
**The Institute of International Relations (IIR) in Prague, on behalf
of the Trans-European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA),
EU-CONSENT and the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in
European Studies,**

cordially invites you to the conference:

“Priorities and prospects for the European Union”

on the occasion of the launching of the Czech Presidency of the European Union

4th - 5th December 2008

at the

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
Loretánské náměstí 5, Praha 1**

Working language: English

**With the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech
Republic.**

Draft programme:

Thursday, 4th December 2008

08:30 **Arrival of participants, registration**

09:00 - 10:30 **Opening session: Czech EU Presidency: Priorities and Challenges**

Chair and introduction: Petr Drulák, Director of the Institute of International Relations, Czech Republic

Welcome: Graham Avery, Secretary General of the Trans-European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA), Brussels

Alexandr Vondra, Vice Prime Minister for European Affairs, Czech Republic (tbc)

Nikos Frangakis, President and Director of the Greek Centre of European Studies and Research (EKEME), Member of the Board of TEPSA

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 – 12:15 **I. What are the prospects for the Lisbon Treaty?**

Chair: Lenka Rovná, Chairwoman of the Department of European Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Czech Republic

Jan Kohout, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic

Brigid Laffan, Research Director of the Dublin European Institute, University College Dublin, Ireland

Andrew Duff, Member of the European Parliament, Member of the Board of TEPSA

Ivo Šlosarčík, Jean Monnet Chair in EU Law, Department of European Studies, Charles University, founding member of the Institute for European Policy EUROPEUM, Czech Republic

Discussion

12:15 – 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 – 15:15 **II. Euroscepticism: its causes and its impact**

Chair: Vít Hloušek, Deputy Director at the International Institute of Political Science, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic

Brendan Donnelly, Director of the Federal Trust for Education and Research, London, United Kingdom

Jiřina řiklová, Sociologist, Department of Social Work at the Philosophical Faculty of Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic

Petr Mach, Director of the Center for Economics and Politics, Prague, Czech Republic

Mats Braun, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations Prague, Czech Republic

Discussion

15:15 – 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 18:00 **III. The EU and its international partners - the United States & Russia**

Chair: Barbara Lippert, Deputy Director, Institut für Europäische Politik, Berlin, Germany

Arkady Moshes, Senior Researcher, Finnish Institute of International Affairs, Helsinki, Finland

Ettore Greco, Director of the Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome, Italy

Rafal Trzaskowski, Advisor to the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament, Dr. Jacek Saryusz-Wolski, Poland

Michael Romancov, Institute of Political Studies, Charles University, Prague (tbc)

Discussion

18:00 Glass of wine

19:30 Dinner for representatives of TEPSA Member Institutes

Friday, 5th December 2008

09:00 – 10:30 **IV. EU facing the global economic crisis**

Chair: Tomáš Sedláček, Chief Macroeconomic Strategist, ČSOB (Czechoslovak Business Bank), Czech Republic

Iain Begg, London School of Economics, Member of the Board of TEPSA

András Inotai, Director of the Institute for World Economics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary

Michal Mejstřík, Chairman of the Institute of Economic Studies, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Discussion and conclusion

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 – 12:30 **Concluding session: What are the prospects for the EU?**

Chair: Petr Kratochvíl, Deputy Director of the Institute of International Relations, Czech Republic

Wolfgang Wessels, Jean Monnet Professor at the University of Cologne, Chairperson of TEPSA, Brussels, Co-ordinator of EU-CONSENT

Maria Strömviik, Researcher, Swedish Institute of International Affairs, Sweden

Ignacio Molina, Analyst, Elcano Royal Institute for International and Strategic Studies, Spain

Zaki Laïdi, Professor at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques Paris, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales (CERI), France

12:30 – 14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 **TEPSA General Assembly (for representatives of TEPSA Member Institutes only)**

Chair: Wolfgang Wessels, Jean Monnet Professor at the University of Cologne, Chairperson of TEPSA, Brussels, Co-ordinator of EU-CONSENT