PRAGUE
european summit

"European Union Institutions Fit for External Challenges"

Organizers

EUROPEAN VALUES
Opinions & Context

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The consequences of the economic crisis have not yet fully faded away and Europe has to face yet another series of **major challenges** emerging from its close neighbourhood. Various different kinds of crises have forced the leaders of the European Union to meet at extraordinary summits and discuss their common actions. In Eastern Europe we are faced with the Russian aggression against **Ukraine**, to the south-east we experience the rise of the so-called **Islamic State**, which is destabilising the whole region, and from the southern coast of the **Mediterranean** an ever increasing number of refugees arrive to seek asylum in Europe, yet too often they only find death at sea instead. These external challenges require quick and resolute responses from the European Union, and therefore they also require decision-making mechanisms and institutional structures which will allow us to deliver the solutions expected by our citizens. Are EU institutions fit for the new external challenges? And how can their functioning be improved in order to meet them?

As serious as these challenges are, the strategic debate about these issues has been, until recently, rather disconnected and an overall strategic outlook for the EU has been sorely missing. This is why **three leading Czech think-tanks** – the Institute of International Relations, the European Values Think-tank and the EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy – initiated **a new platform for strategic dialogue** about common responses to the new challenges the European Union needs to deal with. This new platform, titled the Prague European Summit, aims at bringing together the highest echelons of European politicians and diplomats, as well as top-level experts from the think-tank and academic communities, thus stimulating a cross-pollination among policy-makers and opinion-leaders from across the European Union. Supported by its **International Programme Board**, the Prague European Summit is organised in cooperation with the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic** and the **Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic**.

Following this year's pilot conference, we hope to launch **the first annual summit next year**, thus establishing the Prague European Summit as a regular high-level event that will – on an annual basis – discuss the most pressing strategic issues the European Union will be facing. In this way, we also hope to **reaffirm the position of the Czech Republic as a constructive partner** in building our common European home and as a country that does not shy away from its responsibilities towards its partners and friends in the European Union. Given the wide array of the fundamentally important topics we will discuss at our conference this year as well as the excellent speakers we succeeded in gaining for the pilot conference, I am very confident that the conference will mark **the beginning of a great tradition**, while establishing the Prague European Summit as a place for potentially **paradigm-changing discussions** on the future of the EU.

Ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the organizers, we would like to welcome you most cordially to our conference. We sincerely hope that you will not only enrich our discussions through your interventions, but that the conference will also deepen **our mutual commitment to our common European fate** and to **the European Union of shared benefits as well as shared responsibilities**.

Vladimír Bartovic
Director
EUROPEUM Institute
for European Policy

Radko Hokovský
Director
European Values
Think-tank

Petr Kratochvíl
Director
Insitute of International
Relations Prague

About PES

The Prague European Summit is conceived as a platform for a regular high-level strategic debate on the future of the European Union. Its goal is to look for common answers to the key challenges that Europe is facing in the economic, social, foreign-policy and institutional fields. As an initiative of the consortium of three prominent Czech think-tanks (the Institute of International Relations, European Values and EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy) carried out under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and the Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic, it will offer space for an informal dialogue among political representatives, high-ranking state officials, representatives of interest groups, businessmen, academicians and journalists.

By hosting this regular summit on the future of European integration in Prague, the organizers want to contribute to recasting the image of the Czech Republic as a member country which self-confidently yet constructively joins the strategic discussions on the course of the EU. The ambition of the Prague European Summit is to become analogous to the World Economic Forum in Davos, the Munich Security Conference or GLOBSEC in Bratislava, and its main focus is on the strategic issues of European integration – a topic that has not been covered by any existing forum yet.

About Conference

The conference is organized in the framework of the Prague European Summit, a new platform for strategic dialogue about common responses to new challenges the European Union needs to deal with in different areas. Following this year pilot conference, the first annual summit shall take place in June 2016.

The topic of the first year reflects the current state of the integration process. On one hand the economic crisis has been overcome, and in reaction to it the economic governance in the Eurozone and in the EU as a whole has been fundamentally transformed. On the other hand in the fields of foreign and security policy the EU faces the fundamental challenge of the destabilization of its neighbourhood, including the aggressive policy of Russia towards Ukraine and the aspirations of the so-called Islamic State in the southern and south-eastern neighbourhood. These changes in the strategic environment call, now much more than any time before, for effective work on the part of the EU institutions, which will, at the same time, need sufficient democratic legitimacy. The aim of this year's conference is therefore to re-think both the inner institutional setting of the EU and the impact its decision-making mechanisms will have on the implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU.

PRAGUE
european summit
12 – 13 NOVEMBER 2015

The Lobkowicz Palace at Prague Castle is one of the most significant cultural sites in the Czech Republic and the only privately owned building in the Prague Castle complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Through the centuries, the Palace witnessed some of Bohemia's most important historical events. It houses part of the highly-acclaimed The Lobkowicz Collections, a unique collection of paintings, rich decorative art, spectacular arms and armor, and rare musical instruments and manuscripts by Beethoven and Mozart, including Beethoven's 4th and 5th symphonies and Mozart's re-orchestration of Handel's Messiah.

Originally known as the Pernštejn Palace, it acquired its present name when Jaroslav's niece, Polyxena, married Zdeněk Vojtěch, 1st Prince Lobkowicz (1568– 1628), in 1603. In the centuries following that union, the Palace witnessed some of Bohemia's most significant historical events.

At the start of World War II, the Palace was confiscated from the Lobkowicz family by the Nazi forces invading Czechoslovakia. Returned in 1945, it was seized again following the Communist takeover of the country in 1948. After the Velvet Revolution of 1989 and the subsequent fall of the Communist government, the passage of restitution laws made it possible in 2002 for the Palace to be returned to the Lobkowiczes once again.

On 2 April 2007, following more than four years of planning, restoration and refurbishment, the Palace was reopened to the public. It houses the Lobkowicz Palace Museum and also serves as a unique venue for private and corporate events.

European Values Think-tank

European Values Think-tank is a non-governmental institution which promotes raising of political culture in the Czech Republic as well as on the European level. We provide decision-makers with expert recommendations and we watch and evaluate their work systematically. We consider active citizens, accountable politicians and a cohesive society sharing values of freedom and democracy to be the basic elements of high political culture. Since 2005, as a non-governmental and a non-profitable organisation which is not linked to any political party, we have been pursuing research and educational activities. Besides publishing analytical papers and commentaries for media, we organise conferences, seminars and trainings for both experts and public. Our events provide a platform for dialogue amongst politicians, professionals, journalists, businesspeople and students.

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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.

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Institute of International Relations

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.

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Péter Balázs

Director, Center for EU Enlargement Studies, Central European University

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 a research center at the CEU for EU Enlargement Studies (CENS).

Vladimír Bartovic

Director of the 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, Centre for European Policy Studies

Steven Blockmans is Head of EU Foreign Policy 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 almost 20 years, he has worked for the EU institutions and member states' governments on numerous research and technical assistance projects in wider Europe and in Asia. He is currently project leader of a SIDA-sponsored study on the implementation of the EU Association Agreements with Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia. Blockmans holds a PhD in law from Leiden University.

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 Comenius University. He taught at Charles University in Prague, 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). In 1999–2003, he was Slovak Ambassador to the U.S.

Petr Drulák

Political Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Professor Petr Drulák, Ph.D. (1972) is the Political Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (since 1 July 2015), From 2014 to 2015 he has had a position of the First Deputy Minister 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.

Roland Freudenstein

Deputy Director, Head of Research, 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.

Štefan Füle

Former European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy

Štefan Füle served as European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy between 2010 and 2014. Until then, in 2009, he served in the Czech government as the European Affairs Minister. Ambassador Füle graduated from Moscow State Institute of International Relations. He started his professional career at the Czechoslovakian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987 and since then has held many important positions at the Ministry, Czech embassies abroad as well as international organizations such as UN or NATO. In 1990 - 1995 he served in the UN structures as the First Secretary of the Czechoslovakian (later Czech) Permanent Delegation at the UN, later Member and Alternate Representative to the UN Security Council. After that he directed the United Nations Department (1995 - 1996) and Security Policy Department (1996 - 1998) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 1998 he was appointed Czech Ambassador to Lithuania and in 2003 became Ambassador to the UK. In 2005 he became Czech Permanent Representative to NATO until 2009, when was appointed European Affairs Minister. Ambassador Füle recently joined International Advisory Board of the Central European Strategy Council.

Radko Hokovský

Executive Director, European Values Think-Tank

Radko Hokovský is the Executive Director of the European Values Think-tank. Professionally he deals with the problematic of European Union inner security and institutional questions of the European Integration. He is a lecturer at the Institute of Political Studies of the Faculty of Social Sciences (Charles University) and the Department of International Relations and European Studies (Metropolitan University Prague). He is currently finishing his Dissertation at the Department of International Relations of the Faculty of Social Sciences. At this faculty he already graduated in 2006 from the Bachelor programme of Politology and International Relations. He achieved his master's degree "Master of European Studies" at the Centre for European Integration Studies (ZEI) at the University of Bonne.

Beata Jaczewska

Executive Director of International Visegrad Fund

Beata Jaczewska is an Executive Director of International Visegrad Fund, former Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Poland, lawyer, negotiator, and long-term civil servant. She is statutory representative of the International Visegrad Fund (IVF), personally responsible for fulfilling priorities set by governments of V4 countries in the field of continuous improvement of the cooperation between 4 societies, as well as assisting neighbouring countries on their development paths.

Jaczewska is an expert in EU legislative processes and international negotiations. Her background is European law and economics. She graduated from several prestigious universities such as Warsaw University, Jagiellonian University in Cracow, and Warsaw School of Economics. She also holds a degree from the University of Cambridge in European law.

For years, Beata has been gaining professional experience in Polish public administration, recently in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Her work as Deputy Minister for the Ministry of the Environment was responsible for international relation as well as policies of sustainable development, air quality and climate change. Prior to that, she also served in the Ministry of the Economy as the Economy Development Department's Director where she was focused on strategic planning of the economic growth in such areas as sustainable development policy, industrial policy, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Petr Kratochvíl

Director of the Institute of International Relations

Petr Kratochvíl is the Director 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 of 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 Mai 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.

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 between1992–2009 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.

Jan Michal

Head of Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic

Jan Michal has been a Head of Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic since September 2010. In the past, he worked also as an Adviser - Secretariat General of the European Commission (2009-2010), as a Director of the UN Department at Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic (2007-2009), as a Deputy permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to NATO (2007-2003), or as a Director of the UN Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2002-2003). He also worked at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Hague as a secretary between 1996-2001. In 1996, he acquired his Degree in International Relations at the Faculty of Social Sciences at Charles University.

Ana Palacio

Former Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ana Palacio is an international lawyer specializing in international and European Union law. She is a member of the Council of State of Spain (2012). She is a member of the Board of Enagás (2014), the Technical Manager of the Spanish Gas System, and Pharmamar (2009), a leading biotechnology company. She is a member of the International Board of Investcorp (2008), a world-leading manager of alternative investments. She is a member of the Scientific Council of the Instituto Elcano (2015); a member of the Executive Committee of the Boards of the Atlantic Council of the United States and the European Council on Foreign Relations; and a member of the World Economic Forum's US Global Agenda Council (2014). She is a visiting professor at the Edmund E. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University (2014).

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 Justice and Home Affairs Committee, as well as the Conference of Committee Chairs. Ms. Palacio publishes regularly in periodicals and journals. In particular, she maintains a monthly column at Project Syndicate.

Tomáš Prouza

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

Ing. Tomáš Prouza, MBA was appointed State Secretary for European Affairs by the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic. He studied at the University of Economics in Prague and the Open University in Prague and United Kingdom. He founded a financial portal www.penize.cz (money.cz) in 2000. Between years 2004 and 2007, he worked as a Deputy Minister of Finance and meanwhile, he also worked for the International Monetary Fund as the first National Coordinator for Euro Introduction in 2005-2006. In 2007, he shortly worked for the Československá obchodní banka (ČSOB) as a Consumer Policy Adviser & Ombudsman and later that year accepted a Member of the Board and Regulatory & Banking Services Director position at the Partners Financial Services.

In 2008-2011, Tomáš Prouza was a Member (and since 01/2011 a Chairman of the Board) at the Association of Financial Intermediaries and Financial Advisers of the Czech Republic (AFIZ). Between 2007 and 2014, he work at the World Bank, first as an Expert for Financial Inclusion, Consumer Protection and Financial Literacy in Prague, and since 2012 as a Senior Financial Inclusion and Financial Consumer Protection Specialist in Washington D.C.

Anna Stellinger

Director-General, National Board of Trade, Sweden

Anna Stellinger is Director-General of the National Board of Trade, appointed by the Swedish government for a period of six years. She holds university degrees in French and political science from Lund University, Sweden, and an International master's degree in International Relations from Sciences Po de Paris, France. For 10 years Anna Stellinger was a researcher and a Director of Research at several non-partisan think tanks and institutes in Paris, France. Before taking up her position as Director-General of the National Board of Trade, she was the Director of SIEPS, the Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies.
Anna Stellinger is a member of the University Board of Lund University, and a member of the Swedish Council on Basic Values. She was born in 1974, is married to Rickard Stellinger and has two children.

Ernst Stetter

Secretary-General of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Ernst Stetter was nominated as Secretary General of the newly created Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) on January 30th 2008. He is also a regular commentator on EU affairs in the media.
In 1976 Ernst Stetter began his professional career as a lecturer in economics at the DGB Trade Union Centre for Vocational Training in Heidelberg. From 1980 to 2008 he worked for the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) in various positions. He spent the first four years at the FES as a Consultant in Dakar, Senegal. In 1988, Ernst Stetter was appointed as Head of the Africa Department. In 1994 he started working as 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 Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) in Brussels.
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.
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, Paweł 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.

Nathalie Tocci

Deputy Director, Instituto Affari Internazionali

Nathalie Tocci is Deputy Director of Istituto Affari Internazionali, Editor of The International Spectator and special adviser to HR Federica Mogherini, in charge of outreaching to think tanks and coordination of work on a new European Security Strategy. 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 Turkey and the European Union, Palgrave Macmillan, 2015 (co-author); Multilateralism in the 21st Century. London and New York, Routledge, 2013 (co-editor), Turkey's European Future: Behind the Scenes of America's Influence on EU-Turkey Relations, New York and London, New York University Press,2011 (author); The EU and Conflict Resolution, Routledge, London, 2007 (author); and "EU Accession Dynamics and Conflict Resolution: Catalyzing Peace or Consolidating Partition in Cyprus?", Ashgate, Aldershot, 2004, (author). Nathalie is the 2008 winner of the Anna Lindh award for the study of European Foreign Policy.

Vaira Vike-Freiberga

President of the 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.

Shmuel Bar

Director of Studies, Institute of Policy and Strategy, Herzliya

Dr. Shmuel Bar is Senior Research Fellow at the Samuel Neaman Institute for National Policy Studies at the Technion – Israel Institute for Technology and founder and CEO of IntuView Ltd – a start-up dealing in "artificial intuition" technology. He is also adjunct Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute and has been Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.
Shmuel served for thirty years in the Israeli intelligence community including in senior positions in the Office of the Prime Minister, where he dealt, inter alia, with Jihadist movements and WMD proliferation issues and in diplomatic posting in Europe where he liaised with European Intelligence agencies on these and other issues. He has headed research projects – many of them for US government agencies - and published extensively on issues relating to the Middle East, including ideology and operational codes of radical Islamic movements, leadership paradigms and command and control structures in the Middle East, scenarios for Middle East futures post the "Arab Spring", Iranian defense doctrine and negotiating methods and more. He holds a Ph.D. in History of the Middle East from Tel-Aviv University.

Annegret Bendiek

Senior Associate, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik

Dr. rer. pol. Annegret Bendiek (M.A., D.E.E.A) is a Senior Associate in the EU / Europe Division of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP). She specializes in European Common Foreign and Security Policy, European cybersecurity and data privacy and data security in the transatlantic relationship. From April until October 2014, she was seconded to the Policy Planning Staff of the German Federal Foreign Office, working on the project „Review 2014 – Außenpolitik Weiter Denken". Between August 2013 and April 2014, she held a Robert Bosch Public Policy Fellowship at the Transatlantic Academy of the German Marshall Fund (GMF) in Washington D.C. She is currently leading a project funded by the German Foreign Office entitled »The challenges of digitalization for German Foreign and Security Policy«.

Vladimír Bilčík

Head of the EU Program, Research Centre, Slovak Foreign Policy Association

Vladimír Bilčík heads the EU program at the Research Centre of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (SFPA) and lectures on European integration and international relations in the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Philosopy at Philosophical Faculty at Comenius University in Bratislava. In the past he advised Slovakia's governmental representative in the Convention on the Future of Europe (2002 – 2003). His research focuses on the role of EU member states, governance and legitimacy issues in the EU and the Eastern Partnership. He studied at Swarthmore College (B.A.), University of Oxford (M.Phil) and Comenius University (PhD).

Anthony Dworkin

Senior Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations, London

Anthony Dworkin is a senior policy fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations, where he leads the organisation's work on democracy, human rights and justice. Among the subjects he has written on are the place of human rights in EU foreign policy, counterterrorism and drone strikes, and international justice in the response to mass atrocities. Since 2011 he has closely followed EU policy towards North Africa, with a particular focus on Egypt and Tunisia, and is editing a collection of papers on the region which will be published later this month. He is also currently serving as interim research director at ECFR.

Hanna Hopko

Head of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Parliament of Ukraine

Hanna Hopko is a Member of the Ukrainian Parliament and a Head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of Ukrainian Parliament. She was also one of the leading members of the Civic Sector of EuroMaidan during the Revolution of Dignity. She launched with other activists the "Reanimation Package of Reforms" initiative – a coalition of Ukrainian NGOs focused on efficient implementation of most important reforms in Ukraine (judiciary and administrative reforms, etc.). During the parliamentary elections that followed the EuroMaidan revolution, Hanna Hopko headed the list of Samopomich Party and became a member of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. She was designed Chairwoman of the Foreign Affairs Committee on 4 December 2014.

Hanna Hopko is also an expert in advocacy, media and political communication. She gained much experience working with many human rights and environment NGO´s and on projects with institutions such as USAID, OSCE, NATO, UNEP, UNDP etc.) She became a famous Ukrainian civil society activist, also coordinating iniciatives such as "For Smoke-Free Ukraine".

During 2006-2014 period, she was a team leader of many programs for NGO´s in Kazakhstan and worked on many projects in Belarus. In her early career, she also worked as a journalist. She has a PhD in Political communications.

Jana Hybášková

Former Head of the Delegation of the EU to Iraq, Head of the Delegation of the EU to Namibia

Jana Hybášková is currently a Head of the EU Delegation to Namibia. Prior to that, she was Head of the EU Delegation to Iraq (2011-2015) and a Constituting Member of the European Parlament´s Delegation to Iraq (2007-2014). She obtained her doctorate in Arabic and Oriental Studies in Charles University, Prague.

In the past, Jana Hybášková was an EDP (European Democratic Party) leader in the 2009 EU parliamentary elections. Before, she worked as a member of Steering Committee at the World Movement for Democracy (2005-2010), and Head of the European Parliament´s Delegation for the Relations with Israel (2004-2009).Between 1997 and 2004, she was an Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the States of Kuwait and Quatar (also covering Iraq), an Advisor to the Czech Secretary of State for European Affairs and an Ambassador in Slovenia.

Thierry Chopin

Research Director at the Robert Schuman Foundation

Thierry Chopin holds a PhD in political science from the the School for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (EHESS, Paris). He is Head of Research at the Robert Schuman Foundation, a French Think-Tank on EU affairs based in Paris and Brussels. Thierry is currently Visiting Professor at the College of Europe (Bruges) and he also teaches at Sciences Po and at Mines ParisTech.

He has served, between 2007 and 2008, as scientific advisor to the Strategic Analysis Center (Policy Planning Staff of the French Prime Minister) and as advisor at the Policy Planning Staff of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Thierry is currently an associate expert at the Center for International Studies of Sciences Po (CERI) and Visiting Fellow at the LSE's European Institute.

He is the author of many books on European issues including (with Y. Bertoncini), Politique européenne. Etats, pouvoirs et citoyens de l'Union européenne (Presses de Sciences Po-Dalloz, 2010) and (with Jean-François Jamet and Christian Lequesne) L'Europe d'après. En finir avec le pessimisme (Lignes de Repères, 2012). He is co-editor with Michel Foucher of Schuman Report on Europe. State of the Union.

David Král

Head of the Policy Planning Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

David Král is a Head of Policy Planning Department at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In his prior career, he was a Vice-chairman of the Executive Commitee and consequently a Director of EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy (1999-2014), an Assistant professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University (1999-2003), a Member and consequently a Chairman of the Board of Directors at PASOS (Policy Association for an Open Society) in 2004-2014 and a Senior Adjunct Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Analysis (2010-2014). He has also been an external lecurer at the Metropolitan University Prague (2005-2007) and New Anglo-American College (2007-2008).

David Král has a degree from the Law Faculty at Charles University. He is also an author of numerous publications regarding European Union institutions and policies, EU Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy.

Zoltan Martinusz

Director - Enlargement, Security, Foreign Affairs Council Support, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union

Zoltan Martinusz is currently a Director of the Directorate for Enlargement, Security, Civil Protection, Foreign Affairs Council Support at the Council of the European Unionm General Secretariat. He has a Masters Degree in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College in Carlisle, PA.

In the past, he worked as a Principal Advisor on External Affairs at the Cabinet of the President of the European Council (2010-2012), as a Director of the Directorate for the Western Balkans, Eastern Europe and Central Asia at the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU (2009-2010) and as an Ambassador - Permanent Representative of Hungary to NATO (2005-2009).

He is a member of the Hungarian Atlantic Council, the Hungarian Foreign Affairs Association, the International Institute of Strategic Studies (London) and the Academic Advisory Board of the NATO Defence College (2001-2004).

Martin Michelot

Head of Research, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy

Martin Michelot is the Director of the Global Europe program and Head of Research at the EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy in Prague, and a Non-Resident Fellow at the Paris office of German Marshall Fund of the US. He leads Europeum's foreign policy programming in Central Europe, with a focus on security policy, immigration issues and regional cooperation. Michelot also manages the high-level convening program Transatlantic Security and Future of NATO program for the GMF, where he has over 4 years of experience in event management and research on transatlantic security cooperation issues.

He is a graduate of Sciences Po Lyon, where he studied international relations. His previous experiences include the Brookings Institution, and the French National Assembly, as parliamentary assistant. Michelot is a regular contributor to various news outlets on the topics of European defense policy and transatlantic relations. He teaches seminars at Sciences Po Lyon, Sciences Po Reims, the Ecole Centrale, and Charles University. He was selected by the Atlantic Council as one of the 15 Emerging Leaders tasked with writing a report before the NATO 2014 Wales Summit.

Antonio Missiroli

Director, European Union Institute for Security Studies

Antonio Missiroli has been the Director of the European Union Institute for Security Studies since 2012. He and his team have produced a number of publications examining global trends on issues ranging from climate change to the future of the Arab world and the security of the Arctic. More recently, Dr Missiroli has been closely involved in the drafting of the recent HR/VP Report on 'The EU in a changing global environment'.

He was Adviser at the Bureau of European Policy Advisers of the European Commission, in charge of European dialogue/outreach and publications (2010-12); Director of Studies at the European Policy Centre in Brussels (2005-10), and Research Fellow and Senior Research Fellow at the W/EU Institute for Security Studies in Paris (1998-2005). He was also Head of European Studies at CeSPI in Rome (1994-97) and a Visiting Fellow at St Antony's College, Oxford (1996-97).

As well as being a professional journalist, he has also taught at the Universities of Bath and Trento, Boston University and SAIS/Johns Hopkins (Bologna). He is currently visiting lecturer at the College of Europe (Bruges) and Sciences Po (Paris). Dr Missiroli holds a PhD degree in Contemporary History from the Scuola Normale Superiore (Pisa) and a Master's degree in International Public Policy from SAIS/Johns Hopkins University.

Milan Nič

Managing Director, Central European Policy Institute

Milan Nič is Managing Director at CEPI. His expertise includes political affairs in Central & Eastern Europe, NATO and EU Enlargement, the Western Balkans, Governance and Civil Society. Previously he worked as Senior Adviser to the State Secretary at the Slovak Foreign Ministry (2010-12), consultant for the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2007-09), and analyst for the European Stability Initiatives think-tank (2009-10). In 2009 - 2010, he was also member of an external advisory council to the Slovak foreign minister. He started his professional carrier as journalist at the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (1995-2002), and later was programme director at the Pontis Foundation (2002-06), where he oversaw development and human rights projects in variety of difficult countries including Belarus, Cuba and Iraq.

Milan studied international relations and modern European history at the Charles University in Prague, Central European University in Budapest, and SAIS Johns Hopkins University (Bologna Center). A recipient of the Karol Rybárik Award for the best young professional in Slovak foreign policy (2004), he co-authored a book of essays on the EU and Slovak foreign policy (Bruselenie valašiek, 2010).

Polly Pallister-Wilkins

Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, University of Amsterdam

Dr Polly Pallister-Wilkins is an assistant professor in the Political Science department at the University of Amsterdam and a researcher at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research. Her research focuses on humanitarian interventions at the borders of Europe, most recently in the Mediterranean and the Aegean. Previous work has critically addressed EU and European security and democracy promotion efforts in the Mediterranean neighbourhood, the politics of crises and specific European border policing practices. As a result she is the author of a range of scholarly works addressing these issues. She works closely with a range of partners most notably from the European Crisis Observatory (Athens) and Médecins Sans Frontières (OCA).

Marc Pierini

Visiting Scholar, Carnegie Europe; former EU Ambassador in MENA countries

Marc Pierini is a visiting scholar at Carnegie Europe, where his research focuses on developments in the Middle East and Turkey from a European perspective. Pierini is also a member of the International Council of the Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilizations in Marseille.

Pierini was a career EU diplomat from December 1976 to April 2012. He was EU ambassador and head of delegation to Turkey (2006–2011) and ambassador to Tunisia and Libya (2002–2006), Syria (1998–2002), and Morocco (1991–1995). He also served as the first coordinator for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, or the Barcelona Process, from 1995 to 1998 and was the main negotiator for the release of the Bulgarian hostages from Libya from 2004 to 2007.Pierini served as counselor in the cabinet of two European commissioners: Claude Cheysson, from 1979 to 1981, and Abel Matutes, from 1989 to 1991. He has published three essays in French: "Le prix de la liberté," "Télégrammes diplomatiques," and "Où va la Turquie?."

Věra Řiháčková

Secretariat of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forumand Associated Fellow, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy

Vera Rihackova is 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, EU democracy assistance and the EU instruments of external action, the development cooperation, security and counterterrorism policies. In May 2014, she was designated an external advisor, a member of the Group of External Advisors on the EU policies, to 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". She works as Advocacy and Membership Manager at the Secretariat of the Steering Committee of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum in Brussels.

Tomáš Sedláček

Chief Macroeconomic Strategist at ČSOB (a Czech national bank)

Tomáš Sedláček is a Czech economist and university lecturer. He is the Chief Macroeconomic Strategist at ČSOB (a Czech national bank), a member of a group Narrative of Europe commissioned by Manuel Barroso and Council Member of World Economic Forum focused on New Economic Thinking. He is a former member of the National Economic Council of the Czech Republic and an economic advisor to former President Václav Havel. His book Economics of Good and Evil, a bestseller in the Czech Republic, was translated into English and published by the Oxford University Press in June, 2011.

Jiří Schneider

Senior Fellow and Director of Special Projects, Prague Security Studies Institute

Jiří Schneider is currently Senior Fellow and Director of Special Projects at the Prague Security Studies Institute (PSSI).He recently served as First Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. From 2005 to 2010, he was Program Director of the PSSI. He was previously Head of the Policy Planning Department at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1993 to 1994, 1999 to 2001 and 2003) and Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Israel (1995 to 1998). He was an International Policy Fellow at the Open Society Institute in Budapest (2002) and an MP of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly (1990 to 1992). He is a graduate of Czech Technical University and holds a Diploma from the University of Cambridge.

Eduard Soler i Lecha

Senior Research Fellow, Research Coordinator, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Dr. Eduard Soler i Lecha is a political scientist and a part-time lecturer in International Relations at the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals and at Blanquerna-Ramon Llull University. He is also the team-leader of El-Hiwar, a EU-funded project on Euro-Arab diplomacy. In 2010, he was seconded to the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an adviser in the DG for the Mediterranean, the Maghreb and the Middle East. Eduard Soler i Lecha holds a PhD in International Relations from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. His main areas of expertise are: Euro-Mediterranean relations, North African and Middle Eastern political dynamics, Turkey's foreign and domestic politics and security cooperation in the Mediterranean.

Iryna Solonenko

Researcher, European University Viadrina, Associate Fellow, at the DGAP's Robert Bosch Center for Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia

Iryna Solonenko is a DAAD/OSF scholar at the European University Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder and an associate fellow of the Robert Bosch Center for Central and Eastern Europe at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP). Between 2000 and 2012 she worked with the Open Society Foundations in Ukraine as the Director of the European Programme and with the EastWest Institute in Kyiv as a project manager.

Solonenko holds degrees in International Relations, European Studies, Public Administration and History from the Central European University, Budapest; National Academy of Publc Administration, Kyiv; and National University 'Kyiv-Mohyla Academy', Kyiv. During 2006-2007 she was a visiting research associate at the University of Birmingham, UK.

Her research interests include European Neighbourhood Policy and Eastern Partnership, political economy of post-Soviet transformation, including the nexus between the political power and oligarchic control, and civil society development with a focus on Ukraine.

David Stulík

Press and Information Officer, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine

David Stulík is presently working as the Press and Information Office at the EU Delegation in Kyiv, Ukraine. Prior to this position, he was shortly employed in the Czech Deputy Prime Minister Office, where he dealt with the preparations for the Czech EU Presidency. Before joining the public sector, David acted as the Head of Unit for Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova and the Coordinator of democracy projects in Eastern Europe in one of the largest Central European NGO, People in Need. Before, he served as the Project Manager at the Civil Society Development Foundation (NROS), which has been predominantly involved in the administration of PHARE programs aimed at the development of civil society in the Czech Republic. After the EU accession he has been appointed by the Czech government as a member of the European Economic and Social Committee, where he represented Czech non-governmental sector and also served as the Rapporteur for Belarus.

His professional experience also includes working for the independent Czech think tank, Institute for European policies EUROPEUM, which he has co-founded. Mr. Stulík also served as Project Manager and Executive Assistant to Senior Vice President of the EastWest Institute, Euro-American think tank. During his studies he held the position of Vice President of AEGEE-Europe (European Students' Association). Mr. Stulík has MA degree in Society and Politics from the Central European University andMSc in International Economics from the Warsaw School of Economics.

Stuart Summers

Adviser, European External Action Service

Stuart Summers is a Senior Adviser at the European External Action Service, working on the EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy as well as on developing the EU relationship with Iran, in particular its strategic regional aspects. He is a seconded diplomat from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and previous postings include Cyprus, Czech Republic, Iran and the United Arab Emirates.

Benjamin Tallis

Researcher and Co-ordinator, Centre for European Security, Institute of International Relations, Prague

Dr. Benjamin Tallis is a Research Fellow at the Institute of International Relations and the Coordinator of the Institute's Centre for European Security. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the SCOPUS listed academic journal 'New Perspectives: Interdisciplinary Journal of Central and East European Politics and International Relations. His research interests focus on security politics in Europe, particularly looking at issues relating to borders, security, mobility and migration. Tallis also researches wider issues relating to the politics, societies and cultures of Central and Eastern Europe, critical geopolitics, the politics of the European Union and ways to put critical research into policy and practice.
He completed his doctorate - 'A Moveable East: Identities, Borders and Orders in the Enlarged EU and its Eastern Neighbourhood' at the University of Manchester. He previously worked as a strategy, planning and performance officer for the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine and as a strategic analyst and project manager for the EU Police Mission EUPOL-Proxima, based in Skopje. He frequently appears in the Czech and international media discussing European politics and security and writes for a variety of European publications on the same topics, as well as writing on architecture and art.

Asle Toje

Research Director, The Norwegian Nobel Institute

Asle Toje (b. 1974) is the Research Director at the Norwegian Nobel Institute in Oslo, and a lecturer at the Institute for Political Science at the University of Oslo. Toje's research interests are found at the intersection of security studies and European studies. Since Toje graduated from Cambridge University in 2006, he has published widely on European security and foreign policy. Among his last works are America, the EU and Strategic Culture (London, Routledge); The European Union as a Small Power (London, Macmillan, 2010) and Neoclassical realism in Europe (Manchester University Press, 2012). He has also authored two monographies in Norwegian on the economic and political crisis in Europe: Rødt, Hvitt & Blått and Jernburet (Dreyer 2012, 2014)

In the presence of:

Mr. Frans Timmermans, First Vice-President of the European Commission
Mr. Lubomír Zaorálek, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Visegrad group countries
Ministers of Foreign Affairs from the Western Balkans

12 November 2015

12:30 – 13:30 **Registration and coffee**

13:30 – 13:35 **Welcome Words**
Vladimír Bartovic, Director of EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy, Prague
Radko Hokovský, Executive Director, European Values Think-Tank
Petr Kratochvíl, Director of the Institute of International Relations, Prague

13:35 – 15:00 **Plenary Panel I:**
EU Institutions Fit for Crisis Management

As the Eurozone crisis unfolded and measures were adopted to counter it, accelerated inter-institutional dynamics brought about a shift in the balance between EU institutions. At the same time, a fissure is growing which separates Eurozone members and their informal institutions from the formal decision-making of the 28. Are EU institutions prepared to deal with future challenges? What recalibrations of the EU´s set-up are needed to ensure a suitable balance between the main institutions? How can we ensure that the growing gap between the Eurozone and the non-members is overcome?

Steven Blockmans, Head of EU Foreign Policy, Centre for European Policy Studies, Brussels
Thierry Chopin, Research Director at the Robert Schuman Foundation, Paris
Ana Palacio, Member of Spanish Council of State, former Minister for Foreign Affairs
Vaira Vike-Freiberga, former President of Latvia and Vice-Chair of the Reflection Group on the long term future of Europe
Chair: **Petr Drulák**, Political Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 – 15:40 **Welcome to the Plenary Meeting: Lubomír Zaorálek**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

15:40 – 16:00 **Key-Note Speech: Frans Timmermans**, First Vice-President of the European Commission
What changes do EU institutions need in order to address new challenges?

16:00 – 17:30 **Visegrád Ministers' Panel:**
How to Enhance Central European Clout in the Discussions on EU Institutional Reforms?

The financial crisis, the refugees problematique and the increasingly contested legitimacy of the EU combined pose one of the gravest challenges to the integration process ever. The growing Eurosceptic tendencies are palpable not only in the UK but also elsewhere in the EU including in Central Europe. The triple conundrum this panel will address is how to prevent further fragmentation of the EU, how to reinvigorate the Visegrad cooperation and how to make the V4 constructive partners within the EU. This panel shall explore whether the basic interests of the Visegrad countries are in harmony and whether the V4 countries can become agenda setters for the institutional changes, policy adaptation or even treaty revisions needed for the EU to find new dynamics. How can we encourage the centripetal tendencies in the Visegrad Four? How can we change the deteriorating public perceptions of the EU in the V4 countries? Is the danger of the V4 falling apart – or even of some of them leaving the EU - real? In terms of further EU integration, is it in the interests of the V4 countries that EU institutions (such as the European Commission) gain more powers? If yes, in what areas – external policies, monetary policy, fiscal policies, migration and asylum, or elsewhere? What is the role for the V4 in this regard? Is there a common Visegrad stance on any of these issues?

Miroslav Lajčák, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic
Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary
Lubomír Zaorálek, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland
Moderator: **Petr Kratochvíl**, Director of the Institute of International Relations, Prague

17:30 – 18:00 Coffee Break

18:00 – 19:30 **Plenary Panel II:**
Re-enchanting the European dream : are we still capable of living together?

Tensions surrounding the European social model have flared up, as the idea of the welfare state has come under stress from the ongoing pressures of the economic crisis. The multiple uses of the notion of solidarity in the past few years have contributed to increasing intra-European divides, for example in the continued support of Greece by the so-called "fiscally responsible" northern EU member states, or solidarity of newer member states in supporting the intake of refugees, are symbols of how these tensions have paved the way for a rethinking of the way we live together. Politicians, populist or sometimes not, have seized on these new fault lines to question the idea of the European model, at a time when refugees continue to pour in the continent to live their European dream. What are the tools at our disposal to give a new life to this European dream? Is the welfare state set to undergo deep adaptations to fit the new European realities? How do we foresee intra-European divisions evolving, and how will European solidarity continue to be affected? Do they have repercussion on the ability of the EU to project power and effect change abroad?

Joško Klisović, Deputy Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia
Martin Michelot, Head of Research, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy, Prague
Tomáš Sedláček, Chief Macroeconomic Strategist at ČSOB (a Czech national bank)
Jiří Schneider, Prague Security Studies Institute
Chair: **Beata Jaczewska**, Executive Director at International Visegrad Fund

19:30 – 21:30 Reception

13 November 2015

8:00 – 9:00 Registration and coffee

9:00 – 10:30 **Plenary Panel III:**
Enhanced European Neighbourhood Policy

This panel will provide an opportunity to discuss the European Commission's proposal of a revised European Neighbourhood Policy as well as drafts of a new EU strategy for external action. It will shed light on the new formats of cooperation with the EU´s neighbours and on the process of differentiation in the EU´s approach to them. Is the EU´s position as presented at the Riga Summit an appropriate foundation for the new EaP? Is the EU prepared to fully commit itself to a special partnership and/or eventual membership of the most advanced partners? Is further differentiation between the East and the South needed? What approach should the EU take regarding the special cases of regimes such as Belarus and Azerbaijan?

Vladimír Bilčík, Head of EU Program, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, Bratislava
Anthony Dworkin, Senior Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations, London
Barbara Lippert, Executive Board Director of Research, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Berlin
Marc Pierini, visiting scholar at Carnegie Europe and former EU ambassador in MENA countries
Chair: **Věra Řiháčková**, Secretariat of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum and Associated Fellow, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy, Prague

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 **Breakout Sessions: Major Challenges in our Neighbourhood**

Session A: Ukraine: How to avert yet another frozen conflict in Europe?

The crisis in Ukraine and conflict with Russia has been among the most defining events of current EU external policy. This panel will review the common European response and propose tracks to settle the situation in our Eastern Neighbourhood. Does the EU possess effective tools to assist Ukraine in its European perspective? Is the EU able to respond to destructive Russian policies?

Hanna Hopko, Head of the Foreign Affairs Committee Parliament of Ukraine
Iryna Solonenko, Researcher, European University Viadrina, Associate fellow at the DGAP's Robert Bosch Center for Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia
David Stulík, Press and Information Officer, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine
Asle Toje, Research Director, Norwegian Nobel Institute, Oslo
Chair: **Martin Bútora**, Honorary President, Institute for Public Affairs, Bratislava

Session B: DAESH: How to defeat the so-called Islamic State and prevent the formation of other such organizations in the MENA region?

Despite the campaign of the international coalition against ISIL, the terrorist organization is still capable of expanding its territory and destabilizing the region. Moreover other ISIL-inspired groups in Libya and elsewhere are trying to follow its tactics and strategies. The very existence of ISIL poses a direct security threat for European countries through foreign fighters. What can the EU do in order to help defeat the so-called Islamic State and prevent the formation of other similar territorial terrorist organizations in the destabilised and failed states of the Middle East and Africa?

Shmuel Bar, Director of Studies, Institute of Policy and Strategy, Herzliya, Israel
Jana Hybášková, former Head of the Delegation of the EU to Iraq, Head of the Delegation of the EU to Namibia
Roland Freudenstein, Deputy Director and Head of Research at the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, Brussels
Antonio Missiroli, Director, European Union Institute for Security Studies, Paris
Chair: **Milan Nič**, Managing Director, Central European Policy Institute, Bratislava

Session C: The Mediterranean: How to prevent the human tragedies at sea and adopt a viable and sustainable European immigration policy?

The Central Mediterranean has seen a terrifying increase in deaths of people sailing to Europe to seek refuge. The EU has adopted a number of measures to address the current asylum crisis from different angles. This breakout session will provide an opportunity to review efforts on the part of the European Commission and the Member States, especially the European Agenda on Migration and the adoption of its key actions.

Eduard Soler i Lecha, Senior Research Fellow, Research Coordinator, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs
Polly Pallister-Wilkins, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, University of Amsterdam
Benjamin Tallis, Researcher and Co-ordinator of the Centre for European Security, Institute of International Relations, Prague
Chair: **Radko Hokovský**, Executive Director, European Values Think-Tank, Prague

12:30 – 14:00 Buffet Lunch

14:00 – 15:30 **Plenary Panel IV: Towards an EU 'Global Strategy':**
How to Combine Ambition and Realism, Ends and Means,an Inclusive Process with an Incisive Outcome?

The 25 June European Council invited High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini to work on a new EU "global strategy on foreign and security policy" to be delivered by June 2016. Based on her recent report on the changes in the global environment, a comprehensive outreach and consultation process has been set in motion with a view to reaching an agreement among the 28 EU member states on a sustainable platform for the Union's common external action in the years to come. What are the policy priorities on which to concentrate limited resources? How can we join up what the member states do and what the EU does (across and through its institutions and bodies) in order to defend our common interests and values and contribute to a viable, peaceful and fair new international order?

Annegret Bendiek, Senior Associate, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Berlin
Zoltan Martinusz, Director - Enlargement, Security, Foreign Affairs Council Support, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, Brussels
David Král, Head of the Policy Planning Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
Stuart Summers, Adviser, European External Action Service (EEAS)
Chair: **Antonio Missiroli**, Director, European Union Institute for Security Studies, Paris

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:30 **High Level Ministerial Panel:**
How to Restart the Pending Process of the Western Balkans Enlargement?

The political guidelines of the Juncker European Commission state that the EU needs to digest the addition of 13 new member states and that there will be no enlargement in five years. Is this a shared opinion of all EU member states? Are there still strong advocates of the EU enlargement process? Does the slowdown in enlargement contribute to the growing tensions in the region? What can be done to set the enlargement process back on track?

Ministers of Foreign Affairs from the Western Balkans region
Chair: **Štefan Füle**, former European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy

17:30 – 17:45 **Closing Remarks: Vladimír Bartovic**,
Director of EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy, Prague

17:45 – 20:30 Cocktail

Nelly Tomčíková

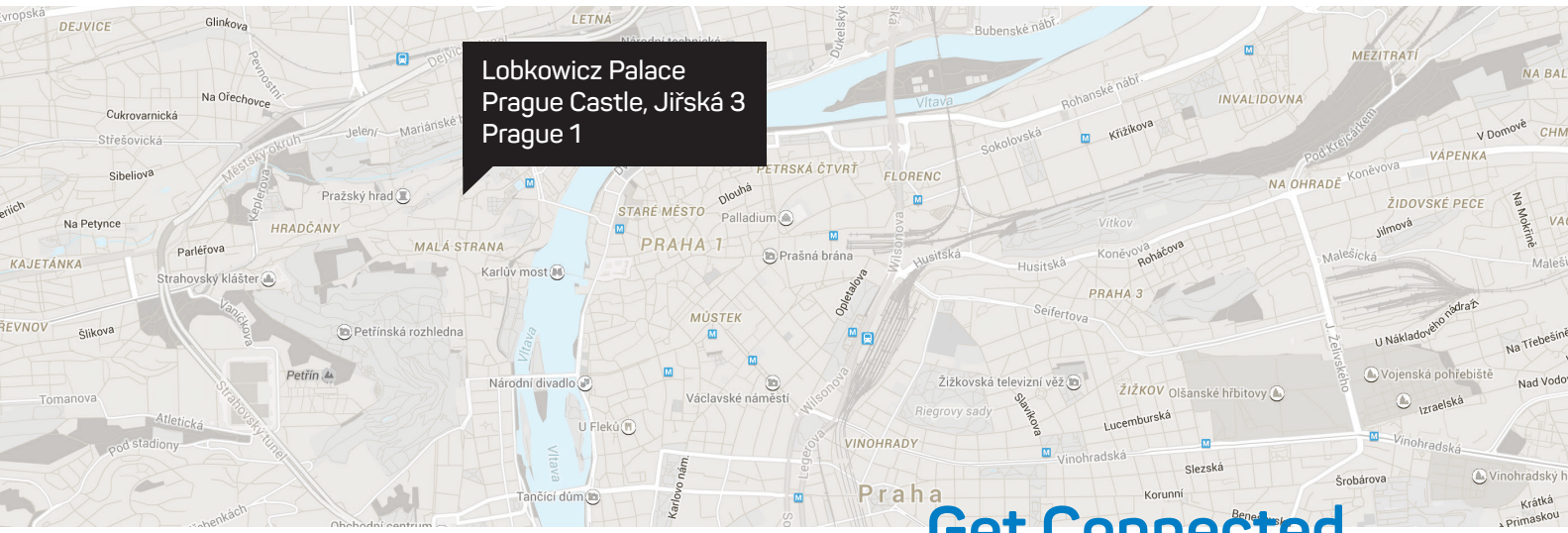
Project manager

Email: ntomcikova@praguesummit.eu
Mobil: +420 777 802 254

Radko Hokovský

Media contact

Email: rhokovsky@praguesummit.eu
Mobil: +420 775 031 108



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