



INSTITUTE FOR POLITICS
AND SOCIETY



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
MULTIPLE CHALLENGES
FOR EUROPE

19 September 2016 / Schebek Palace, Politických vězňů 7, Prague

ABOUT THE EVENT

The Institute for Politics and Society, The Friedrich Naumann Foundation and The European Liberal Forum cordially invite you to international conference Multiple Challenges for Europe. The event is held under the auspices of Adriana Krnáčová, Lady Mayor of Prague and with the financial support of the European Parliament.

Since 2009, Europe has been facing multiple crises. Some would even claim that there should be a database of crises and challenges. There is a crisis involving the Eurozone, which has not disappeared but has been just overshadowed by more urgent matters. There is the topic of Greece staying or not staying in the Eurozone. There is a sovereign debt crisis in the southern belt. We have Russian aggression in Ukraine and challenges related to stabilizing Ukraine. Then there is the threat of Brexit and there is a crisis in the European energy market and energy dependency on Russia. Nowadays, everyone is concerned with the migration crisis, security crisis, and Schengen crisis. There are challenges with how to deal with Turkey, Syria, and ISIL. Furthermore, we also have a European political crisis, a rise of political extremism, the East West division, and a crisis of European leadership, values, sharing, and solidarity. The 'European Multiple Crises' Conference will aim to address these issues, and potential avenues for resolution in the European context.

PROGRAM

8:30 – 9:00 Registration

9:00 – 9:05 **Welcome Speech by Jan Macháček**
(Czech Republic)
Chairman of the Institute for Politics
and Society

9:05 – 10:30 PANEL A: **EUROPEAN VISION,
VALUES, LEADERSHIP,
SOLIDARITY, AND FEDERALISM**

Bartłomiej E. Nowak (Poland)
Head of Chair of International Rela-
tions, Vistula University

Kai-Olaf Lang (Germany)
Head of the European Division at the
German Institute Stiftung Wissen-
schaft und Politik

Leszek Jazdzewski (Poland)
Editor-in-Chief of the Polish socio-po-
litical magazine, Liberté!

John Lloyd (United Kingdom)
Contributing editor to the Financial
Times

Iliya Lingorski (Bulgaria)
President of the Bulgarian Section
of the European League of Economic
Cooperation

Moderator: **Jan Macháček**
(Czech Republic)
Chairman of the Institute
for Politics and Society

10:30 – 11:15

TALK FOR EUROPE

Václav Bělohradský (Czech Republic)
Publicist, candidate for Senator for the
Social Democrats and the Green Party

PROGRAM

Jacques Rupnik (France)
Professor at Sciences Po in Paris and
honorary visiting professor at Charles
University in Prague

Moderator: **Jan Macháček**
(Czech Republic)
Chairman of the Institute
for Politics and Society

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00 PANEL B: **MIGRATION, SECURITY,
FUTURE OF SCHENGEN**

H.E. Aldo Amati (Italy)
Ambassador of Italy to the Czech
Republic
Grigorij Mesežnikov (Slovakia)
Political analyst, founder & President
of the Slovak Institute for Public Affairs

Jacques Rupnik (France)
Professor at Sciences Po in Paris and
honorary visiting professor at Charles
University in Prague

Tereza Englová (Czech Republic)
Czech journalist and documentary
film maker

Moderator: **Jan Macháček**
(Czech Republic)
Chairman of the Institute for Politics
and Society

13:00 – 13:45 Lunch

13:45 – 15:00 **RALF DAHRENDORF ROUNDTA-
BLE: TALK FOR EUROPE ***

Welcome speech by **Felicita Medved**
(Slovenia), President of the European
Liberal Forum

Andrej Babiš (Czech Republic)
Finance Minister of the Czech Republic
Guy Verhofstadt (Belgium)
Leader of the Alliance of Liberals and
Democrats for Europe

Moderator: **Pavel Telička**
(Czech Republic)
Member of European Parliament

15:00 – 16:30 PANEL C: EUROZONE, GREECE,
AND SOVEREIGN DEBT CRISES

H.E. Efthymios Efthymiades (Greece)
Ambassador of Greece to the Czech
Republic
Helena Horská (Czech Republic)
Chief economist of Raiffeisenbank
in Prague

Iliya Lingorski (Bulgaria)
President of the Bulgarian Section
of the European League of Economic
Cooperation

Zdeněk Kudrna (Czech Republic)
Researcher at the Salzburg Centre
of European Union Studies at the
University of Salzburg
Krisztián Szabados (Hungary)
Chief Executive Officer of Political
Capital Institute

Moderator: **Aleš Chmelař**
(Czech Republic)
Chief Economist at the European
Section of the Czech Office of the
Government

16:30 – 16:45 Coffee Break

16:45 – 17:30 **TALK FOR EUROPE**

Martin Stropnický (Czech Republic)
Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic

Jan Macháček (Czech Republic)
Chairman of the Institute for Politics and Society

Moderator: **Anna Matušková**
(Czech Republic)
Political Scientist at the Faculty of Social Science, Charles University

17:30 – 19:00 **PANEL D: UKRAINE AND ASSERTIVE RUSSIA**

Bartłomiej E. Nowak (Poland)
Director at the Center for International Relations, Warsaw

Kai-Olaf Lang (Germany)
Head of the European Division at the German Institute Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik

Leszek Jazdzewski (Poland)
Editor-in-Chief of the Polish socio-political magazine, Liberté!

John Lloyd (United Kingdom)
Contributing editor to the Financial Times

Grigorij Mesežnikov (Slovakia)
Founder & President of the Slovak Institute for Public Affairs

Moderator: **Petr Kolář**
(Czech Republic)
Former Ambassador of the Czech Republic to USA and Russia

19:00 – 20:00 **NETWORKING**

PANEL A
EUROPEAN
VISION,
VALUES,
LEADERSHIP,
SOLIDARITY,
AND
FEDERALISM

The European identity has rarely been anything more than a vision, try as politicians might. Lacking a coherent vision, undermined by national self-interest, and plagued by “part time Europeans”, the next logical step, federalism, is for now impossible. European nations want to enjoy the common market and European family, whilst preserving their own national identities. It is clear that one of the most important EU member states is conflicted with the idea of even being in the Union. Have we reached the limit of European integration?

Questions:

Is there such a thing as a European vision? How can Europe proceed when its members have such divergent concepts of what the future should entail? Has the European Union ever NOT been in a state of crisis? How should European governments approach Europe when the future is so unclear?

PANEL B
MIGRATION,
SECURITY,
FUTURE OF
SCHENGEN

The ongoing migrant crisis has come to define the European continent's experience of the Iraqi & Syrian civil wars and the insurgency of the so-called "Islamic State". Pressure on public services such as social housing, healthcare and education might in the past have dominated concerns surrounding the arrival of, the most extreme case (that of Germany) over a million new inhabitants. Since the IS directed terrorist attacks in Paris, November 2015 and the widespread, seemingly coordinated sexual assaults across Germany however, concerns have, rightly or wrongly, tended increasingly towards potential security issues related to the crisis. The balance

between humanitarianism and security is one that many western European countries are currently grappling.

Questions:

Do any countries bear a responsibility to accommodate refugees? What distinguishes a refugee from an economic migrant? Do countries militarily involved in the Middle East such as the United Kingdom and France bear a greater responsibility than those uninvolved in the Iraqi/Syrian civil war? For how long, if at all, can Schengen survive under the current circumstances? Do migrants pose a threat to security?

PANEL C
EUROZONE,
GREECE,
AND
SOVEREIGN
DEBT CRISES

With very few exceptions, every developed economy in the world was affected to some extent by the economic crash of 2007/8—many faced economic ruin, and some are still suffering the consequences today. This is no more the case than in the Eurozone—Portugal, Spain, the Republic of Ireland, Cyprus, and most infamously Greece were unable to repay their government debts and consequently public services such as healthcare and education, as well as employment in these countries were crippled.

Questions:

To what extent are these countries still suffering the effects of debt? Is there still a threat of the breakup of the Eurozone? Should EU members be obligated to bail out indebted countries in the future? Even those not in the Eurozone such as the United Kingdom? What might a potential solution to the European debt crisis entail? How has the crisis changed the EU since it started?

PANEL D
UKRAINE
AND ASSERTIVE
RUSSIA

Europe has always faced crises. Never however, has the issue of European cooperation and identity inflamed such bloody and violent unrest as has been the case since 2014 in Ukraine. Europe finds itself in a standoff with one of the greater nuclear powers of the world, over a country in which much of the population has no interest or desire to be integrated into Europe. The crisis threatens to tear Ukraine in half, and Europe, as the Union finds itself within touching distance of an increasingly assertive Russia.

Questions:

To what extent is the Russian administration correct in suggesting the EU's expansion towards the east is "aggressive"? Is Ukrainian integration into the EU worth the risk of potential bloodshed? How can amicable relations between Europe and Russia be maintained? Is Ukraine Europe's problem? Was the Dutch referendum the final nail in the Ukrainian-European coffin?



Václav Bělohradský

CZECH REPUBLIC
TALK FOR EUROPE

Václav Bělohradský is a contemporary Czech philosopher whose paramount theme is postmodern political philosophy. He earned his PhD at the Charles University IV in Prague in 1969 and in the same year he moved in exile in Italy. Since 1973 he has been a sociology professor at the University of Genoa and since 1991 at the University of Trieste. He has collaborated with numerous Czech exile magazines and various publishers and domestic dissent. He gained reputation for his comprehensive expertise in political philosophy with an overlap in art and history of central-european civilization.



Jacques Rupnik

FRANCE
TALK FOR EUROPE

Jacques Rupnik is an author and academic, educated at the University of Paris and at Harvard. He is currently Director of Research at CERI, and Professor at Sciences Po in Paris with a particular interest in East European history and politics and European integration. In the past, Professor Rupnik served as Executive director of the International Commission for the Balkans, advisor to the European Commission (2007-2010, and member of the board of directors of the European Partnership for Democracy in Brussels (2008-2013). He is a regular Visiting Scholar at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University.



Andrej Babiš

CZECH REPUBLIC
TALK FOR EUROPE

Andrej Babiš has been a Czech Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance since January 2014. He got his degree at University of Economics, focused his studies on international trade. He began his career as a trader for the Chemapol company in Bratislava, and continued it for the Petrimex company. Moreover, later on in 1993, he established his own company, Agrofert, that is nowadays an international group with more than 250 subsidiaries of several lines: chemical industry, agriculture, food processing, forestry and timbering, ground-technologies, technology and transportation, renewable energy sources and media as well. Since 2011 he has been a chairman of ANO political movement that gained second largest amount of votes in 2013 parliamentary elections.



Guy Verhofstadt

BELGIUM

TALK FOR EUROPE

Member of the European Parliament, President of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE). He studied law at university in Ghent, Belgium. He started his political career as President of the Liberal Flemish Students' Union in Ghent, and later became City Councillor in Ghent, an MP in the House of Representatives, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the Budget, a Senator, and National President of the Flemish Liberals and Democrats (VLD). From 1999 to 2008 he served as Prime Minister of Belgium. In June 2009, Guy Verhofstadt was elected to the European Parliament and leader of the ALDE Group. In addition to his duties as a politician, Guy has written a number of books including, *The United States of Europe* (2006), *The New Age of Empires* (2008) and *Emerging from the Crisis: How Europe can Save the World* (2009).



Martin Stropnický

CZECH REPUBLIC

TALK FOR EUROPE

Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic, Member of the Parliament (ANO 2011), diplomat, former Minister of Culture, actor, and director. After the Velvet Revolution of 1989 he studied and graduated at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna, and became Director of the Department of Cultural Relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. He dedicated the following years to diplomatic activities, serving as Ambassador to Portugal (1993-1994), Italy (1994-1997), and Holy See (1999-2002). During this period, in 1998, he briefly assumed the position of Minister of Culture in the interim Tosovsky government. In recent years, he has pursued acting, theatre directing, writing etc. In 2013 he was elected Member of the Parliament as electoral leader of the ANO 2011 movement in the South Moravia district. In January 2014 he was appointed Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic.



Jan Macháček

CZECH REPUBLIC

TALK FOR EUROPE/MODERATOR

Jan Macháček is a journalist and musician. He is also a leading Czech commentator and analyst of contemporary issues concerning both interior and exterior political and economic matters. Before his arrival to *Lidové noviny*, Macháček worked at *Respekt* and *Hospodářské noviny*. Macháček gives lectures on journalism at New York University in Prague and holds lectures regarding economic policy at other international universities and conferences.



H.E. Aldo Amati

ITALY

PANEL B

H.E Aldo Amati has been the Ambassador of Italy to the Czech Republic since 2014- the latest post in an illustrious and dynamic career. A graduate of the Universities of Bergamo and Milan, Amati has previously served as Director of legation in London, Director of embassy in Washington, First Counsellor in Tokyo, and Diplomatic Advisor to the President of the Italian Republic, among other posts. He was made Grand Officer of the Order of Merit of the Republic in 2013.



H.E. Efthymios Efthymiades

GREECE

PANEL C

H.E. Efthymios EFTHYMIADES is a newly assigned Ambassador of Greece to the Czech Republic. He studied at the Faculty of Law at the Athens University. He started professional career as Diplomatic Office of the Prime Minister of Greece in 1990. Later he worked, among other assignments, at the department for NATO, where he was responsible for NATO operations, and missions or at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for EU Enlargement. He served in Washington, D.C., Addis Ababa, Toronto etc. In 2014 he became Director the Department for EU External Relations.



Tereza Engelová

CZECH REPUBLIC

PANEL B

Czech journalist and documentary film maker. Worked in Czech TV as a foreign news reporter, editor and anchor focusing on crisis reporting and “third world”. Reported from more than 20 countries. She moved to Pakistan in 2007. Spent two years as a freelance correspondent for different Czech media and taught foreign affairs and film making at Fatima Jinah University. She lived in Turkish Gaziantep from 2014-2015 focusing on Syrian conflict and refugee issues.

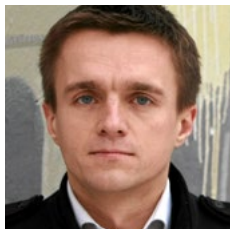


Helena Horská

CZECH REPUBLIC

PANEL C

Helena Horská is an acknowledged expert in the field of monetary policy and its practical implication. She is author of publications in the field of monetary policy. As a part of her Ph.D. study at the University of Economics in Prague and Advanced Studies Program at Kiel Institute of World Economics she published research papers on inflation targeting. These days Helena holds the position of chief economist of Raiffeisenbank in Prague. Besides this she actively contributes to the economic think-tank project “Alter-Eko” and gives the lectures of economics at universities. She is involved in professional discussions and writes for periodicals including Respekt. All new and unknown in the field of monetary policy is exciting for her. Helena’s purpose is to stimulate the discussion and search for the simple answers to unanswered questions.



Leszek Jażdżewski

POLAND

PANEL A, D

Leszek Jażdżewski is an editor-in-Chief of LIBERTE! – a Polish liberal quarterly portal and think tank. He is a co-founder of a community centre 6. Dzielnica in tódż and columnist of publications such as Gazeta Wyborcza, Rzeczpospolita, Polityka, Wprost. He is also commentator for TOK FM radio station and TVP television channel and Marshall Memorial Fellow. He was chosen as a leader in a project carried out by Teraz Polska magazine nominating 25 leaders for the next 25 years.



Zdeněk Kudrna

CZECH REPUBLIC

PANEL C

Zdeněk Kudrna is a researcher at the Salzburg Centre of European Union Studies at the University of Salzburg, where he implements the Horizon 2020 project analyzing the economic and fiscal integration in the EU. His research focuses on the political economy of European integration and financial market regulation. He has taught at the University of Vienna, Charles University in Prague and Central European University in Budapest. He has been an advisor to the IMF and World Bank, UNDP and the Czech Minister of Finance. His work recently appeared in Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of European Public Policy and in a volume on the EU’s decision traps (Oxford University Press). Zdenek received a PhD in political economy from Central European University. He comments regularly on European affairs in the Czech and Slovak media.



Kai-Olaf Lang

GERMANY
PANEL A, D

Dr. Kai-Olaf Lang is a senior fellow at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs of the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) in Berlin, Germany. He was a previous research fellow at the Federal Institute for Eastern and International Studies in Cologne, Germany. In 2015, he produced and published, “Germany, the European Union, and Their Gentle Force in the European Neighbourhood – A Comparison of Two Soft Power Engines”.

His field of specialisation are the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) such as transformation, political developments, foreign and security policy, bilateral relations with Germany, EU enlargement and implications and security issues in CEE. Currently, he has been carrying out research concerning foreign and security policies within these countries. He holds a PhD in Political Science.



Iliya Lingorski

BULGARIA
PANEL A, C

Iliya Lingorski started his career in computer sciences and academia. He served as First Deputy Minister of Finance and Head of the State Treasury in the Saxe-Coburg cabinet. Among other duties he represented the Ministry of Finance on the Government Council for NATO integration and co-chaired the task force for negotiations on the final chapter of Bulgaria’s EU accession. Iliya acted as IMF Alternate Governor for Bulgaria and was responsible for the government liaison with the Central Bank. During his term in office he led and managed the sharpest reduction of sovereign debt and was awarded investment grade credit ratings from all major agencies. Over the last years Iliya has acted as Regional Director of an international oil, gas and technology company with headquarters in Houston. Iliya Lingorski is President of the Bulgarian Section of European League for Economic Cooperation and a Trustee of the American University in Bulgaria.



John Lloyd

UNITED KINGDOM
PANEL A, D

John Lloyd is a British journalist and contributing editor for the Financial Times. He co-founded the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at the University of Oxford in 2006, and is now Senior Research Fellow. Mr Lloyd is also chairman of the advisory board of the Moscow School of Civic Education and has written several books including, “What the Media Are Doing to Our Politics” (2004).



Grigorij Mesežnikov

SLOVAKIA

PANEL B, D

Grigorij Mesežnikov is a political scientist, president of the Institute for Public Affairs (IVO). He is a founding member of IVO, which he joined full-time in June 1997 and only two years later became the Institute's president. He has published expert studies on party systems' development and political aspects of transformation in post-communist societies in various monographs, collections and scholarly journals in Slovakia and other countries. Since 1993, he has been an external correspondent for Radio Liberty/Radio Free Europe. In 2006 he was awarded by Reagan-Fascell Fellowship by the National Endowment for Democracy (Washington, D.C.), in 2012 he was a research fellow of Taiwan Fellowship program at the Department of Political Science of National Taiwan University in Taipei.



Bartłomiej E. Nowak

POLAND

PANEL A, D

Bartłomiej E. Nowak is a political scientist and he holds a PhD from economics (Warsaw School of Economics) and completed his executive studies at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. He also holds a Chair of International Relations, at the Vistula University in Warsaw where he teaches the courses on global governance, international organizations and global ethics. At the same time, he is Foreign Affairs Secretary of Nowoczesna (The Modern), a new political party which entered to the Polish parliament in 2015. He also worked in the European Parliament (Brussels-Strasbourg, 2004-2009) as the head of cabinet of EP Vice-President, Janusz Onyszkiewicz, and as an advisor to members of the Convention on the Future of Europe (2002-2003).



Krisztián Szabados

HUNGARY

PANEL C

Krisztián Szabados, an economist and political analyst, is the founder and co-owner of Political Capital Institute, a Budapest-based think-tank specialized in research on political extremism. He is a former network fellow at Edmond J Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University. Szabados is the author of several books on Hungarian domestic politics as well as a biography of Nicolas Sarkozy. He is regularly quoted by the international media on current affairs.



Aleš Chmelař

CZECH REPUBLIC
MODERATOR

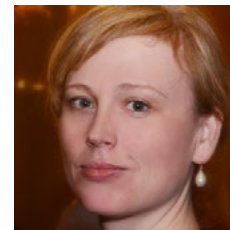
Aleš Chmelař is currently the Chief Economist at the European Section of the Czech Office of the Government. Until 2014, he worked as Researcher of financial markets and household economics at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), the largest and oldest Brussels-based think tank. He is specialised in European economic and financial policy and household economics. He was trained in the Financial Services Unit of the Secretariat General of the EU Council and worked for the Economic and Financial Policy Unit of the Party of European Socialists in Brussels. Graduated from Sciences Po Paris and London School of Economics.



Petr Kolář

CZECH REPUBLIC
MODERATOR

Petr Kolář is a former Czech ambassador and is currently a senior advisor for the law firm Squire Patton Boggs. Mr Kolář held a number of top positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was ambassador to Sweden (1996-1998), Ireland (1999-2003), the United States (2005-2010) and the Russian Federation (2010-2012). Mr Kolář is an expert in economic diplomacy and has advised business and government organisations in China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Russia and several EU institutions. Mr Kolář focusses on market analysis, strategy development, trade optimisation and dispute resolution.



Anna Matušková

CZECH REPUBLIC
MODERATOR

Anna Matušková is a political scientist, lecturer and researcher at the Department of Marketing Communication under the Faculty of Social Sciences at Charles University in Prague. Her area of expertise includes issues of political and election marketing in the Czech Republic and worldwide. Matušková has also authored a number of books and essays on the subject. Furthermore, Matušková pursues the development of election campaigns, government communication, and public affairs.



Pavel Telička

CZECH REPUBLIC

MODERATOR

Member of the European Parliament and Vice-Chair of Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE). After having graduated from Law at Charles University, he has served as Ambassador to EU, Secretary of State for European Affairs, 1st Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chief Negotiator for accession to the EU, and Member of the European Commission. He received a Memorial Medal from President Vaclav Havel for his contribution to the integration of the Czech Republic into the EU. After rejecting an offer to become Minister of Foreign Affairs, he became partner in a consulting firm (2005 – 2014). In May 2014, Telička was elected to the European Parliament.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

VENUE

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The event is held under the auspices of Adriana Krnáčová, Lady Mayor of Prague. An event organised by the Institute for Politics and Society and supported by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF). The Talk for Europe with Guy Verhofstadt and Andrej Babiš is organised by The European Liberal Forum and with the financial support of the European Parliament. The European Liberal Forum and the European Parliament are not liable for the event. The views expressed herein are those of the speakers alone. These views do not necessarily reflect those of the FNF and/or Institute for Politics.



INSTITUTE FOR POLITICS
AND SOCIETY

The Institute for Politics and Society is a Czech think-tank founded in October 2014. The mission of Institute is to cultivate the Czech political and public sphere through an in-depth and open discussion and to create a living platform which terms problems and offers recipes for their solutions through international conferences, seminars, public discussions, political and social analyses available to the whole Czech society. We believe that an open discussion is a prerequisite for any successful solution to political and social problems.

Our main themes are foreign and security policy, defence, European matters, but also schooling, digitalisation, power industry, urbanism, life in a city and in the public space, values in politics and human rights in our country and abroad.

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