

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN HONOR OF THE WINNER  
OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE



# HUMAN RIGHTS 25 YEARS AFTER

Prague, October 1, 2014 Prague Crossroads

8:30 – 9:00 **REGISTRATION**

9:00 – 9:15 **WELCOME ADDRESS**

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY / COUNCIL OF EUROPE /  
CHARTER 77 FOUNDATION

9:15 – 10:00 **PANEL I.**

## INTERVIEW WITH THE WINNER OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE 2014

*The only lost cause is one we give up on before we enter the struggle.*  
**Václav Havel, Summer Meditations, 1991**

**MODERATOR: MAREK A. NOWICKI**, Václav Havel Human Rights Prize Jury,  
Poland

10:00 – 11:15 **PANEL II.**

## REFLECTIONS ON THE CURRENT STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORLD

*There is a value which ranks higher than the State. This value is humanity. (...) Human rights rank above the rights of states. Human liberties constitute a higher value than State sovereignty. In terms of international law, the provisions that protect the unique human being should take precedence over the provisions that protect the State.*

**Václav Havel, Senate and House of Commons of the Parliament of Canada, Ottawa, April 29, 1999**

What is the state of human rights globally, 25 years after the fall of the Iron Curtain? Are we doing any better? Who is scoring better and who is losing? How has the concept of basic human rights developed in 25 years? What are the new innovative concepts to define human rights? And what are the proper tools and incentives to improve the situation?

**MODERATOR: MARTIN PALOUŠ**, Václav Havel Library, Czech Republic

**SIN TONG-HJOK**, NGO Inside NK, North Korean defector

**JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE MALTA**, the finalist of the Václav Havel Human Prize 2014, represented by Katrine Camilleri

11:15–11:45 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:45–1:15 **PANEL III.**

## THE ORIGIN AND ROLE OF LEADERS IN THE FREE AND UNFREE WORLDS

*The role of the intellectual is, among other things, to foresee, like Cassandra, various threats, horrors, and catastrophes. The role of the politician is to listen to all the warning voices, take stock of the dangers, and at the same time think intensively about ways to confront or avert them.*

**Václav Havel, Jackson H. Ralston Prize, Stanford University, September 29, 1994**

What should be done to foster really democratic, charismatic leaders in undemocratic, unfree conditions? How can authority be gained in undemocratic conditions? How are leaders and role models born?

**MODERATOR: JIŘÍ PEHE**, New York University Prague, Czech Republic

**ALES BIALIATSKI**, 2013 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize laureate, Belarus

**ŠIMON PÁNEK**, People in Need, Czech Republic

**PETRUŠKA ŠUSTROVÁ**, journalist, Czech Republic

**ELECTION MONITORING AND DEMOCRACY STUDIES CENTRE** representative (TBD) – on behalf of the Anar Mammadli (Azerbaijan), the finalist of Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2014

1:15–2:00 **LUNCH**

## 2:00–3:30 **PANEL IV.** THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN EASTERN EUROPE

*It is as if Russia doesn't exactly know where it starts and ends, and as if that uncertainty constantly makes it anxious. It uses terms like "the near abroad" and has the sense that if something belonged to it once then it kind of belongs to it forever.*

**Václav Havel, Lidové noviny 19 March 2008, interview with Petra Procházková**

What has been the path of post-Soviet countries in the last 25 years? What has the impact of Russian-Ukrainian conflict been for other countries in the region? What are the prognoses for Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Belarus? How real are threats to minorities (ethnic Tartars, Jews, etc.)?

**MODERATOR: JAN MACHÁČEK**, Václav Havel Library, Czech Republic

**MUSTAFA DZHEMILEV**, Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, Ukraine

**YEVHEN HLYBOVYCKY**, pro.mova, Ukraine

**IVLIAN HAINDRAVA**, National Security Council, Georgia

## 3:30–5:00 **PANEL V.** THE THREAT OF A NEW DIVISION OF EUROPE AND THE WORLD

*Unless democrats proceed in a timely manner to build the internal structure of Europe as a single political entity, others will start building it their way, and the democrats could be left with only their eyes to cry with. The demons that so fatally affected European history – most disastrously in the twentieth century! – are biding their time.*

**Václav Havel, "Europe as Task", Charlemagne Plenary, Aachen, May 15, 1996**

How real is the threat of a new division of Europe? How real is the threat of a new Cold War? How prepared are we for such an alternative? What should be the divisions in a globally interconnected world? Are we willing to defend freedom and democracy? Are we ready to sacrifice anything?

**MODERATOR: MAGDALÉNA VÁŠÁRYOVÁ**, Member of the National Council of the Slovak Republic

**MAREK A. NOWICKI**, Human Rights Lawyer, Poland

**ONDŘEJ SOUKUP**, Hospodářské noviny, Czech Republic

**B'TSELEM (ISRAEL)**, the finalist of the Václav Havel Human Prize 2014, represented by Hagai El-Ad and Muhammad Sabah

**KAREL SCHWARZENBERG**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, founder of the Václav Havel Library

5:00–5:15 **CLOSING REMARKS**

**KAREL SCHWARZENBERG**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, founder of the Václav Havel Library

5:30 **GLASS OF WINE**

The winner of the Václav Havel Human Right Prize 2014 will be announced on September 29, in Strasbourg.

The conference is organised with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and will be translated in Czech, English and Russian.

More information about the Prize: [www.vaclavhavel-library.org/en/vh-prize](http://www.vaclavhavel-library.org/en/vh-prize)

e-mail: [konference@vaclavhavel-library.org](mailto:konference@vaclavhavel-library.org). Registration via [www.vaclavhavel-library.org/en/vh-prize/2014-conference](http://www.vaclavhavel-library.org/en/vh-prize/2014-conference)