



Zastoupení
Evropské komise
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Panel discussion

On the Road to EU Enlargement

12 November 2010, European House, Prague

How does the European Union assist the candidate countries in their preparations for EU accession? Is there public support for accession in the candidate countries? What are the political implications of the EU enlargement policy in the candidate countries? What are the economic expectations? Is the European Union prepared for future accessions?

Programme

- 14:00 Opening
Jan Michal, Head of the European Commission Representation
- 14:10 – 14:30 Key note speech
Štefan Füle, European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy
- 14:30 – 16:00 Panel discussion
- Speakers **Libor Rouček**, Vice-President of the European Parliament
Annemie Neyts-Uytterbroeck, Member of the European Parliament, Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
Frane Krnić, Ambassador of Croatia
Igor Ilievski, Ambassador of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Koray Targay, Ambassador of Turkey
Ivana Hlavsová, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Vladimír Bartovic, DEMAS
Ivan Voleš, Czech Chamber of Commerce
- Moderator **Petr Kratochvíl**, Institute of International Relations

Languages: Czech / English simultaneous translation

For **registration**, please send an email to conference@iir.cz or call 251 108 260.

Background

On the 9th of November the European Commission will publish the EU-Enlargement strategy together with the reports on the progress towards EU accession in each candidate country and potential candidate.

At present, there are four candidate countries, Croatia, Iceland, Turkey and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The other countries of the Western Balkans - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo under UNSC Resolution 1244/99 - have all been promised the prospect of EU membership as and when they are ready.

Preparations for accessions are a huge challenge for candidate countries as they need to be able to play their part fully as EU members - something which requires wide support among their citizens, as well as political, legal and technical compliance with the EU's demanding standards and norms.