

THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE: TOWARDS A EUROPEAN COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACY, PROSPERITY AND A STRONGER CIVIL SOCIETY

Warsaw
29th September 2011



The conference is an accompanying event to the Polish Presidency

Conference organisers:



www.osw.waw.pl



www.pism.pl



www.eap-csf.eu

Conference partners:



www.msz.gov.pl



www.eeas.europa.eu

Media patronage:



Conference registration:

www.easternpartnership.org

Venue:

„Primate's Palace” Conference and Exhibition Centre
(ul. Senatorska 13/15, Warsaw, Poland)

Conference tentative agenda

Opening 9:00 – 9:15

Session 1 9:15 – 11:00

Empowering civil society. What Partnership for citizens?

This session is with the participation of civil society representatives and focuses on the EU's policy aimed at the societies of the EU's Eastern partners. How can the potential of civil society be harnessed in the transformation process in the partner countries? Civil society in the partner countries and its importance in the processes of democratisation and European integration. How can the EU support the development of Civil Society?

Leila Alieva – President, Center for National and International Studies, Azerbaijan

INVITED

Iris Kempe – Head of the Tbilisi office, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

INVITED

Sorin Mereacre – East Europe Foundation Moldova, Moldova Representative Office

INVITED

Fokion Fotiadis – Director General, EuropeAid Development and Cooperation Directorate-General

INVITED

Moderator: **Ulad Vialichka** – Chairperson, International Consortium EUROBELARUS, and co-Chair, Steering Committee of the EaP Civil Society Forum

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Coffee break 11:00 – 11:15

Session 2 11:15 - 13:00

Promoting EU democratic values and standards through opening borders

This session is with the participation of experts and attempts to answer the question: Do unhindered people to people contacts facilitate spreading of European values and ideas? What are the prospects for visa liberalisation and, in the future, the opening up of the EU's labour markets to its Eastern partners? To what extent is migration from the Eastern neighbourhood a real problem for the EU? The nature of migration from partner countries to the EU. Differences and similarities with other migrations on EU territory. Linkages between visa liberalisation and the EU's security issues will also be discussed within the scope of this session.

Ghenadie Cretu – Labour Migration Program Coordinator, IOM Mission to Moldova

INVITED

Rainer Münz – Senior Fellow, Hamburg Institute of International Economics, EU's Wise Men Group member

INVITED

Maxim Boroda – Senior Analyst, Deputy Director ICPS, Ukraine

INVITED

Jakob von Weizsäcker – Research Fellow, Bruegel, Brussels

INVITED

Moderator: **PISM**

Lunch 13:00 – 14:00

Session 3 14:00 – 15:45

Building prosperity. Challenges to the economic integration of the EU's Eastern partners?

This session is with the participation of experts and intends to offer possible answers to the questions: Where should we aim in the development of economic relations? To what extent is the DCFTA attractive for the partners? What can realistically be achieved? Is economic integration with the EU the only option for the Eastern partners or is there an alternative to the EU offer (economic co-operation with third countries: Russia, Turkey, China etc.)?

Nicu Popescu – Senior Research Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) **INVITED**
Olga Shumylo-Tapiola – Visiting Scholar, Carnegie Europe, Brussels **INVITED**
Vladimer Papava – Senior Fellow, Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies **INVITED**
Staffan Nilsson – President, European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) **INVITED**
Moderator: **OSW**

Coffee break 15:45 – 16:00

Session 4 16:00 – 17:45

EU – Eastern Partners: Whither integration?

This session is with the participation of the prominent representatives of EU institutions, EU member states and partner countries. and aims to answer the question of what was and what was not successfully achieved during the first two years of the functioning of the Eastern Partnership. The consequences of the ongoing evolution of the European Neighbourhood Policy on the Eastern Partnership will also be defined, both as its review and in the context of the work on the new financial perspective and the events in North Africa and the Middle East. The participants of the session will be asked to outline the priority challenges faced by the EaP over the next years.

Radosław Sikorski – Minister of Foreign Affairs **CONFIRMED**
Štefan Füle – European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy **CONFIRMED**
Jerzy Buzek – President of the European Parliament **INVITED**
Moderator: : **Quentin Peel** – Financial Times **INVITED**

Reception 18:00 – 20:00