

## international advisory board

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Jiří Pehe, *Chairman* William F. Martin Josef Jařab David Elliman Vojtěch Cepl Dear Sir/Madam,

Dear Sir/Madam

We are pleased to invite you to attend a conference entitled "Asia-Pacific Security Challenges: Implications for Europe and the Atlantic Alliance" to be held in Prague, September 7-9, 2008.

Prague, August 6, 2008

The conference will be organized by the Prague Security Studies Institute (PSSI) under the auspices of Hon. Karel Schwarzenberg, Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic and Pavel Bém, Lord Mayor of Prague. Following successful annual conferences in previous years - "NATO and the Greater Middle East" in 2003, "Energy and Security" in 2004, "Business and Security" in 2005 and "Democracy and Security" in 2007 – we decided to devote our 2008 conference to Asia-Pacific security challenges.

The Asia-Pacific region has become a vital theater with respect to global security and economic affairs. From a European perpective, it presents a growing challenge to existing Euro-American institutions, and policy priorities. The conference will be convened just prior to the Czech Republic taking over the presidency of the European Union in 2009.

The conference panels (see attached draft Conference Program) will discuss such topics as the security-economic nexus in Asia and its broader dynamics, the North Korean nuclear crisis as well as the optimal architecture for ballistic missile defense in the region. Other panels will be dedicated to the prospects for regional democracy and respect for human rights and the challenges related to the rapidly growing demand for energy in Asia, particularly with regard to China and India.

Key issues will be analyzed by invited speakers and panelists, prominent government officials of several countries, diplomats, academics, and business and media representatives from Europe and Asia.

We are convinced that a conference focusing on these issues will provide substantial value for the participants and invited observers alike. We sincerely believe that your attendance at the 2008 PSSI Conference would contribute to its success.

The conference will take place in the Czernin Palace, the seat of the Czech Foreign Ministry.



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David Elliman
Vojtěch Cepl

We would very much appreciate receiving your response by August 16 so that we can finalize our logistic arrangements. Questions regarding such conference arrangement should be addressed to Mr. Petr Lang (tel/fax: +420 233 355 735 or e-mail lang@pssi.cz) or Ms. Zuzana Kalusová (tel: +420 776 786 595 or e-mail: kalusova@pssi.cz).

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Oldřich Černý

PSSI Co-Founder and Executive Director Roger W. Robinson, Jr. PSSI Co-Founder