further damaged the already shaky common perception that new information technologies and expanding data collection inherently serve the betterment of humankind. The rapid advances in artificial intelligence and big data collection and analytics allow for unprecedented levels of surveillance. Similarly, it has never been easier to individualize advertising and information supply, making it much more effective at influencing people's behaviour and actions. What is the true potential of these new technologies and what effect might they have on our society, especially its governance? Have the new developments in information technology made the world less safe for freedom and democracy? And if so, what is to be done in order to protect these two tenets of our society while enjoying the fruits of our technological progress?

## Brexit. What now? (Break-out Session)

Since the beginning of the Brexit process in 2016, the EU's first membership crisis has been characterized by unpredictability, uncertainty, and chaos. Now, almost three years later, it is less certain than ever whether Brexit will finally be resolved with the departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union – or if it will not happen at all. Following the extension of the UK's official date of exit to October 31st 2019, there is clearly much work ahead for both the EU and UK. What more can the EU do with regards to Brexit? Does the political will exist in the UK to prevent a departure from the Union, within the time available? How can the European Union prevent a similar membership crisis from occurring in the future?

## Central Europe as an Active Player in the Aftermath of the European Parliament Elections. (High Level Ministerial Panel)

Over the last several decades, a broad alliance of big parties has called the shots in the EU. Politicians from the mainstream centre-right and centre-left parties have held a comfortable majority in the EU's principal institutions, including the European Parliament (EP), the European Council, and the European Commission. However, this era could come to an end with the next EP elections in May 2019, following the waning support for mainstream parties, the rise of populists on both the radical right and left, and the emergence of new political players. How will Central Europeans fit into this newly established distribution of power? What should the representatives of Central European countries do to assume an active role in the changing EU after the upcoming EP elections? Might the past clashes of their governments influence their position or will the new distribution lead to a smoothing of these clashes?

### Challenges to the Rule of Law and the EU's Fundamental Values (Plenary Panel)

The European Union is not only a community built on shared interests but also on shared values. This common understanding of values and norms embedded in the European integration project are now being put into question. It seems that the rule-based order the EU has functioned upon since its establishment is not as solid as it once appeared. Europeans have to find answers to several crucial questions: How can the EU protect the rule of law and its fundamental values internally? What can the EU institutions do in this respect? What measures should be adopted in order to preserve a rule-based order inside the EU? Is conditionality the right way forward?

### Chinese Influence in (Central) Europe (Discussion Breakfast)

In recent years it has been evident that Chinese activity in Europe is growing. Chinese President Xi Jinping has visited Europe several times in past years and has signed various agreements on strategic partnerships with the governments of Central and Eastern European countries. A group of sixteen states from this region (including 10 EU Member States) established a platform for enhancing economic cooperation with China. Whereas in some states we have seen an intense flow of Chinese investment, in others it is mainly about political influence. This group of Central and Eastern European states has been criticized by EU and Germany for establishing such a platform as it is feared it may contribute to the erosion of EU unity. Nevertheless, China is an important economic partner for Western European countries and Italy even joined the Chinese "Belt and Road Initiative" this past year. However, we can see the decrease of Chinese investments now, and Chinese relations with some Central European states have been negatively affected by raising doubts about safety of Chinese ICT technologies used for critical state infrastructure. Join us for an informal discussion about Chinese influence in (Central) Europe and its geopolitical, economic and technological dimension. This topic is also relevant in the context of EU unity and its internal and external relations, but also in the context of world economic order. This discussion breakfast is co-organised by American Center in the Czech Republic.

### Competitiveness of Europe in the field of Artificial Intelligence (Break-out Session)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other digital tools are quickly becoming key drivers of economic development, bringing innovation and smart solutions to almost every aspect of citizens' daily lives. Rapid developments in the AI sector, its strategic importance and immense potential forced Europe's leaders to act in the past year. The joint "Communication Artificial Intelligence for Europe" from April 2018 is the first step towards a coordinated approach in the upcoming years and more money should be available in the last two years of Horizon 2020. Furthermore, the proposal of the new MFF aims to mainstream the support for new digital tools to various chapters. The advantages and opportunities of AI and other emerging technologies go hand in hand with several challenges, mainly in the field of data protection and cybersecurity – especially when major influential tech companies are not currently based in Europe. How can Europe compete in a field dominated by American and Asian companies? Is extensive financial support for research enough to ensure Europe's competitiveness? Does the current educational scheme fit the needs of the new digital economy? How should the EU regulate the new field of AI? Can regulation fuel competition or is it threatening it?

### Coalition Building after Brexit

The European Union in itself represents the positive history of equal engagement between states, based on shared values, cooperation and responsiveness. As a meandering Brexit has unfolded before Europe's eyes, a new sense of dynamics and patterns of interaction emerge within the EU. With the departure of the UK, EU Member States realize they will have to rely more than before on tailored communities of interests. Will this impact upon our common values? Are alliances convenient, bearing in mind that internal cohesion is more than ever a prerequisite for the EU's stance in this multipolar world? Will they just strengthen the already existing division between national preferences and consensual EU policies or are they a necessary tool of flexibility and differentiation to push forward integration? What role exists medium-sized states in this shifting reality of like-mindedness? Furthermore, what is the impact on CFSP and CSDP of this changing balance generated by Brexit? In order to become an ever stronger and more visible actor, the EU has to make better use of existing instruments and policies, including the pursuit of a more efficient CFSP. This debate will provide a space to answer these and other related questions such as President Juncker's proposal on CFSP (qualified majority voting), the need for a reinforced EEAS and for more efforts towards informal consensus-building, as well as the subject of the EU's strategic autonomy. This discussion breakfast is organized by the Embassy of Romania.

### Czech Perception of the European Union and How It Differs from Other V4 Countries (Workshop)

The Czech Republic is known as one of the most Eurosceptic nations in the EU. If there was a referendum on Czech membership in the EU tomorrow, the movement to remain in the EU would probably win by a small margin of a few percent. At first glance, it may seem that the Czech Republic balances on the edge of extreme discontent with the EU and may be only one step from leaving the Union. But is this the correct impression? Would the Czechs really consider leaving the Union, or would they merely try to redefine their position in an integrated Europe, after the post-1989 discourse surrounding European integration has been exhausted? And what kind of Union would they like to live in? In the course of this interactive seminar, experts from the sociological agency STEM, Behavior Labs and EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy will present their latest psycho-sociological research that will provide participants with an in-depth analysis of Czech attitudes towards the EU. Participants will also learn about the main differences between Czech perceptions of the EU and those inherent to other V4 countries.

### Data as a New Currency. Big Data Governance and Public Policy (Plenary Panel)

Can the Big Data era lead to better and more targeted policy making and more intelligent governance? While Big Data helps governments by providing them with accurate policy analysis that is proactive and participatory, it also increases risks related to data privacy and potential misuse. Where then is the line between efficient use of Big Data analysis for the improvement of policy making and public diplomacy and when it is at the expense of the security of both states and citizens? What are the risks of using artificial intelligence in public governance and how can the governments counter them?

### European Sovereignty and Strategic Autonomy. How Can We Make it Work? (Parallel Panel)

The EU's Global Strategy claims that an appropriate level of strategic autonomy in the EU is crucial to its ability to promote peace and security. Whilst familiar, the words 'strategic autonomy' regularly stir up confusion and, sometimes, even alarm. This raises the following question: what is strategic autonomy and what does it imply? Does strategic autonomy mean autonomy as responsibility, autonomy as hedging and/or autonomy as emancipation in the context of the EU? This panel provides a space to consider multiple views on the concept and its implications for the EU's foreign policy, transatlantic relations and beyond.

## Evolution of Humans in the Next Century. Superintelligence: Paths, Dangers, Strategies (Chat)

What happens when machines surpass humans in general intelligence? As recent developments seem to indicate, the question truly is not that of if, but when. Thanks to this decade's breakthroughs in artificial intelligence, machines are becoming increasingly better at tasks that have been previously limited to humans, from driving vehicles to interpreting languages. Optimistic researchers hope to build a system capable of human-like general intelligence within the next decade. Others are less hopeful and note that intelligence is not the same as sentience or consciousness. Nevertheless, there exists a growing fear of a superhuman intelligence with its own motivations breaking free of control and endangering humanity itself. Is the fear of such a rogue super-intelligence grounded in reality? What can be done to alleviate some of the worries related to artificial intelligence? How should this technology be harnessed for the common good?

## The Future of European Neighbourhood (Break-out Session)

The European Neighbourhood Policy was conceived with the aim of creating a ring of peaceful, stable and prosperous states on the EU's borders. However, the situation has dramatically changed as many new challenges have emerged in the neighbourhood, ranging from the conflicts in Syria and Ukraine to economic stagnation and democratic backsliding in many other partner countries in the EU's southern and eastern neighbourhoods. Therefore, we need to ask fundamental questions about the future of the European neighbourhood: Does the EU need a new impetus for its Neighbourhood Policy? How can we make the policy truly attractive to partner countries? Should the EU ramp up its engagement in the region? What are the potential areas for further cooperation in the neighbourhood? How can we deal with the influence of external actors who are sometimes opposed to the EU's intentions in the region? How are the EU's and other main actors' policies perceived in the neighbourhood? What kind of cooperation is necessary to foster job creation and increase economic growth there?

## The Future Path of Euro (Parallel Panel)

The eurozone can only be viable if countries are better off inside the currency union than outside it. In its current form, the single currency seems unsustainable in the long term. At the same time, the success or failure of the eurozone will determine the EU's future, as continuing low growth and divergent economic fortunes will further spur Euroscepticism. This panel provides a space to consider the following questions: What are the missing pieces of the eurozone's architecture? How can we move beyond current visions of eurozone governance? Has the eurozone governance been sufficiently reformed to deal with a future crisis? What are the criteria on the basis of which the eurozone will evolve? Do Germany and France hold dominance in eurozone-related decisions, or are other EU member states equally important in this regard? In Cooperation with the Institute for Politics and Society.

## Industrial Revolution 4.0 Effects' on European Societies (Parallel Panel)

In Industrial Revolution 4.0, economies will no longer be based on the interaction between workers and machines but on the interaction between machines and other machines. There will be less of a need for blue- or white-collar workers, while products and services will reach consumers without human intervention. This panel provides a space to consider the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that the Industrial Revolution 4.0 brings to societies in Europe in light of its economic and social effects.

## Is Europe Ready for a Dynamic Future? Role of EU Governments and Governance (Chat)

The impending fourth industrial revolution, with a fusion of technologies blurring the lines between the digital, biological and physical spheres, is set to fundamentally challenge our conceptions of society, much like the industrial revolutions preceding it, and thus also the role of governments and governance as the caretakers of our societies. How will the EU and state governments face the challenge of automation coupled with an ever-increasing global population? How will the advent of artificial intelligence and quantum computing affect our democracies, given how vulnerable to electronic influencing elections and referendums have proven to be in recent years? While technological advancement is inexorable, the need for regulation and governance in a dynamic future on both the regional and global levels has become absolute. How can the EU ready itself for a dynamic, accelerating future characterized by technological leaps that affect our societies and lives in a hitherto unprecedented degree?

## Is it the End of Global Agreements on Common Challenges? (Chat)

The deteriorating transatlantic relationship since the election of President Trump has shown that strategic partnerships are harder to maintain nowadays. The economic competition with China, the security concerns posed by Russia's resurgence, and even increasing political divisions on the European continent make it harder to find new partnerships. The difficulty inherent in completing free trade agreements, such as with Japan and Canada, show that multilateralism is going through a complicated period. Should Europeans wait it out, or is it symbolic of a deeper rift? Who are the new actors in this picture? Can regions, cities, or the private sector provide a new impetus? What are the main issues, such as climate change, that we will need to deal with together in a global fashion?

## What leadership vision for the EU? (Discussion breakfast)

Recent years have seen the rise of populist leaders across Europe, affecting the EU project through the instigation of Brexit, an increase in anti-immigration and nationalistic sentiment and anti-gender movements. These negative tendencies have been represented especially by politicians emulating the global trend of 'strongman' leaders and populist politics. Against this background, however, there are leaders with a vision of a unified Europe capable to act globally. Going further to the national level, Sweden and France, the latter currently as chair of the G7, have promoted a feminist approach to their domestic politics and in tackling international security, migration or environmental challenges. But is there a clear vision within the EU institutions how to lead – internally and on the international stage? What lessons in leadership can the EU take from, for instance, the Swedish feminist government? Can Europe take such a path to confront its domestic problems and to become more engaged globally? What would that mean more precisely? Is there a demand for such leadership in the EU and internationally? This discussion breakfast is co-organized by the Embassy of the French Republic and the Embassy of Sweden.

## The "Year of Change" (Night Owl Session)

2019 might be a decisive year for Europe, and as such also for European integration. Many would like to see 2019 as a turning point that will progress European integration away from the difficulties of recent years. For the first time in its history, the EU may stand to lose one of its Member States and the two largest political Groups are expected to lose their majority in the European Parliament. Simultaneously, nationalism and populism is on the rise across Europe, threatening the core pillars of European integration. How will the result of the EP election influence the EU? What should the new European Commission do differently? How should the conclusions of the Bratislava process be implemented?

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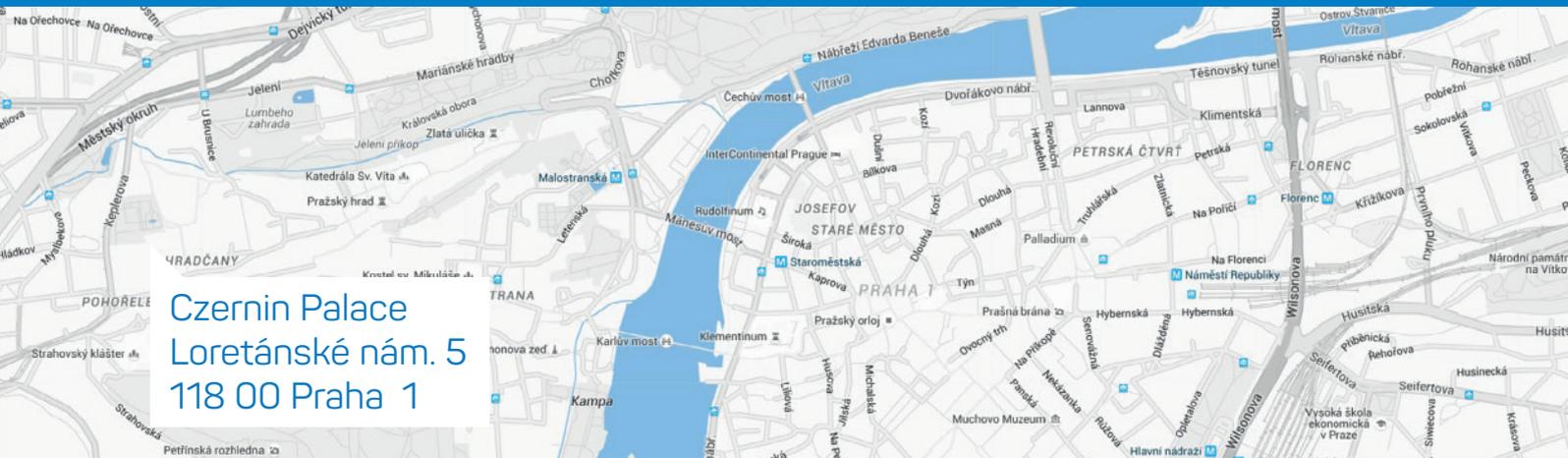
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