



PROGRAMME OF SPECIAL EVENTS

FOR THE SCHOOLS OF POLITICAL STUDIES

FROM **3** TO **7**
NOVEMBER 2014



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

 **FORUM CORE PROGRAMME**
  **SPS SPECIAL PROGRAMME**

	Monday 3/11	Tuesday 4/11	Wednesday 5/11	Thursday 6/11	Friday 7/11
AM	9.00-11.00 THEMATIC GROUP MEETING 10.00-11.30 MEETING WITH ARAB YOUTH 11.30-12.30 V4 MEETS EASTERN PARTNERSHIP	PLENARY SESSION AND LABS SERIES 1	9.30-10.30 VISITS TO THE ECtHR	9.00-10.00 VISITS TO THE ECtHR	SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THE UKRAINIAN SCHOOL
	9.30-10.30 VISITS TO THE ECtHR 11.00-12.00 VISITS TO THE ECtHR		10.30-12.30 REPORTING AND CLOSING SESSION	10.30-12.30 PROFESSIONAL GROUP MEETINGS	
	Break Self-service restaurant, EP		Lunch, EP	Reception, Lobby of the Hemicycle	Free
PM	14.30-15.30 VISITS TO THE ECtHR	LABS SERIES 2	14.30-16.30 THEMATIC GROUP MEETINGS 17.00-18.00 BILATERAL MEETINGS	14.00-14.15 FAMILY PHOTO 14.30-15.00 DIPLOMA CEREMONY	14.00-16.00 MEETING ON THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE
	16.00 - 18.45 OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE WORLD FORUM	UN-CONFERENCES	15.30-16.30 VISITS TO THE ECtHR		
Evening	Reception at the "Maison de l'Alsace"	Reception at the "Orangerie"	Free	Free	Free

SCHOOLS OF POLITICAL STUDIES AT THE WORLD FORUM FOR DEMOCRACY

■ The Secretariat of the Schools of Political Studies warmly welcomes the 600 participants from the twenty-one Schools who are here in Strasbourg for the Third World Forum for Democracy. We also welcome participants from Cyprus and Kyrgyzstan who are aspiring to open Schools in their countries, and participants from francophone Africa who have been invited with support from the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie*.

■ The Forum intends to be a place where you – young democratic leaders – are exposed to state-of-the-art ideas and concepts relating to democracy and to constructing fair and cohesive societies. Built into the architecture of the Forum and the Schools' events is the ambition and space to hear about your experiences and address your concerns; please do not hesitate to join the debate!

■ In addition to the main Forum events, a comprehensive series of events and meetings has been designed specifically for the Schools. Indeed, this year an additional day had been allocated for this purpose. This brochure provides information on these events:

- Five thematic group meetings on topics relevant to specific regions (pages 5-9);
- Five professional meetings addressing issues relevant to specific professions or responsibilities (pages 10-12);
- Bilateral and multilateral meetings between Schools (pages 5 and 9);
- The Diploma ceremony and the family photograph (page 12);
- Special events for the participants from Ukraine (page 13);
- Visits to the European Court of Human Rights (timetable on pages 14-15);
- Biographies of the key speakers (pages 16-19);
- Contact information of the Schools' Secretariat (back page);
- A list of the Schools' participants at the Forum as an insert – please use this to meet people from other Schools and network.

■ The Schools' Secretariat looks forward to meeting you and hopes you will take full advantage of all these events as well as the Forum itself. Enjoy, network, and help build a brighter future!

ALL DAY
ECtHR

MEETINGS WITH JUDGES/LAWYERS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ECtHR)
All Schools' participants

Please consult the timetable on pages 14 and 15.

9.00-11.00
Room 1
Palais de l'Europe



THEMATIC GROUP MEETING
Participants from: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Russian Federation and guests from Kyrgyzstan

“What impact does the Eurasian Customs Union have on relations with Europe?”

Moderator: **Jiri Vogl**, Head of Department of Relations with International Organisations and Non-Member States, Directorate of External Relations, Council of Europe

Speaker: **Alexander Libman**, Associate, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik – German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

In 2010, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Kazakhstan formed the Eurasian Customs Union (ECU), recently joined by Armenia, which is expected to evolve into a fully operating Eurasian Economic Union by 2015. This advanced form of economic integration, while leaving aside commitments to the democratic norms and values, has seriously challenged the EU's presence in the region; the EU ceased to be considered as the principal source of modernisation by the post-soviet countries. However, can the ECU model of economic integration become a viable alternative to the EU? Or could it be seen as a vehicle for European integration for these countries? What new approach should the European Union adopt in its relations with Russia, wedged in an impasse for over a decade, and what should be its new strategy toward the post-Soviet 'shared neighbourhood'? Finally, how should the ECU participating countries, as well as possible additional members such as Kyrgyzstan, consider their future?

10.00-11.30
Room 11
Palais de l'Europe

MEETING BETWEEN THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND ARAB YOUTH

Participants from: Morocco and Tunisia

11.30-12.30
Room 1
Palais de l'Europe

MULTILATERAL MEETING
Participants from: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Visegrád

“Visegrád Group meets Eastern Partnership”

9.30-10.30
ECtHR

*European Court
of Human Rights
(ECtHR)*

**MEETINGS WITH JUDGES/LAWYERS OF THE
EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ECtHR)**
All Schools' participants

Please consult the timetable on pages 14 and 15.



14.30-16.30
Room 1
Palais de l'Europe



THEMATIC GROUP MEETING
Participants from: Georgia, Moldova, Poland (V4),
Romania and Ukraine

**“What kind of future links between Association
partners and the EU?”**

Moderator: Ambassador Vytautas Leskevicius, Permanent
Representative of Lithuania to the Council of Europe
Speaker: Joerg Forbrig, Transatlantic Fellow, Central and Eastern
Europe, German Marshall Fund, Berlin

With the signature of the Association Agreements this summer, Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova marked a symbolic moment on the path of deepening political and economic relations with the EU. After the last ‘big bang’ enlargement of the European Union to Central Europe, these countries have become its direct neighbours and their security, stability and prosperity increasingly affect the EU. However, the past decade has shown that the EU foreign policy toward its Eastern neighbours was not always coherent and effective and that the EU has had little, if any, significant impact on those countries’ development. The recent events in Ukraine have brought this issue to the top of the EU’s agenda. With the new leadership team in Brussels and the reorganisation of the European Commission, will the EU be able to make its external action more effective? Will it manage to find a coherent foreign policy approach shared by all Member States? Will the EU be capable of engaging in a dialogue with Russia, without betraying its values, to support Eastern countries in building their future?

14.30-16.30
Room 11
Palais de l'Europe



THEMATIC GROUP MEETING
Participants from: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic (V4),
Greece Slovakia (V4)

**“What role for the EU in promoting values in its
neighbourhood?”**

Moderator: Despina Syrri, Director of the Civic School of Political
Studies in Greece, President of Symbiosis, Thessaloniki
Speaker: André Härtel, Political Research and Analysis, Directorate
of Policy Planning, Council of Europe

Promoting fundamental freedoms, human rights and democracy has always framed the European project and the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) launched in 2003, and forms a part of this vision of building a stable sphere of influence in the region. Just as European integration stems from a particular idealism of its founding fathers, so the ENP also fits into a certain ideal: its advocacy of multilateral decision-making based on universal values should ensure an environment of security and stability. Are the mechanisms put in place by the European Union to convey the values on which it is based effective? How effective is the EU response to recent upheavals on the Mediterranean border and to the open conflict on its Eastern boundaries? How can we move from the ideal to the real in this region of the world where the threats are growing?

*Plenary session,
Strasbourg World
Forum for Democracy,
November 2013*



14.30-16.30

Room 9
Palais de l'Europe**THEMATIC GROUP MEETING**

Participants from: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and Turkey

"Challenges to liberal democracy in Europe"

Moderator: Jack Hanning, Secretary General of the European Association of Schools of Political Studies of the Council of Europe

Speaker: Hakan Altınay, Director of the European School of Politics in Istanbul, Senior Fellow at Brookings Institution

For many years, democracy has been synonymous with liberal democracy, marked not only by free and fair elections, but also by the rule of law, a separation of powers, and the protection of basic freedoms of speech and association as well as an accessible and critical media. Today, as Europe is facing long-term socio-economic difficulties and citizens' discontent, a number of countries are leaning towards a governance model which claims state authoritarianism as necessary to ensure economic prosperity and growth, order and stability. To this end, a decrease in political and other freedoms is adopted leading to greater control over media, restrictions on free speech and assembly, reduced autonomy of regional and local power and restrictions on domestic and foreign NGOs. These measures are putting basic human rights at stake. Do these emerging challenges mark a temporary stage or is it an irreversible trend? Could a form of government that mixes a substantial degree of democracy with illiberal features become an acceptable alternative to liberal democracy? Can such a governance model really achieve the goals it claims or is it merely an attempt by political leadership to hold on to power? What role is there for a motivated civil society – itself increasingly targeted – in addressing these challenges?



*Working session
Strasbourg World
Forum for Democracy,
November 2013*

[*All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.]

14.30-16.30

Room 5
Palais de l'Europe**THEMATIC GROUP MEETING**

Participants from: Morocco, Tunisia and guests from the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF)

"Pluralistic political dialogue in the Maghreb: Can it prevail?"

Moderator: Salvatore Saguès, Human Rights Programme Specialist, Peace, Democracy and Human Rights Directorate, OIF

Speaker: Khadija Mohsen-Finan, Associate Researcher at the *Institute of International and Strategic Relations* (IRIS), Professor at the University Paris I-Panthéon Sorbonne

The Arab Spring led to a strengthening of ultra-conservative political movements which pose new challenges to those countries and to young developing democracies. The success of Islamist parties is, on the one hand ideological, but is also based on the strong social investment of these movements. Other political forces are too weak and divided to build a sustainable support base and this makes it difficult for alternative solutions to emerge. What are the best ways to promote a pluralist political dialogue in these conditions? Can any lessons be drawn from different experiences in other regions, such as Europe or Sub-Saharan Africa? How can the rule of law, equality between men and women, liberty of conscience and respect for minorities be reconciled with political Islam? Is the emergence of an "Islamic democracy" comparable with the Christian democracy in the West, and thus a track to follow in these regions?

17.00-18.00

Room 1
Palais de l'Europe**BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE SCHOOLS FROM MOLDOVA AND ROMANIA**

All participants of the concerned Schools

17.00-18.00

Room 5
Palais de l'Europe**BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE SCHOOLS FROM BULGARIA AND MOROCCO**

All participants of the concerned Schools

17.00-18.00

Room 9
Palais de l'Europe**BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE SCHOOLS FROM GREECE AND TURKEY**

All participants of the concerned Schools

ALL DAY
ECtHR

MEETINGS WITH JUDGES/LAWYERS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ECtHR)
All Schools' participants

Please consult the timetable on pages 14 and 15.

10.30-12.30
Room 9
Palais de l'Europe



PROFESSIONAL GROUP MEETING
Politicians and public sector from national and regional levels

“Winning elections and keeping promises: mission impossible for political leaders?”

Moderator: Jason Worlledge, Executive Director of the Visegrád School of Political Studies

Speaker: Vera Kobalia, Georgian politician, former Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development

The decline in electoral turnout and the rise of populism reflect a crisis of confidence between representatives and represented that affects the entire European continent. The difficulty of decision-makers to offer prompt and concrete solutions to economic and social crises weakens their legitimacy and creates a fertile ground for populist discourse that plays on people's fears. In this context of crisis, how can a political discourse be developed which is capable of appealing to voters without denying the difficulties and choices linked to the exercise of power? How can populist discourse be countered without promising the impossible and without caricaturing public debate?

10.30-12.30
Room 11
Palais de l'Europe



PROFESSIONAL GROUP MEETING
Representatives of local authorities

“Think local, act global: an everyday challenge for local authorities”

Moderator: Tim Lisney, Deputy Secretary of the Chamber of Local Authorities, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Speaker: Leen Verbeek, Vice-President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Owing to their proximity with citizens, local authorities have a particular role to play in citizenship participation. This requires, however, a rethinking of the traditional exercise of power. Beyond voting in elections, local democracy implies regular consultation and a strong relationship between citizens and politicians. For all that, the issues and challenges to be addressed by local authorities should not be limited to territorial issues. Awareness raising and involvement of citizens on issues which transcend local authority competence are complex but necessary. How can local authorities develop a political vision which merges local and more global problems? How can they avoid only responding to gain immediate results but also develop coherent and strategic public policies that require time?

10.30-12.30
Room 5
Palais de l'Europe



PROFESSIONAL GROUP MEETING
Media professionals

“Journalism today: a dangerous job?”

Moderator: Daniel Höltgen, Director of Communications, Council of Europe

Speakers:

Anne Nivat, French journalist and war correspondent

Piotr Zalewski, Turkey correspondent for Poland's news magazine "Polityka", Editor at European Stability Initiative

Access to qualitative and pluralist information is a precondition for democracy. Journalists hold a crucial place as a counter-power and as a means of providing citizens with the clarity of information required to make informed choices. However, the resurgence of authoritarian regimes and of armed conflicts has made this profession more and more complex and dangerous. At the same time, old democracies are experiencing a crisis of confidence towards journalists. How can the link with citizens be recreated whilst at the same time delivering quality information? Do social media pose a threat or offer an opportunity to journalism? How can the need for direct information and the protection of journalists be reconciled at a moment when the business model of the profession is in crisis?

10.30-12.30
Room 1
Palais de l'Europe



PROFESSIONAL GROUP MEETING
Civil society representatives

“Ensuring NGO independence and sustainability in today's funding environment”

Moderator: Jean-Marie Heydt, President of the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe

Speaker: József Péter Martin, Executive Director, Transparency International, Hungary

In order to operate effectively, civil society organisations rely on financial contributions from a variety of sources, including individual donors, private foundations, corporations, international organisations and governments. These often determine the scope for NGOs' action, sometimes affecting dramatically their neutrality and sustainability. Following the economic and financial crisis, accompanied by a rise of individualism and a decline in civic engagement, the funding environment for NGOs has become even more challenging worldwide. However, in each country, the funding relationships affect the work of non-governmental organisations in different ways. How can NGOs in Western Europe resolve the dilemma of accepting or refusing government or corporate funding to stay independent in their decision-making? How can civil society organisations operate in some parts of Eastern Europe where the NGO sector faces unprecedented obstacles posed by the authorities, including restrictive legal frameworks, to impede access to foreign funding?

10.30-12.30

Room 10
Palais de l'Europe**PROFESSIONAL GROUP MEETING**

Business leaders

“Corporate social responsibility: how can the private sector help stabilise societies undergoing political and economic transition?”

Moderator: Michael Remmert, Deputy to the Director of Policy Planning, Council of Europe

Speaker: Michael Solomon, Founder and Director, Profit Through Ethics, London

Corporations are not isolated economic actors operating independently from society; they are inextricably linked to the social, ecological and human fabric and there is a growing awareness that they, too, need to take responsibility for building a more sustainable future. The importance of combining profit with positive social impact has been embraced by businesses over the past few years. Whilst corporate social responsibility (CSR) is already an integral part of the marketing plans of big corporations, many young start-ups and small and medium businesses are attempting to find authentic and transparent ways to build a fairer and more sustainable society. What should be the role of business in stimulating local economies and in creating jobs, particularly for young people and people excluded from society? How can the private sector be encouraged to create healthier and more ethical working conditions for its employees and to tackle inequality in recruitment, wages and promotions? How can business leaders be encouraged to run responsible businesses capable of driving progress? Is this shift toward responsible business practice possible at all in societies undergoing political and economic transition?

14.00-14.15

Palais de l'Europe

FAMILY PHOTO

All Schools' participants

The group photograph will be taken on the steps in front of the Palais de l'Europe (or in the Hemicycle in case of bad weather)

14.30-15.00

Hemicycle
Palais de l'Europe**DIPLOMA CEREMONY**

All Schools' participants

The diploma ceremony will take place in the presence of **Thorbjørn Jagland**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

All day

9.30-10.30

ECtHR

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THE UKRAINIAN SCHOOL**MEETING AT THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ECtHR)**

Participants from Ukraine

Please consult the timetable on pages 14 and 15.

14.00-16.00

Room 10
Palais de l'Europe**SPECIAL MEETING ON THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE**

Participants from Ukraine

Co-Moderators: Igor Kohut, Director of the Ukrainian School of Political Studies

Michael Remmert, Deputy to the Director of Policy Planning, Council of Europe

With the participation of:

Charlotte Altenhoener-Dion, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Council of Europe

Markus Jaeger, Deputy to Special Advisor to the Secretary General for Ukraine, Council of Europe

Thomas Markert, Secretary of the Venice Commission, Council of Europe

This special meeting will bring together two groups of the Ukrainian School of Political Studies and representatives of Council of Europe's departments, which are actively involved in addressing the situation in Ukraine. The participants of the Ukrainian School will be informed about the Organisation's activities and projects implemented in Ukraine. Council of Europe representatives, on their part, will benefit from the first-hand expertise of young political and social leaders on the ongoing situation in their country, and learn more about their main challenges, priorities and needs.

*Diploma ceremony
Strasbourg World
Forum for Democracy
November 2013*



TIMETABLE OF SCHOOLS' MEETINGS AT THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ECtHR)

SCHOOL/ GUESTS	DATE AND TIME	JUDGE/ LAWYER	MEETING ROOM
Albania	Monday, 3 Nov. 9.30-10.30	Ms Ledi Bianku, Judge	Main Hearing Room
Armenia	Monday, 3 Nov. 14.30-15.30	Mr Ara Shah- zadeyan, Lawyer	Small Hearing Room
Azerbaijan	Wednesday, 5 Nov. 9.30-10.30	Mr Khanlar Hajiyev, Judge	Small Hearing Room
Belarus	Monday, 3 Nov. 14.30-15.30	Mr Artem Lazarev, Lawyer (Russia)	Seminar Room
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Monday, 3 Nov. 9.30-10.30	Mr Faris Vehabovic, Judge	Small Hearing Room
Bulgaria	Thursday, 6 Nov. 9.00-10.00	Ms Zdravka Kalaydjieva, Judge	Main Hearing Room
Croatia	Thursday, 6 Nov. 15.30-16.30	Ms Ksenija Turkovic, Judge	Seminar Room
Cyprus	Thursday, 6 Nov. 9.00-10.00	Mr George Nicolaou, Judge	Seminar Room
Georgia	Thursday, 6 Nov. 15.30-16.30	Ms Nona Tsotsoria, Judge	Small Hearing Room
Greece	Monday, 3 Nov. 9.30-10.30	Mr Linos Alexandre Sicilianos, Judge	Seminar Room
Kosovo*	Monday, 3 Nov. 14.30-15.30	Mr Edward Slade, Lawyer (UK)	Room 20 RC Jardin
Kyrgyzstan	Thursday, 6 Nov. 15.30-16.30	Mr Dmitry Dedov, Judge (Russia)	Press Room

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All participants must arrive at the main entrance of the ECtHR Building 15 minutes before each meeting to go through the security checks.

SCHOOL/ GUESTS	DATE AND TIME	JUDGE/ LAWYER	MEETING ROOM
Moldova	Thursday, 6 Nov. 9.00-10.00	Mr Valeriu Gritco, Judge	Small Hearing Room
Montenegro	Monday, 3 Nov. 11.00-12.00	Mr Nebojsa Vucinic, Judge	Small Hearing Room
Morocco	Monday, 3 Nov. 14.30-15.30	Mr Rodolphe Genissel, Lawyer (France)	Main Hearing Room
OIF	Monday, 3 Nov. 14.30-15.30	Mr Rodolphe Genissel, Lawyer (France)	Main Hearing Room
Romania	Thursday, 6 Nov. 9.00-10.00	Ms Iulia Antoanella Motoc, Judge	Press Room
Russian Federation	Thursday, 6 Nov. 15.30-16.30	Mr Dmitry Dedov, Judge	Press Room
Serbia	Thursday, 6 Nov. 15.30-16.30	Mr Dragoljub Popovic, Judge	Main Hearing Room
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	Monday, 3 Nov. 11.00-12.00	Ms Mirjana Lazarova Trajkovska, Judge	Main Hearing Room
Tunisia	Monday, 3 Nov. 14.30-15.30	Mr Rodolphe Genissel, Lawyer (France)	Main Hearing Room
Turkey	Monday, 3 Nov. 11.00-12.00	Ms Aslihan Ozdemir, Lawyer	Seminar Room
Ukraine	Friday, 7 Nov. 9.30-10.30	Ms Oleksandra Sytnyk, Lawyer	Main Hearing Room
Visegrád	Wednesday, 5 Nov. 9.30-10.30	Mr Ales Pejchal, Judge (Czech Rep.) Mr Michal Kucera, Lawyer (Slov. Rep.)	Main Hearing Room



Hakan ALTINAY

Director of the European School of Politics in Istanbul, Senior Fellow at Brookings Institution

As a Senior Fellow at Brookings, Mr Hakan Altınay works on issues of normative frameworks for an interdependent world. His book, *Global Civics*, was published in 2011 and reflects work he conducted as a Yale World Fellow in 2009. The book has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, and Spanish, and inspired a documentary by

Jian Yi, a 2009 Yale World Fellow. Previously, Hakan Altınay was the Executive Director - and later, Chairman - of Turkey's Open Society Foundation. In that role, he encouraged Turkey's evolution towards a more open society by focusing on European Union accession and the aspirations of the middle class. He is currently the founding President of the Global Civics Academy.



Joerg FORBRIG

Transatlantic Fellow, Central and Eastern Europe, German Marshall Fund, Berlin

Dr Joerg Forbrig is a transatlantic fellow for Central and Eastern Europe, and director of the Fund for Belarus Democracy. Based in GMF's office in Berlin, he leads the organisation's efforts to assist civil society in Belarus, while his analytical and policy work broadly focuses on Europe's East, including the new member states of the

European Union, and the EU's Eastern neighbourhood. Prior to joining GMF in 2002, Joerg Forbrig worked as a Robert Bosch Foundation fellow at the Centre for International Relations in Warsaw, Poland. He has published widely on democracy, civil society, and Central and Eastern European affairs.



André HÄRTEL

Political Research and Analysis, Directorate of Policy Planning, Council of Europe

Dr André Härtel currently works as a political advisor at the Council of Europe and a part-time lecturer in International Relations at Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Germany. He was educated in Political Science and International Relations at Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, the University of Virginia and Oxford Brookes University (UK).

After working as a lecturer and project coordinator at the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (Ukraine) in 2006 and 2007, he earned his Dr.Phil. in 2011 with a thesis on Ukraine's foreign policy towards the EU and WTO. He is a regional specialist on Ukraine, Russia, Belarus and the Caucasus, and his wider research interests cover the relationship between regime type and foreign policy behaviour as well as democratisation, economic transformation and state-building.



Alexander LIBMAN

Associate, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik – German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

Dr Alexander Libman is currently Associate at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs SWP in Berlin. He was previously Assistant Professor of International Political Economy at the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management. His analytical work focuses on regional integration and multi-level governance structures in Eurasia, as well as on the political economics of former Soviet Union states. His main publications include *Holding-Together Regionalism: Twenty Years of Post-Soviet Integration*; *Eurasian Integration: Challenges of Transcontinental Regionalism* (both Palgrave MacMillan, with Evgeny Vinokurov) and *Autocratic and Democratic External Influences in Post-Soviet Eurasia* (Ashgate, with Anastassia Obydenkova), as well as articles in *Political Studies*, *Studies in Comparative International Development*, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Review of International Political Economy*, *Review of International Organisations*, *Public Choice*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *European Journal of Political Economy*, *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, *Post-Soviet Affairs* and others.



József Péter MARTIN

Executive Director, Transparency International, Hungary

Mr József Péter Martin graduated from the Budapest University of Economic Sciences (presently Corvinus University) in 1995, and he studied in Belgium and the Netherlands as well. He started his career as an economic journalist at Világgazdaság business daily, followed by twelve years at the editorial office of Figyelo business weekly, from 2003 for six years as editor-in-chief. Later on he established his own firm and worked as a consultant and analyst for various private companies and public institutions. Following a request of Sanoma Media, in 2011-2012 he acted as the editor of 'Everyday Finance' educational program, launched by the Hungarian National Bank. Since the beginning of 2012, he has been editing a European Commission expert blog on European Union issues. He co-authored a book on the world financial crisis titled 'Dream-default', published in 2010. He has published multiple studies and essays for different Hungarian and international journals, mainly on European Union issues.



Khadija MOHSEN-FINAN

Political analyst, specialist of the Maghreb, Associate Researcher at the Institute of International and Strategic Relations (IRIS), Professor at the University Paris I-Panthéon Sorbonne

Khadija Mohsen-Finan holds a PhD in Political Science and a Degree in History. She teaches on the Maghreb in International Relations at the IEP, Paris and on Political transitions in the Arab World at the University Ca' Foscari of Venice. In parallel, she is a research associate at the Institut des relations internationales et stratégiques (IRIS) in Paris. Her work focusses on the Maghreb, the Mediterranean and the Arab world in international relations.



Vera KOBALIA

Georgian politician, former Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development

Ms Vera Kobalia is a Georgian politician who has served in the Cabinet of Georgia as the country's Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development from 2 July 2010 to 25 October 2012. She attended King George Secondary School, and subsequently the British Columbia Institute of Technology in Burnaby, British Columbia, where in 2004 she graduated with a degree in Business Administration and Informational Technologies.



Anne NIVAT

French journalist and war correspondent

Ms Anne Nivat is an award-winning French journalist and war correspondent who has covered conflicts in Chechnya, Iraq, and Afghanistan. She is known for interviews and character portraits in print of civilians, especially women, and their experiences of war. She began her reporting career at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Transitions magazine in Prague. Since 2004, she has worked for Le Point, a weekly French news magazine, and has also written for Le Soir and Le Nouvel Observateur, as well as the French Huffington Post. Her English-language journalism has appeared in USA Today, US News & World Report, Washington Post, New York Times, and Nieman Reports. For the New York Times, she wrote a piece called «Life in the 'red zone'», which narrates her experiences as a war correspondent in Iraq.



Michael SOLOMON

Founder and director, Profit Through Ethics, London

Mr Michael Solomon has been the Director at London-based Profit Through Ethics since 2003. Profit Through Ethics is helping businesses to balance the pursuit of profit with the health, wealth and well-being of everyone else, using market mechanisms to promote transparency and accountability in business. For that purpose, Responsible 100 was created as a management tool, a business ranking, a public internet platform, an identification mark and a growing social movement to help business balance the pursuit of profit with the interests of society. The aim is to create the conditions whereby businesses compete on the ambition and impact of their social and environmental innovations as well as on the price and quality of the products and services.



Leen VERBEEK

Vice-President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Mr Leen Verbeek is a Dutch politician and former civil servant and social worker. He is a member of the Labour Party (Partij van de Arbeid). He has served as mayor of Purmerend from April 2003 to November 2008. On 1 November 2008, he became Queen's Commissioner of the province of Flevoland (Netherlands). He is the Deputy Head of the Dutch delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, where he also represents the Chamber of Regions.



Piotr ZALEWSKI

Turkey correspondent for Poland's news magazine "Polityka", Editor at European Stability Initiative

Mr Piotr Zalewski is also a contributor to a number of English language publications including Foreign Policy, The Atlantic, The National, Insight Turkey and Turkish Policy Quarterly. Prior to going to Turkey he was the European Parliament's press spokesperson on human rights, CIA renditions and climate change. Earlier, he covered EU-Turkey relations for the Centre for International Relations in Warsaw. He holds a BA degree in History from Columbia University, as well as graduate degrees from the Jagiellonian University, the University of Exeter and the College of Europe.

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