



THE HOTEL
26 APRIL 2017

08:30-09:00

Registration and Welcome coffee

09:00-10:30

First round of panel debates (held in parallel)

**THE RESISTIBLE RISE OF
POPULISM: GLOBAL
CHALLENGE ACCEPTED**

**KONRAD ADENAUER
FOUNDATION (EU OFFICE)
GERMANY**

**EU DEFENCE IN THE
TRUMP ERA: READY,
RESPONSIVE AND
RESPONSIBLE?**

**ÖVP POLITICAL ACADEMY
AUSTRIA**

**THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL
MODEL: FIT-FOR-
PURPOSE FOR THE 21ST
CENTURY?**

**CD&V STUDY CENTRE
BELGIUM**

10:30-11:00

Coffee break

11:00-12:30

Second round of panel debates (held in parallel)

**MEET THE NEIGHBOURS:
THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN
CONTRIBUTION TO ENP**

**TOPAZ
CZECH REPUBLIC**

**HERE TO STAY:
TERRORISM, HYBRID
WARFARE AND THE
EUROPEAN RESPONSE**

**DE GASPERI FOUNDATION
ITALY**

**EU AND US: TRUE FREE
TRADERS?**

**FAES FOUNDATION
SPAIN**

12:30-13:30

Networking lunch





THE HOTEL
26 APRIL 2017

13:30-15:00

Third round of panel debates (held in parallel)

**GO WHERE YOUR OPPONENTS ARE:
COUNTERING POPULISTS
ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

**CIVIC INSTITUTE
POLAND**

**THE INCONVENIENT
TRUTH: CHALLENGES OF
EU MIGRATION POLICY**

**LUIGI STURZO INSTITUTE
ITALY**

**THE PERKS OF BEING
SINGLE: A COMMON
MARKET FOR EU
PROSPERITY**

**ANTON TUNEGA
FOUNDATION
SLOVAKIA**

15:00-15:30

Coffee break

15:30-17:00

Fourth round of panel debates (held in parallel)

**POPULISM: DEMOCRACY
STRIKES BACK?**

**FOUNDATION FOR A CIVIC
HUNGARY
HUNGARY**

**THE VISIBLE (AND
INVISIBLE) RUSSIAN
HAND IN EUROPE**

**PRO PATRIA INSTITUTE
ESTONIA**

**PAVED WITH GOOD
INTENTIONS? STATE
INTERVENTION IN THE
ECONOMY**

**INSTITUTE FOR POPULAR
STUDIES
ROMANIA**

17:00-17:45

Wrap-up session and cocktail



09:00-10:30

First round of panel debates (held in parallel)

THE RESISTIBLE RISE OF POPULISM: GLOBAL CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

KONRAD ADENAUER FOUNDATION (EU OFFICE), GERMANY

Europe has experienced a groundswell of populism in the form of leaders, and populist parties throughout the Continent have enjoyed significant and prolonged political success. Recent events such as Brexit, the election of Donald Trump and the growth of populist movements across Europe have proven that “People” are dissatisfied with traditional partisan politics. Two core issues lie at the root of today’s rising populism: the challenge of migration and the lingering euro crisis. This panel will try to answer the following questions: What is going on in the Western democracies? Why is this (populism) happening now? Why populism is dangerous? How are we dealing with it and how to encounter it?

Moderator: Miriam Lexmann, Head of EU Office, International Republican Institute

Kick-off speaker: Wouter Beke, Party Leader of CD&V; Member of the Belgian Senate

Panel Speakers:

Juri Schnöller, Co-Founder and Managing Director, Cosmonauts & Kings GmbH

Erik Sydney Kroiher, Former International Secretary of ÖVP (Austria)

Q&A session

EU DEFENCE IN THE TRUMP ERA: READY, RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE?

ÖVP POLITICAL ACADEMY, AUSTRIA

Over decades, European politics was used to handle most of the security crises, even in Europe, following the lead of the US. Several statements by the new President Donald Trump let perceive that Europe might lose some relevance on the agenda of the Trump administration. Therefore, Europe needs to start thinking about taking care of its own security and defense issues in a more self-responsible way than it was the case so far. How could such a European Defence policy look? What are the next steps which need to be undertaken?

Moderator: Arnold Kammel, Director, Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy

Kick-off speaker: Werner Fasslabend, Former Austrian Federal Minister of Defence; Chairman, Martens Centre Academic Council

Panel speakers:

Jochen Rehrl, European Security and Defence College

Sven Biscop, Director, Europe in the World Programme, Egmont Institute

Q&A session

THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL MODEL: FIT-FOR-PURPOSE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY?

CD&V STUDY CENTRE, BELGIUM

The EU Commission’s initiative to develop a European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) was established to cope with long-term European challenges. The Pillar should become the reference framework: to screen the employment and social performance of participating member states; to drive the process of reforms at national level; to serve as a compass for renewed convergence within the euro area. One of the priorities of the Pillar is to update existing labour and social standards in order to achieve fair working conditions and adequate and sustainable social protection. The panel will take a closer look at the possibilities for enhancing efficiency and legitimacy of the EU by increasing (upward) convergence which avoids pressure on national, social and economic systems.

Moderator: Maarten Claeys, Parliamentary assistant to MEP Tom Vandekendelaere

Kick-off speaker: Nathalie Darnaut, Head of Unit Country Reforms, DG Employment, Social affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Panel speakers:

Bea Cantillon, Professor of Social Policy and Director of the Herman Deleeck Centre for Social Policy, University of Antwerp

Annemie Drieskens, President, Coface Families Europe

Veronique Willems, Secretary General, European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (UEAPME)

Q&A session

11:00-12:30

Second round of panel debates (held in parallel)

MEET THE NEIGHBOURS: THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN CONTRIBUTION TO ENP

TOPAZ, CZECH REPUBLIC

The recent migration crisis has shown the importance of supporting and promoting democratization and economic development in the EU's immediate neighbourhood. We need to have shared goals while recognizing the specifics of each region and the individual countries covered by the ENP. Central European countries have insights on the former Soviet Republics including Ukraine, Belarus and Georgia, but also on Mediterranean countries such as Syria and Turkey. What kind of contribution can they bring in facing the existing and upcoming challenges of Europe and its neighbourhood?

Moderator: Marek Polach, Representative, Delegation of Prague to the European Union

Kick-off speaker: Michael Romancov, TOP09 (Czech Republic) member; Institute of Political Studies, Charles University, Prague

Panel Speakers:

Lucie Tungul, Member, TOPAZ Academic Committee

Jan Tlamycha, Assistant to MEP Luděk Niedermayer (TBC)

Q&A session

HERE TO STAY: TERRORISM, HYBRID WARFARE AND THE EUROPEAN RESPONSE

DE GASPERI FOUNDATION, ITALY

At the time when Daesh was progressively losing its control over territory due to the interventions of the coalition forces, it started to put the bases for assuring the persistence of its terror. It did so by implementing a new kind of conflict: the so-called "hybrid warfare". Now more than ever the world is afflicted by several geographically independent yet interconnected conflicts, triggered and fought by groups extremely able in developing new and innovative warfare "weapons". European states need to reflect urgently on the terrorist threat, trying to foresee evolutions and changes of the Daesh structure itself, but also the future role of foreign fighters and the use of propaganda as a tool for radicalization. Security cooperation between member states must become more strategic, improve the level of effectiveness and provide a common response.

Moderator and kick-off speaker: Marco Lombardi, Director, CETRA Research Centre, De Gasperi Foundation

Panel speakers:

Silvio Mascagna, Member of Cabinet, Julian King's Team, Commissioner for the Security Union

Anna Fotyga, MEP, Security and Defence Subcommittee Chair

Alexander Ritzmann, Executive Director, EFD

Sergio Attilio Jesi, Vice President, Corporate Communication & External Relations, Elettronica

Angelino Alfano, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; President of the De Gasperi Foundation (TBC)

Q&A session

EU AND US: TRUE FREE TRADERS?

FAES FOUNDATION, SPAIN

Since the eruption of the financial crisis in 2007, there has been a global increase in protectionist measures to restrict trade. This growing protectionist pressure has certainly raised serious concerns, as it may harm global economic growth and overshadow positive gains resulting from the economic reforms of recent years. More recently, the trend toward protectionism from the new US administration has raised further concerns. As for the EU, the difficulties in approving CETA and the growing TTIP opposition show that the 28 member states are not escaping the rise of protectionism. It goes without saying that the EU is still far from the completion of the internal single market. That said, could we say that the EU and the USA are true free traders?

Moderator: Miguel Marín, Director for Economy and Public Policy, FAES Foundation

Kick-off speaker: Jaime Garcia Legaz, Chairman and CEO, CESCE; Former Vice-minister for Trade

Panel speakers:

Luisa Santos, Director International Relations, Business Europe

Galina Kolev, Economist, Cologne Institute for Economic Research

Hiddo Houben, Head of Unit and Deputy Chief Negotiator for TTIP, DG Trade, European Commission

Q&A session

13:30-15:00

Third round of panel debates (held in parallel)

GO WHERE YOUR OPPONENTS ARE: COUNTERING POPULISTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

CIVIC INSTITUTE, POLAND

Long considered democracy's ultimate tool, social media proved to be something different, less beneficiary. Not only it is now considered to massively propagate fake news and hatred, it also fuels populism of all sorts. As witness the examples of the 2016 presidential elections or the Brexit pre-referendum campaign, social media has become the preferred tool of populist propaganda, circumventing established media and their fact-checking procedures. How can mainstream parties use social media to effectively combat populists? What is the logic of social media communication? How do we combat fake news, manipulation and propaganda?

Moderator: Konrad Niklewicz, Director, Civic Institute, Poland

Kick-off speaker: Michal Boni, MEP, Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Panels speakers:

Corina Rebegea, CEPA Fellow, Director US-Romania Initiative

Bartosz Wielinski, Polish newspaper *Gazeta Wyborcza*

Q&A session

THE INCONVENIENT TRUTH: CHALLENGES OF EU MIGRATION POLICY

LUIGI STURZO INSTITUTE, ITALY

The unrest and instability in the South and East Mediterranean are posing serious and unprecedented challenges also to the EU migration policy. Restoring the control of the external borders, while fulfilling the obligations to protect people who flee war and persecution, remains the central concern for European politicians. How the EU should react to these challenges? How to develop a common European response? How to strengthen the cooperation with the countries on the southern shore of the Mediterranean? The answers to these questions remain disputed and continue to divide EU member states and citizens. However they remain crucial for the future of the EU.

Moderator: Vít Novotný, Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre

Panel Speakers:

Roland Freudenstein, Policy Director, Martens Centre

Enzo Maria Le Fevre Cervini, Professor, LUISS University; former member of the group of experts of the Italian Ministry of Interior

Ralph Genetzke, Head of Mission, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

Q&A Session

THE PERKS OF BEING SINGLE: A COMMON MARKET FOR EU PROSPERITY

ANTON TUNEGA FOUNDATION, SLOVAKIA

The panel will be focused on the strengths and opportunities that the Single Market offers to its member states. If the EU wants to remain competitive with the US, China or other global players, its member states must fully cooperate as valves in one engine. Tax burden, reduction of bureaucracy, digitalization, e-services, setting up new business and other relevant issues will be discussed with representatives of global companies and EU institutions.

Moderator: Marek Degro, Director, Anton Tunega Foundation; International secretary of KDH (Slovakia)

Kick-off speaker: Mikuláš Dzurinda, President, Martens Centre

Panel speakers:

Ivan Štefanec, MEP, Vice President, SME Europe; Anton Tunega Foundation Board member

Agata Wejman, Head of Public Policy and Government Relations, European Union, UBER

Karim Lesina, Vice-President, AT&T International External Affairs for the EU, Caribbean, Latin America and Trans-Atlantic Relations

Lenard Koschwitz, Director European Affairs, Allied for Startups

Q&A session

15:30-17:00

Fourth round of panel debates (held in parallel)

POPULISM: DEMOCRACY STRIKES BACK?

FOUNDATION FOR A CIVIC HUNGARY, HUNGARY

New political parties and movements are rising across Europe, giving simple, but popular answers to difficult questions. Some define them as anti-establishment movements while others view them as dangerous radical or populist groups. The diversity in denomination shows that these new wave movements are representing different identities and chasing different goals. However, one thing is certain: they cannot be underestimated. What factors are behind the strengthening of these movements? Is the rise of these movements threatening European values? Are the traditional political groups able to restrain the rise of alternative movements?

Moderator: János Martonyi, Former Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs; Member of the Martens Centre Executive Board

Panel speakers:

Vít Novotný, Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre

Miklós Szánthó, Director, Center for Fundamental Rights

István Gergely Kovács, Director of strategy, Center for Fundamental Rights

Q&A Session

THE VISIBLE (AND INVISIBLE) RUSSIAN HAND IN EUROPE

PRO PATRIA INSTITUTE, ESTONIA

Since the Russian aggression in Ukraine and the migration crisis, Europe is witnessing an increased Propaganda warfare from Russia trying to undermine European unity, European solidarity, European values, elections and referenda. Russia has also opened numerous propaganda channels on EU soil. Russian money is still floating around Europe, left and right extremist parties often advocate on their behalf. The speakers will shed light on the visible and invisible Russian propagandistic actions in Europe and discuss means on how to counter those.

Moderator: Evelyn Kaldoja, Chief Editor of International News, *Postimees* (Estonia)

Kick-off speaker: Tunne Kelam, MEP, Committee on Foreign Affairs

Panel speakers:

Kalev Stoicescu, Research Fellow, International Centre for Defence and Security (Estonia)

Nicolas Bouchet, Non-Resident Research Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States

Q&A session

PAVED WITH GOOD INTENTIONS? STATE INTERVENTION IN THE ECONOMY

INSTITUTE FOR POPULAR STUDIES, ROMANIA

State interventions are often promoted as solutions to "market failures" or economic crisis. However, this argument ignores the fact that governments take decisions before any market failure or economic crisis becomes evident. Also, most of the time, supporters of State intervention in the market ignore the long-term indirect effects. There are some specific cases, like certain public goods, in which there might be some added value, but most of the time State interventions in the market disrupt the allocation of resources for many generations. The panel will try to assess the impact of such interventions and to better understand their wider implications.

Moderator: Violeta Vijulie, President, Liberal Society

Kick-off speaker: Răzvan Hoinaru, Researcher, Queen Mary University of London

Panel speakers:

Ivana Maletić, MEP, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Virgil Popescu, Associate professor, University of Craiova; Deputy Vice President, Committee for Industries and Services, Chamber of Deputies, Romanian Parliament

Dan Vilceanu, Deputy Leader of the PNL Parliamentary Group; Member of the Committee for Budget, Finance and Banking, Chamber of Deputies, Romanian Parliament

Q&A session