



This is only a preliminary programme and may be subject to change.

Day One, 27 May 2019, Czernin Palace

16:00 – 17:00 Registration, coffee and refreshment

17:00 – 17:15 *Musical performance: Marc-Antoine Charpentier - Prelude (Te deum)*

Words of Welcome:

Tomáš Petříček, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Vladimír Bartovic, Director, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy

Ondřej Ditrych, Director, Institute of International Relations

17:15 – 18:30 *Musical performance: Antoine de Lhoyer - Duo Concertant op. 31 no. 3*

Opening panel discussion: 1989 – 2004 – 2019: Different Faces of Europe

Some argue that the European Union is more united than ever, following the Brexit negotiations and recent EU crises. Others claim, however, that the internal differences are growing and that the next phase of European integration will be characterized by differentiation. Yet an even broader perspective is needed: following the euphoria of 1989 and the subsequent rounds of Eastern enlargement, has the European Union of 2019 finally overcome the East-West divide? Are new divisions emerging or are the old differences between Member States returning? This panel discussion will focus on the long-term evolution of the European Union (and Europe at large) and analyse the face the European Union will wear in the coming years.

Tomáš Petříček, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Ana Palacio, Former Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs (TBC)

Paweł Swieboda, Deputy Head, European Political Strategy Centre

Reka Szemerkenyi, Executive Vice President, Center for European Policy Analysis

Moderator: **Petr Drulák**, Ambassador, Embassy of the Czech Republic in Paris

18:30 – 20:00 **Reception & Annual “Vision for Europe” Award**

Venue: Czernin Palace, Loretánské náměstí 5, Prague 1

Musical performance: George Gerschwin – Liza, Vittorio Monti – Czardas,

Johanes Brahms - Hungarian dance no 5, Leonard Bernstein - America from West Side Story

20:00 – 21:00 **Night Owl Session: The “Year of Change”**

2019 might be a decisive moment for Europe, and as such also for European integration. Many would like to see 2019 as a turning point that will progress European integration away from the difficulties of recent years. For the first time in its history, the EU may stand to lose one of its Member States and the two largest political Groups are expected to lose their majority in the European Parliament. Simultaneously, nationalism and populism is on the rise across Europe, threatening the core pillars of European integration. How will the result of the EP election

influence the EU? What should the new EC do differently? How should the conclusions of the Bratislava process be implemented?

Christian Lequesne, Professor, Sciences Po & Chief Editor, European Review of International Studies

Barbara Lippert, Director of Research & Executive Board, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik

Vessela Tcherneva, Deputy Director of the European Council on Foreign Relations and Head of the Sofia office

Anda Vita Tērauda, Chairperson of European Affairs Committee, Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
Moderator: **TBA**

Day Two, 28 May 2019

8:00 – 09:00 Discussion Breakfast: What leadership vision for the EU?

Venue: Embassy of the French Republic, Velkopřevorské náměstí 2, Prague 1

Recent years have seen the rise of populist leaders across Europe, affecting the EU project through the instigation of Brexit, an increase in anti-immigration and nationalistic sentiment and anti-gender movements. These negative tendencies have been represented especially by politicians emulating the global trend of 'strongman' leaders and populist politics. Against this background, however, there are leaders with a vision of a unified Europe capable to act globally. Going further to the national level, Sweden and France, the latter currently as chair of the G7, have promoted a feminist approach to their domestic politics and in tackling international security, migration or environmental challenges. But has the EU got a vision how to lead on its internal level and on the international stage? What lessons in leadership can the EU take from, for instance, the Swedish feminist government? Can Europe take such a path to confront its domestic problems and to become more engaged globally? What would that mean more precisely? Is there a demand for such leadership in the EU and internationally? This discussion breakfast is organized by the Embassy of the French Republic and the Embassy of Sweden.

Péter Balázs, Professor, Central European University, former EU Commissioner & Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary

Annika Ben David, Ambassador-at-large for Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden

Pascale Joannin, Executive Director, Robert Schuman Foundation

Eliška Kodyšová, Chairwoman of the Czech Women's Lobby,
Director of Aperio - Healthy Parenting Association

Moderator: **Silvie Lauder**, Editor, Respekt

9:00 – 9:30 Registration, coffee and refreshment

9:20 – 9:25 *Musical Performance: Gehe Goshinski - Dance of drums*

9:30 – 10:00 **Key-Note Address: New Trajectory for Europe**
Andrej Babiš, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic

10:00 – 11:20 **Plenary Panel: Challenges to the rule of law and the EU's fundamental values**
The European Union is not only a community built on shared interests but also on shared values. This common understanding of values and norms embedded in the European integration project are now being put into question. It seems that the rule-based order the EU has functioned upon since its establishment is not as solid as it once appeared. Europeans have to find answers to several crucial questions: How can the EU protect the rule of law and its fundamental values internally? What can the EU institutions do in this respect? What measures should be adopted in order to preserve a rule-based order inside the EU? Is conditionality the right way forward?

Péter Balázs, Professor, Central European University, former EU Commissioner & Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary
Ivan Krastev, Chairman, Centre for Liberal Strategies, Sofia; Permanent Fellow, Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna
Constanza Sanhueza, Research Fellow, WZB Berlin Social Science Center and Research Associate, V-Dem Institute
Žiga Turk, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, Martens Center, Brussels
Judit Varga, Minister of State for EU Relations at Prime Minister's Office, Hungary
Moderator: **Eric Maurice**, Head of Brussels office, Robert Schuman Foundation

11:20- 11:40 Coffee Break

11:40 – 13:00 **Parallel Panels:**
Panel A: European sovereignty and strategic autonomy. How can we make it work?
The EU's Global Strategy claims that an appropriate level of strategic autonomy in the EU is crucial to its ability to promote peace and security. Whilst familiar, the words 'strategic autonomy' regularly stir up confusion and, sometimes, even alarm. This raises the following question: what is strategic autonomy and what does it imply? Does strategic autonomy mean autonomy as responsibility, autonomy as hedging and/or autonomy as emancipation in the context of the EU? This panel provides a space to consider multiple views on the concept and its implications for the EU's foreign policy, transatlantic relations and beyond.

Annika Ben David, Ambassador-at-large for Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden
Aleš Chmelař, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for European Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
Thomas Gomart, Director, French Institute of the International Relations (IFRI)
Sylvia Hartleif, Principal Advisor, Leader Foreign Policy Team, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission

Moderator: **Lucia Yar**, Senior Editor, EurActiv.sk

Panel B: Industrial Revolution 4.0 Effects' on European Societies

In the Industrial Revolution 4.0, an economy is no longer based on the interaction between workers and machines but on the interaction between machines and other machines. There will be less of a need for blue- or white-collar workers, while products and services will reach consumers without human intervention. This panel provides a space to consider the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that the Industrial Revolution 4.0 brings to societies in Europe in light of its economic and social effects.

Kalle Palling, Chairperson of European Union Affairs Committee, Riigikogu of the Republic of Estonia

Jaroslava Rezlerová, Managing Director Czech Republic and Slovakia, ManpowerGroup

Hilary Sutcliffe, Director, SocietyInside

Peter Varga, CEO, Lafluence

Adela Zábrazná, Executive Manager, the Slovak Alliance for Innovation Economy

Moderator: **Ivan Hodáč**, Founder and President, Aspen Institute Central Europe

13:00 – 14:00 Buffet Lunch

14:00 – 15:20 Plenary Panel: Data as a New Currency. Big Data Governance and Public Policy

Can the Big Data era lead to better and more targeted policy making and more intelligent governance? While Big Data helps governments by providing them with accurate policy analysis that is proactive and participatory, it also increases risks related to data privacy and potential misuse. Where then is the line between efficient use of Big Data analysis for the improvement of policy making and public diplomacy and when it is at the expense of the security of both states and citizens? What are the risks of using artificial intelligence in public governance and how can the governments counter them?

Gabriella Cseh, Head of Public Policy for Central and Eastern Europe for Facebook

Jakub Jaňura, Big Data Expert, Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic

Jaanika Merilo, Advisor to Minister of Infrastructure, Advisor to Mayors of Dnipro and Lviv

Jaana Sinipuro, Project Director, The Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra

Petr Václavek, Founder of Foodgroot.com, Chief Strategy Officer at Presidential Campaign of Marek Hilšer

Moderator: **Declan Curry**, Writer, Journalist & Broadcaster

15:20 – 15:40 Coffee Break

15:40 – 17:00 Break-out sessions:

Panel A: The Future of European Neighbourhood

The European Neighbourhood Policy was conceived with the aim of creating a ring of peaceful, stable and prosperous states on the EU's borders. However, the situation has dramatically changed as many new challenges have emerged in the neighbourhood, ranging from the conflicts in Syria and Ukraine to economic stagnation and democratic backsliding in many other partner countries in the EU's southern and eastern neighbourhoods. Therefore, we need to ask fundamental questions about the future of the European neighbourhood: Does the EU need a new impetus for its Neighbourhood Policy? How can we make the policy truly attractive to partner countries? Should the EU ramp up its engagement in the region? What are the potential areas for further cooperation in the neighbourhood? How can we deal with the influence of external actors who are sometimes opposed to the EU's intentions in the region? How are the EU's and other main actors' policies perceived in the neighbourhood? What kind of cooperation is necessary to foster job creation and increase economic growth there?

Steven Blockmans, Head of Europe in the World & Institutions Units, CEPS

Ilgvars Klava, Ambassador, Director General, Bilateral Relations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia

Věra Řiháčková Pachtá, Senior Associate Research Fellow EUROPEUM/ Advocacy Manager Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum

Adnan Tabatabai, Chief Executive Officer of CARPO – Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient

Ștefan Tinca, Political Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania

Chair: **Jan Šnidauf**, Head of Advisors to the Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic

Panel B: Competitiveness of Europe in the field of Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other digital tools are quickly becoming key drivers of economic development, bringing innovation and smart solutions to almost every aspect of citizens' daily lives. Rapid developments in the AI sector, its strategic importance and immense potential forced Europe's leaders to act in the past year. The joint "Communication Artificial Intelligence for Europe" from April 2018 is the first step towards a coordinated approach in the upcoming years and more money should be available in the last two years of Horizon 2020. Furthermore, the proposal of the new MFF aims to mainstream the support for new digital tools to various chapters. The advantages and opportunities of AI and other emerging technologies go hand in hand with several challenges, mainly in the field of data protection and cybersecurity – especially when major influential tech companies are not currently based in Europe. How can Europe compete in a field dominated by American and Asian companies? Is extensive financial support for research enough to ensure Europe's competitiveness? Does the current educational scheme fit the needs of the new digital economy? How should the EU regulate the new field of AI? Can regulation fuel competition or is it threatening it?

Laura Delponte, Development and Evaluation Unit, Centre for Industrial Studies

Gemma Galdon Clavell, Director of Eticas Research & Consulting



Juraj Hošták, Smart Cities CSE Coordinator, InnovEYtion Hub Manager, Ernst & Young
Iliyana Tsanova, Deputy Managing Director, European Fund for Strategic Investments, European Investment Bank
Moderator: **TBA**

17:00 – 17:20 Coffee Break

17:20 – 18:30 **Break-out sessions:**

Panel A: Brexit. What now?

Since the beginning of the Brexit process in 2016, the EU's first membership crisis has been characterized by unpredictability, uncertainty, and chaos. Now, almost three years later, it is less certain than ever whether Brexit will finally be resolved with the departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union – or if it will not happen at all. Following the extension of the UK's official date of exit to October 31st 2019, there is clearly much work ahead for both the EU and UK. What more can the EU do with regards to Brexit? Does the political will exist in the UK to prevent a departure from the Union, within the time available? How can the European Union prevent a similar membership crisis from occurring in the future?

Lucinda Creighton, CEO, Vulcan Consulting

Roland Freudenstein, Deputy Director and Head of Research at Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

Adrian Gahan, Political Consultant, UK

Charles Grant, Director, Centre for European Reform

Marika Linntam, Director General, Department of European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia

Moderator: **Tony Barber**, Europe Editor, Financial Times

Panel B: The Future Path of Euro (in cooperation with the Institute for Policy and Society)

The eurozone can only be viable if countries are better off inside the currency union than outside it. In its current form, the single currency seems unsustainable in the long term. At the same time, the success or failure of the eurozone will determine the EU's future, as continuing low growth and divergent economic fortunes will further spur Euroscepticism. This panel provides a space to consider the following questions: What are the missing pieces of the eurozone's architecture? How can we move beyond current visions of eurozone governance? Has the eurozone governance been sufficiently reformed to deal with a future crisis? What are the criteria on the basis of which the eurozone will evolve? Do Germany and France hold dominance in eurozone-related decisions, or are other EU member states equally important in this regard?

Gabriela Cretu, Chairperson, European Affairs Committee, Romanian Senate

Oldřich Dědek, Czech National Bank Board member

Jean-Pierre Landau, Professor, Economics Department, SciencesPo Paris; Senior Research Fellow Harvard Kennedy School

Hanni Schölermann, Economist, European Central Bank

Moderator: **Jan Macháček**, Chairman of the Board, Institute for Politics and Society

- 18:30 – 19:00** **Welcome address and Musical Performance:**
Piano: Maurice Ravel - Gaspard de la nuit - „Scarbo“, Béla Bartók - Piano sonata - Allegro molto
Vocals: Antonín Dvořák – Biblical songs op. 99, no. 2, 4, 5, 10, Bedřich Smetana - Kecal's Aria
“Každý jen tu svou” from the opera The Bartered Bride
- 19:00 – 21.00** **Networking Reception**
Venue: Czernin Palace

Day Three, 29 May 2019

- 8:00 – 09:30** **Discussion Breakfast: Coalition Building after Brexit**
Venue: Embassy of Romania, Nerudova 5, Prague 1

The European Union in itself represents the positive history of equal engagement between states, based on shared values, cooperation and responsiveness. As a meandering Brexit has unfolded before Europe's eyes, a new sense of dynamics and patterns of interaction emerge within the EU. With the departure of the UK, EU Member States realize they will have to rely more than before on tailored communities of interests. Will this impact upon our common values? Are alliances convenient, bearing in mind that internal cohesion is more than ever a prerequisite for the EU's stance in this multipolar world? Will they just strengthen the already existing division between national preferences and consensual EU policies or are they a necessary tool of flexibility and differentiation to push forward integration? What role exists medium-sized states in this shifting reality of like-mindedness? Furthermore, what is the impact on CFSP and CSDP of this changing balance generated by Brexit? In order to become an ever stronger and more visible actor, the EU has to make better use of existing instruments and policies, including the pursuit of a more efficient CFSP. This debate will provide a space to answer these and other related questions such as President Juncker's proposal on CFSP (qualified majority voting), the need for a reinforced EEAS and for more efforts towards informal consensus-building, as well as the subject of the EU's strategic autonomy.

Lucinda Creighton, former Irish Minister for European Affairs and CEO of Vulcan Consulting
Barbara Lippert, Director of Research & Executive Board, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik
Ștefan Tinca, Political Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania
Moderator: **Adrian Gahan**, Political Consultant, UK

- 8:00 – 09:30** **Discussion Breakfast: Atlantic Challenges**
Venue: Bellevue, Smetanovo nábřeží 18, Prague 1

Tensions in Euro-Atlantic relations – between the European Union and the United States – are deepening. Between the two continents, there is a threat of commercial war. Tariffs on steel and

aluminium have been introduced, the US has withdrawn from the Iran nuclear agreement and the danger of duties for European cars is real. Unusually sharp rhetoric has been employed by both European and American representatives. Disputes over the Russian-German Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline are also escalating. The relationship between the United States and the European Union - two key global partners - is now going through a very complicated period. The current functioning of NATO and its future is at the centre of this tension. Trump still insists that NATO members must spend 2% of their GDPs on defence. The European countries are generally unwilling or unable to fulfil this commitment. To what extent are Euro-Atlantic relations damaged? In what areas should we be careful? And what can the Czech Republic do to stabilize this partnership?

This discussion breakfast is organised by the Institute for Policy and Society.

Tony Barber, Europe Editor, Financial Times

Charles Grant, Director, Centre for European Reform

Reka Szemerkenyi, Executive Vice President, Center for European Policy Analysis

Moderator: **Jan Macháček**, Chairman of the Board, Institute for Politics and Society

8:00 – 09:30

Discussion Breakfast: Chinese Influence in (Central) Europe

Venue: American Center, Tržiště 366/13, Prague 1

In last years it was evident that Chinese activity in Europe is growing. Chinese president Xi Jinping visited Europe several times in last years and signed various agreements about strategic partnership with governments of Central and Eastern European countries. Group of 16 states from this region (including 10 EU Member States) established a platform for enhancing economic cooperation with China. Whereas in some states we have seen intense flow of Chinese investments, in others it is mainly about political influence. This group of states from Central and Eastern Europe was criticized by EU and Germany for establishing such platform as it can serve as a tool for erosion of EU unity. Nevertheless, China is an important economic partner for Western European countries (France or UK) and Italy even joined Chinese “Belt and Road Initiative” this year. However, we can see the decrease of Chinese investments now and China relations with some of Central European states are negatively affected by raising doubts about safety of Chinese ICT technologies used for critical state infrastructure. Join us for informal discussion about Chinese influence in (Central) Europe and its geopolitical, economic and technological dimension. This topic is also relevant in the context of EU unity and its internal and external relations, but also in the context of world economic order.

Laurent Zylberberg, Director of Public, International and European Affairs, Caisse des Dépôts
President of ELTI, European Long-Term Investors Association



09:30 – 10:00 Registration and welcome coffee

09:50 *Musical Performance: György Ligeti - Sonata for Cello solo*

10:00 – 11:00 High Level Ministerial Panel: Central Europe as an active player in the aftermath of the European Parliament Elections.

Over the last several decades, a broad alliance of big parties has called the shots in the EU. Politicians from the mainstream centre-right and centre-left parties have held a comfortable majority in the EU's principal institutions, including the European Parliament (EP), the European Council, and the European Commission. However, this era could come to an end with the next EP elections in May 2019, following the waning support for mainstream parties, the rise of populists on both the radical right and left, and the emergence of new political players. How will Central Europeans fit into this newly established distribution of power? What should the representatives of Central European countries do to assume an active role in the changing EU after the upcoming EP elections? Might the past clashes of their governments influence their position or will the new distribution lead to a smoothing of these clashes?

Florian Herrmann, Head of the State Chancellery and Minister for Federal and European Affairs and Media of Bavaria

Miroslav Lajčák, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic

Tomáš Petříček, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Oliver Schenk, Head of the State Chancellery and Minister for Federal and European Affairs of Saxony

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:00 European Innovation Chats:

Chat A: Is it the end of global agreements on common challenges?

The deteriorating transatlantic relationship since the election of President Trump has shown that strategic partnerships are harder to maintain nowadays. The economic competition with China, the security concerns posed by Russia's resurgence, and even increasing political divisions on the European continent make it harder to find new partnerships. The difficulty to complete free trade agreements, such as with Japan and Canada, show that multilateralism is going through a complicated period. Should Europeans wait it out, or is it symbolic of a deeper rift? Who are the new actors in this picture? Can regions, cities, or the private sector provide a new impetus? What are the main issues, such as climate change, that we will need to deal with together in a global fashion?

Marika Linntam, Director General, Department of European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia

Vladimír Bártl, Deputy Minister, Section of European Union and Foreign Trade, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Czech Republic



Moderator: **Vassilis Ntousas**, Senior International Relations Policy Advisor, Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Chat B: Is Europe Ready for a Dynamic Future? Role of EU Governments and Governance.

The impending fourth industrial revolution, with a fusion of technologies blurring the lines between the digital, biological and physical spheres, is set to fundamentally challenge our conceptions of society, much like the industrial revolutions preceding it, and thus also the role of governments and governance as the caretakers of our societies. How will the EU and state governments face the challenge of automation coupled with an ever-increasing global population? How will the advent of artificial intelligence and quantum computing affect our democracies, given how vulnerable to electronic influencing elections and referendums have proven to be in recent years? While technological advancement is inexorable, the need for regulation and governance in a dynamic future on both the regional and global levels has become absolute. How can the EU ready itself for a dynamic, accelerating future characterized by technological leaps that affect our societies and lives in a hitherto unprecedented degree?

Nadine Smith, Global Director of Marketing and Communications, Centre for Public Impact

Kalle Palling, Chairperson of European Union Affairs Committee, Riigikogu of the Republic of Estonia

Moderator: **Michael Matlosz**, President, EuroScience

12:00 – 12:15 Coffee Break

12:15 – 13:00 **Chat: Evolution of Humans in the Next Century. Superintelligence: Paths, Dangers, Strategies**
What happens when machines surpass humans in general intelligence? As recent developments seem to indicate, the question truly is not that of if, but when. Thanks to this decade's breakthroughs in artificial intelligence, machines are becoming increasingly better at tasks that have been previously limited to humans, from driving vehicles to interpreting languages. Optimistic researchers hope to build a system capable of human-like general intelligence within the next decade. Others are less hopeful and note that intelligence is not the same as sentience or consciousness. Nevertheless, there exists a growing fear of a superhuman intelligence with its own motivations breaking free of control and endangering humanity itself. Is the fear of such a rogue super-intelligence grounded in reality? What can be done to alleviate some of the worries related to artificial intelligence? How should this technology be harnessed for the common good?

Karel Janeček, Czech mathematician, entrepreneur, anti-corruption campaigner

Peter Szenasy, Managing partner, EPDOR

12:15 – 13:00 **Workshop: Czech Perception of the European Union and how it differs from other V4 countries**

The Czech Republic is known as one of the most Eurosceptic nations in the EU. If there was a

referendum on Czech membership in the EU tomorrow, the movement to remain in the EU would probably win by a small margin of a few percent. At first glance, it may seem that the Czech Republic balances on the edge of extreme discontent with the EU and may be only one step from leaving the Union. But is this a correct impression? Would Czechs really consider leaving the Union, or would they merely try to redefine their position in an integrated Europe, after the post-1989 discourse surrounding European integration has been exhausted? And what kind of Union would they like to live in? In the course of this interactive seminar, experts from the sociological agency STEM, Behavio Labs and EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy will present their latest psycho-sociological research that will provide participants with an in-depth analysis of Czech attitudes towards the EU. Participants will also learn about the main differences between Czech perceptions of the EU and those inherent to other V4 countries.

Vít Havelka, Research Fellow, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy

Nikola Hořejš, Director of European Programme, STEM

13:00 – 14:00

Closing Remarks

Glass of Wine and Light Lunch

Urban Talks (European House, DOX, Industra)

27 May

15:00 – 17:00 Venue: Prague, European House (Jungmannova 745/24, 110 00 Nové Město)

17:00 – 18:00 Glass of wine

Topic: Big Data, Information and Politics. Disinformation in Focus.

In the current data-driven society, cyberwarfare is escalating. Many cyber-offensives have been launched in recent years in a bid to destabilise and influence elections in various countries. Recently, a hacking group has targeted European democratic institutions, including think tanks and non-profit groups, ahead of the highly anticipated EU parliamentary elections in May. Democratic politics are challenged today by the mass-production of fake news and disinformation. Could the situation lead to the European and EU democracy being 'hacked'? Is Europe doing enough to protect the integrity of the elections and prevent the erosion of democratic politics?

Žiga Turk, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, Martens Center, Brussels

Linda Zeilina, Director, RE-DEFINE

Jakub Kalenský, Senior Fellow, Eurasia Center, Atlantic Council

Moderator: **TBA**

28 May

17:00 – 18:00 Venue: Prague, DOX (Poupětova 1, 170 00 Praha 7-Holešovice)

18:00 – 20:00 Glass of wine, entrance to exhibition

Topic: Big Data, Information and Politics. New Technologies in Focus.



In 2018, the Facebook-Cambridge Analytica data scandal sent ripples across the world. The use and misuse of personal data by the political consultancy further damaged the already shaky common perception that new information technologies and expanding data collection inherently serve the betterment of humankind. The rapid advances in artificial intelligence and big data collection and analytics allow for unprecedented levels of surveillance. Similarly, it has never been easier to individualize advertising and information supply, making it much more effective at influencing people's behaviour and actions. What is the true potential of these new technologies and what effect might they have on our society, especially its governance? Have the new developments in information technology made the world less safe for freedom and democracy? And if so, what is to be done in order to protect these two tenets of our society while enjoying the fruits of our technological progress?

Jakub Jaňura, Big Data Expert, Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic
Wojtek Talko, Advisor and Member of Cabinet of Commissioner Věra Jourová on Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality

Adela Zábrazná, Executive Manager, the Slovak Alliance for Innovation Economy

Moderator: **Tereza Bartoníčková**, President and Founder, Internet Institute

29 May

18:00 – 21:00 Venue: **Brno, Industra** (Masná 9, 602 00 Brno-jih-Trnitá)

20:00 – 21:00 *Glass of wine*

Topic: *Assessment and reflection on the EP elections results: a debate on future scenarios and ways forward*

The recently concluded EP elections have been dubbed by many as the most important EP elections in the EU's history. They present numerous questions pertaining not only to the coming five years of the European Parliament, but for the future of the European Union as a whole. Eurosceptic, nationalist and populist forces have been on the rise in the past years across Europe – will they be more influential in the new parliament or will the established international order hold?

Lucia Mokrá, Dean of the Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences, Comenius University

Jan Kovář, Senior Researcher, Institute of International Relations, Prague

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