

Prague European Summit 2020 will welcome ministers, representatives of the European Investment Bank and OECD and others

Prague, 9 November 2020. The sixth edition of the Prague European Summit will take place on 18 and 19 November. Public officials, representatives of the business and non-profit sector and academics will discuss the current and future challenges of the European Union. In particular, they will debate the climate change, post-pandemic recovery, role of the EU as a global actor, state of democracy and the rule of law or digitization and its influence on society. Summit will take place online.

Among the confirmed speakers are the Minister of Foreign Affairs Tomáš Petříček (the Czech Republic), Ivan Korčok (Slovakia), Anže Logar (Slovenia) and Alexander Schallenberg (Austria), the Mayor of Prague Zdeněk Hřib, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden Margot Wallström, European Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič, former High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini, Vice President of the European Investment Bank Lilyana Pavlova, Deputy Secretary-General of OECD Masamichi Kono, Co-Chair of International Resource Panel and former Commissioner for Environment Janez Potočnik, Canadian Ambassador to Germany and Special Envoy to the European Union and Europe Stéphane Dion, International Policy Director at Stanford University Cyber Policy Centre Marjetje Schaake, Director General at DG Climate Action of the European Commission (DG CLIMA) Mauro Petriccione, Head of EU Affairs at Facebook Aura Sala, Deputy Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs and Security Policy of NATO James Appathurai or Research Director and Deputy Director of the Swedish environmental think-tank SEI Åsa Persson.

This year, the Summit, which traditionally takes place in spring, is taking place in Autumn and online due to the pandemic situation and related regulations. The venue remains the Czernin Palace, where the virtual studio will be set up.

The main program will consist of panel discussions, chats, and round tables. Topics of particular debates will be published on the website. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Prague office of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, regular **Urban Talks** public discussions will take place alongside the Summit, with some of the participants of the Summit and other Czech and foreign attendees. This year, four of these talks will take place in a completely online environment. These debates will cover topics such as satisfaction with democracy across Europe or women's roles in the diplomacy of the Union. We will broadcast the debates on Facebook.

In cooperation with Friedrich Ebert Foundation, we are preparing <u>Future European Leaders Forum (FELF)</u>, a series of seminars, workshops and other activities aiming to connect 30 extraordinary young people with experts and decision-makers in a range of the most pressing issues of the European integration. As in the last year, the Music and Dance Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (HAMU) will accompany the Summit with musical performances.



Prague European Summit has been taking place regularly since 2015. Organizers of the Summit are <u>EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy</u> and <u>Institute of International Relations Prague</u>, the prominent international relations-oriented research institutions in the Czech Republic. Summit is organized under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Office of the Government of the Czech Republic and the Municipality of Prague and in cooperation with the Commission Representation in the Czech Republic. <u>Partners of this year's Summit</u> are the European Investment Bank (EIB), International Visegrad Fund, BMW STRATOS AUTO, Blažek Glass and German foundations of Hanns Seidel, Friedrich Ebert and Heinrich Böll. The media partner of the Summit is EUobserver.

The goal of the Prague European Summit is to **find common answers** to the key questions in the economic, social, foreign-political and institutional areas of the European Union. The organizers aim to recast the image of the Czech Republic as an EU member country which **self-confidently yet constructively** joins the strategic discussions on the course of the European Union.

Journalists who want to participate in the Summit can register using this link with a passcode PESPRESS.

https://register.praguesummit.eu/welcome/invitation/

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