



# Martens Centre Activity Report



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# 2015



It's Our Job



Wilfried  
**Martens Centre**  
for European Studies





# Martens Centre Activity Report

# 2015

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**The Wilfried Martens Centre  
for European Studies**

is the political foundation and think tank of the European People's Party (EPP) dedicated to the promotion of Christian Democrat, conservative and like-minded political values.

For more information please visit:  
[www.martenscentre.eu](http://www.martenscentre.eu)

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2014

2015 **Highlights**

December

Start of the  
Ukraine Reforms



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## Martens Centre Activity Report 2015

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Wilfried  
**Martens Centre**  
for European Studies

# 2016

Oct. 21&22

EPP Congress  
with Wilfried  
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56

Dec. 02

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# Welcome

In 2015 the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies once again showed itself to be a mature institute with an established position on the European think tank scene.



## Reforming Ukraine

In December 2014 under the leadership of its President Mikuláš Dzurinda, former Prime Minister of Slovakia and successful country reformer, the Martens Centre launched the #Ukraine Reforms campaign to bring together the expertise of senior EU decision-makers in support of the reform process in Ukraine. This transfer of experience is organised through public events, town-hall style meetings, TV debates, online articles and interviews held in Kyiv and other major Ukrainian cities. The initiative is supported by local partners including Ukrainian NGOs Reanimation Package for Reforms and Stronger Together, as well as the Kyiv School of Economics.

## The Week in #60seconds

This year, the Martens Centre launched its own European Political show by Roland Freudenstein, Policy Director of the Centre. Every week, particularly notorious news items were highlighted in the 60 seconds show, with faithful audience engaging on social media regularly to comment on the show, and two special editions: one during the sixth Transatlantic Think Tank Conference (TTTC) in Washington and the other during the EPP Congress in Madrid.



## 2015, the Renaissance of the West

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The confrontation with a newly aggressive Russia is the most severe test the EU has undergone in recent years. Through its Food for Thought series, the sixth Transatlantic Think Tank Conference in Washington and its publications, among which *Caught in the Act* and *Renaissance of the West*, the Martens Centre has actively been denouncing the propaganda war from Russia and stressed that the implementation of the Minsk II agreement needs to remain on the EU agenda. Transatlantic relations remain the foundation of the global liberal order. They have to be strengthened and put on a more strategic basis. This includes much more determination on both sides to make the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership a success.

## Transatlantic Think Tank Conference, Towards a Transatlantic Renewal

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In July 2015 the Martens Centre organised its sixth Transatlantic Think Tank Conference (TTTC), to strengthen transatlantic relations and continue debate on transatlantic issues with like-minded think tanks on both sides of the Atlantic. Co-organised with the International Republican Institute, the Hudson Institute and this year also with the European Ideas Network, the TTTC dealt with current themes such as Brexit, Turkey's relationship with the West, the importance of intelligence cooperation, and the final hurdles of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. Furthermore, four public sessions were organised on providing a counter narrative for Putin's war, power politics in the Middle East, economic growth strategies and the pivot to Asia. The TTTC participants also met with representatives of the Pew Research Centre and the Republican National Committee.

## The Economic Ideas Forum 2015

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On 2 December the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies hosted the sixth Annual Economic Ideas Forum (EIF).

This Forum is an annual high-level conference that brings together economic experts, EU heads of state and government, European Commissioners, ministers, business leaders and other influential stakeholders from around the world. The Forums provide an opportunity to identify innovative ideas and place them within the policymaking processes of the EPP. This year's event focussed on three distinct themes which underpin the economic and political objectives of the EPP.

First was an acknowledgement that the digital economy has the potential to transform the European economy and to act as driver of growth and jobs across all member states.

Second was the realisation that energy security and climate change are indelibly linked and that events in Ukraine have highlighted the need for a sustainable 'Energy Union' in Europe with an increased diversification in Europe's energy supply.

Third was a continued commitment to placing the EPP at the heart of reform efforts in the EU's eastern neighbourhood, particularly with regard to states such as Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia.



# About Us

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The Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies is the official think tank of the European People's Party. As a political think tank we are a full part of the European policymaking ecosystem. Our mission is to offer decision makers and opinion leaders assistance in formulating new and effective policy options. We function as a pan-European platform for our member foundations, think tanks and experts from all over Europe that share our values and those of our political family. Working closely with national partners allows us to bring the European debate where it matters the most: closer to the European public. We have more than 40 partner organisations and over 100 yearly events across Europe and are continuously expanding our network and expertise.

<b>12</b>	<b>Executive Board</b>
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# Executive Board

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The Executive Board is composed by a maximum of eight members, including the President and the Secretary-Treasurer, elected by the General Assembly of the Centre. Its roles range from drafting the annual programme based on agreed research priorities, ensuring the legal representation and financial supervision of the activities of the Centre and steering the expansion of the Centre's network of member organisations.



**Mikuláš Dzurinda**  
President

Mikuláš Dzurinda was elected President of the Martens Centre in December 2013. He is the former prime minister of Slovakia, holding the position from 1998 to 2006, and has held various positions in government since first entering politics in 1990. Mikuláš Dzurinda is a founding member of the Slovak Democratic and Christian Union - Democratic Party (SDKÚ-DS) and was chairman of the party from 2000 to 2012. He served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs (2010–12) and was elected to the Slovak Parliament following elections in 2012. Since December 2015, he has been a Member of the International Advisory Council to the President of Ukraine.



**Antonio López-Istúriz**  
Secretary Treasurer

Antonio López-Istúriz is the Secretary Treasurer of the Martens Centre, EPP Secretary General and a Member of the European Parliament. From 1999 to 2002, he worked as Personal Adviser to former Prime Minister of Spain, José María Aznar. Mr López-Istúriz has been the Secretary General of the Centrist Democrat International (CDI) since 2002 and is a member of the National Executive Committee of the Partido Popular (PP).





### **Joseph Daul**

Joseph Daul became President of the EPP in November 2013 and was the Chairman of the EPP Group in the European Parliament from 2007-14. He was elected to the European Parliament in 1999 as a member of the French Union for a Popular Movement (UMP). Mr Daul has been awarded the titles Officier du Mérite Agricole, Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite and Officier de la Légion d'Honneur in France. He is also a recipient of the 'Grosses Verdienstkreuz' from Germany.



### **Olof Ehrenkrona**

Olof Ehrenkrona, Consul General of Sweden in Åland Islands, is a member of the Board and Academic Council of the Martens Centre. Previously, he served as Ambassador and Senior Adviser for the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, where he dealt with issues related to globalisation. He is also a Policy Adviser at the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation (JHS). In the early 1990s, during the collapse of the Soviet Union and the transformation of Eastern and Central Europe, he was Head of Policy Planning in the Swedish prime minister's office.



### **Rien Fraanje**

Rien Fraanje has been Acting Director of the CDA Research Institute since May 2015, and was the Interim Director in 2014. Prior to that, he worked as Senior Adviser at the Council of Public Governance and as Senior Consultant at Berenschot Public Management. For the Council of Public Governance he wrote two studies about the functioning of democracy in general and political parties in particular. He was also the Chairman of the CDA delegation in the local council of Nieuw-West, Amsterdam, between 2010 and 2014.



### **György Granasztói**

György Granasztói is a Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister of Hungary, Victor Orbán. He served as Hungarian Ambassador to the EU and NATO from 1990 to 1994 and as President of the Union of Hungarian Civic Cooperation from 2000 to 2002. He is a laureate of the Charles Simonyi Grant and in 2009 he received the French Légion d'Honneur. He holds a degree in History and French from ELTE University Budapest, where he has been Professor of History since 1985.



### **Hans-Gert Pöttering**

Hans-Gert Pöttering is the Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS). Until his retirement in 2014 he was the only Member of the European Parliament who has continuously served since the first European elections in 1979. From 1999 to 2007, he served as the Chairman of the EPP-ED Group, and from 2007 to 2009 as the President of the European Parliament. Among many European honours Hans-Gert Pöttering has received the Grand Cross with Star and Shoulder Ribbon of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany and is Commander of the Légion d'Honneur.



### **Yannis G. Valinakis**

Yannis G. Valinakis served as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and member of the Greek Parliament (2004-9) and as a Jean Monnet Professor of European Affairs at the University of Athens. He is currently the President of the Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence of the University of Athens, and the President of the Scientific Council, Law School, University of Nicosia. He is also a Senior Visiting Fellow at the European Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science. He has published widely in international and European journals in five languages.

# Academic Council

The Executive Board nominates esteemed academics and researchers as members of the Academic Council, in order to increase the academic scope of the Centre and oversee the scientific standards of its research, studies and activities. This includes enhancing its standing and visibility in the academic sphere, contributing with expertise, advice and ideas to ensure the Centre is always pursuing cutting-edge research. The Academic Council also proposes new and innovative projects and implements the highest standard of peer review.



## Werner Fasslabend

Werner Fasslabend is the Chairman of the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies Academic Council. Between 1987 and 2007, he was a member of the Austrian National Council. He was the Third President of the National Council (2000–2) and served as the Federal Minister of Defence for 10 years (1990–2000).



## Bruno Aguilera-Barchet

Bruno Aguilera-Barchet is a Professor of Comparative Legal History and Director of the Institute for International Law Studies at King Juan Carlos University of Madrid. He holds a Ph.D. in Law and was Dean of the Faculty of Legal and Social Sciences of the KJC University. He was a Visiting Fellow at Harvard Law School and is currently a Visiting Professor at the Law School of the University of Paris XII.



## John Bruton

John Bruton was the Irish Prime Minister (Taoiseach) from 1994 to 1997. He served as EU Ambassador to the US from 2004 to 2009, and is a former Vice-President of the EPP. Bruton held a number of senior ministries in the Irish government, including Minister for Finance and Minister for Industry, Trade, Commerce and Tourism. He graduated from University College Dublin with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Politics in 1968, before studying to become a barrister. He was called to the Bar of Ireland in 1972. He holds Honorary Degrees from Memorial University of Newfoundland, the National University of Ireland and the University of Missouri.



## Olof Ehrenkrona

Olof Ehrenkrona, Consul General of Sweden in Åland Islands, is a member of the Board and Academic Council of the Martens Centre. Previously, he served as Ambassador and Senior Adviser for the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, where he dealt with issues related to globalisation. He is also a Policy Adviser at the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation (JHS). In the early 1990s, during the collapse of the Soviet Union and the transformation of Eastern and Central Europe, he was Head of Policy Planning in the Swedish prime minister's office.





### **George Galanos**

George Galanos is a Lecturer in International Economic Relations in the Economic Department of the Democritus University of Thrace. He holds a Ph.D. in International Economics and Tourism Competitiveness from the University of Piraeus, an MBA focus in Tourism Management and a B.Sc. in Economics. During 2002–9 he worked as a researcher, Head of the European Programmes Department, in the Research Centre of Evaluation of Development Policies and Programmes of the University of Thessaly.



### **Jos J.A.M. van Gennip**

Jos J.A.M. van Gennip is President of the Socires Foundation, Chairman of the Food First Coalition, member of the General Council at Inter Press Service (IPS) and General Rapporteur for the political platform of the EPP. Previously, he was a member of the Upper House of the Dutch Parliament and worked as Deputy Director General at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and as Chairman of the Economic Committee of NATO.



### **Martti Häikiö**

Martti Häikiö has been a full-time historian and Adjunct Professor at the University of Helsinki, Institute of Political and Social History since 1978. During the past 10 years he has published six books about the various aspects of telecommunications that concentrate on the interplay of innovation, regulation and business, especially during the third industrial revolution. At the moment he is working on the biography of P. E. Svinhufvud, first Head of State of independent Finland.



### **Mart Laar**

Mart Laar is a member of the International Council of the Human Rights Foundation, Honorary Chairman of Pro Patria and Res Publica Union (IRL) and served as Estonian Minister of Defence from April 2011 to May 2012. He previously served as Prime Minister (1992–4 and 1999–2002) and member of the Estonian Parliament (Riigikogu). In 2006, he was the recipient of the Cato Institute's Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty.



### **Lorenzo Ornaghi**

Lorenzo Ornaghi, Professor of Political Science and of the History of Political Thought, was Rector of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore for 10 years. He founded and directed the Graduate School of Economics and International Relations (ASERI), where he is now the President. From November 2011 through April 2013 he was Italian Minister for Cultural Heritage and Activities. The Pontifical University Giovanni Paolo II in Cracow awarded him with the *Laurea honoris causa* in Philosophy in 2013.



### **Žiga Turk**

Žiga Turk has a Ph.D. in Technical Sciences and is a Professor at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. In 2007–8 he was the Minister for Growth in the Government of Slovenia. In 2008–10 he was the Secretary General of the Reflection Group on the Future of Europe in Brussels and in 2012–13 Minister for Education, Science, Culture and Sports in the Government of Slovenia. He is interested in strategic policymaking in the areas of innovation, creativity, R&D, and studies the impact of technology on society.



# Research Associates

## Who they are

Research Associates are politically like-minded academics who can provide research papers, short analyses and blogs and who are also capable of providing quick advice on current affairs.

## What they do

The Research Associates contribute to an improved reflection process on fundamental strategic questions and indirectly provide input for strategic debates in the EPP family.



### Filippo Luca Calciano

Filippo L. Calciano is the Director of the International Cooperation Department at the Luigi Sturzo Institute (ILS), founder and managing partner of Urania Capital Advisors and Professor of Economics at the University of Rome. He holds a Ph.D. and a masters degree in Economics from the Centre for Operations Research and Econometrics (Louvain University) and the University of Pennsylvania.



### Svante E. Cornell

Svante E. Cornell is the Director of the Central Asia–Caucasus Institute and Silk Road Studies Program, a joint research and policy centre affiliated with Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and co-founder of the Institute for Security and Development Policy, Stockholm.



### Michalis Peglis

Michalis Peglis is Deputy Director for EU and International Affairs at the office of the Prime Minister of Greece. He is a Ph.D. candidate, holds a master's degree in Public Administration and Public Policy from The London School of Economics and Political Science and a bachelor's degree with distinction in Political Science and International Relations from Panteion University of Athens.



### Katarína Králiková

Katarína Králiková is a diplomat with the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Previously, she was a Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies Research Officer and assistant Editor-in-Chief of the Centre's policy journal, *European View*. During her work for the Centre, she focused mainly on foreign policy issues. Prior to joining the Martens Centre, Králiková worked in the European Parliament in the Directorate-General for Internal Policies in Brussels.



### **Florian Hartleb**

Florian Hartleb was until May 2012 a Visiting Fellow at the Martens Centre and is currently a lecturer at the University of Bonn and the University for Politics in Munich. He studied political science, law and psychology and subsequently worked as a consultant in the German Parliament (Bundestag), as a Research Associate at Chemnitz University of Technology and as a Professor for Political Management at a private university in Berlin.



### **Hans Geeroms**

Hans Geeroms obtained a Ph.D. in economics from KU Leuven after completing his undergraduate and master's studies at the KU Leuven and KU Brussels. He is Professor of European Economic Policy at the College of Europe and KU Leuven (Brussels Campus), Senior Adviser for European Policy at the National Bank of Belgium and member of the ECB's International Relations Committee and the EU's Economic and Financial Committee. Hans Geeroms is also a former Adviser on EU Economic Policy to Belgian Prime Ministers Leterme and Van Rompuy.



### **Salome Samadashvili**

Ambassador Samadashvili enjoyed a decade-long career in public service in her native country, Georgia. Following the democratic Rose Revolution of 2003, she was elected as a member of the Parliament of Georgia and the Deputy Chair of the Foreign Relations Committee. In October 2005, she was appointed to represent her country in Brussels as the Head of Georgia's Mission to the EU and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Kingdom of Belgium and Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. She left the Georgian diplomatic service in April 2013. She is a recipient of the Presidential Decoration of Splendour for her outstanding service to Georgia.



### **Nikolaos Tzifakis**

Nikolaos Tzifakis is Assistant Professor of International Relations in the Department of Political Science and International Relations of the University of Peloponnese. His research interests focus on international relations, EU external policies and Balkan politics. His recent publications include articles in *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, *Ethno-politics*, *European Foreign Affairs Review*, *Global Society and International Journal*.



# Staff 2015

**Tomi Huhtanen**

Executive Director



**Roland Freudenstein**

Policy Director



**José Luis Fontalba**

Head of Communications



**Panos Tasiopoulos**

Project Manager



**Vít Novotný**

Senior Research Officer



**Eoin Drea**

Research Officer



**Ingrid Habets**

Research Officer



**Margherita Movarelli**

Project Officer



**Bernada Cunj**

Events Officer



**Ioana Lung**

Communications & Marketing Officer



**Irina Roventa**

Financial Administrator



**Boyan Tanev**

Junior Project Officer



**Federico Ottavio Reho**

Junior Research Officer



**Anna van Oeveren**

Communications and Marketing Assistant



**Hege van Dijke**

Junior Communications Officer (Alumni 2015)



# Visiting Fellows

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The Martens Centre has been active on a wide range of political issues with a particular emphasis on European policy-oriented studies. Therefore, each year it offers Visiting Fellow positions of 6 to 12 months to dynamic, motivated and innovative individuals with academic credentials.



## Mark Boris Andrijanič

**Slovenia**

Mark Boris Andrijanič is a Visiting Fellow at the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies. His research focuses on European foreign policy, energy security and energy market reform. He advised governments in Europe and Africa as well as international organisations and NGOs on energy and natural resource governance issues. Mark Boris Andrijanič has also worked in the IT industry and think tanks in Washington, DC and Brussels. As a civil society leader in his native Slovenia, Mark has co-founded and led a number of leading NGOs and initiatives, aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, active citizenship and human rights. He has hosted many international leaders, including the Secretary General of the OECD, and received several national and international awards for his democracy-building efforts. He obtained a master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Oxford after graduating in Law from the University of Ljubljana.



## Michael Benhamou

**France**

Michael Benhamou joined the Centre as a Visiting Fellow in January 2015. Since 2010 he has been deployed in several NATO field operations as a Political Advisor, and he continues to serve the French Army as a reserve Officer at the Joint Force and Training (EMIA FE). Prior to 2010 he was a political activist for France's centre-right party, the UMP. From 2004 onwards he participated in numerous elections, and in 2008–9 he worked at the Information Service of the French Presidency. He is currently focusing on European Defence, counter-terrorism and the Middle East. He holds a Maîtrise in History from Pantheon Sorbonne University and a Master's Degree in International Relations from Sciences Po Paris (IEP).

# Individual Members

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Individual members are politically like-minded senior-level professionals active in European politics, European institutions and related organisations. They participate in the meetings of the General Assembly and offer their perspective on the overall strategy and goals of the Centre and how to attain them.

Our Individual Members in 2015 were:

**Joseph Daul**

**Mikuláš Dzurinda**

**Antonio López-Istúriz**

**Kristof Altusz**

**Timothy Beyer Helm**

**Jacob Lund Nielsen**

**Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb**

**Nicolas Pascual De La Parte**

**Kostas Sasmatzoglou**

**Filippo Terruso**

**Antti Timonen**

**Marianne Thyssen**





# Internships

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The Martens Centre offers internships of three to six months for university graduates and young researchers from Europe and world-wide. The internship programme is intended to provide the trainees with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of European affairs and to have close insights into the daily work of the European institutions in Brussels.

Our Interns in 2015 were:

Are you interested in an **internship** with the **Martens Centre**?

–  
**Apply now!**

Please visit  
[www.martenscentre.eu/join-team](http://www.martenscentre.eu/join-team)  
for more information

**Angelou Angelos** (GR)

**Viktor Artemenko** (UA)

**Paulo Brandi** (IT)

**Michael Bruton** (IE)

**Simon Forster** (DE)

**Paula Galea** (MA)

**Louis Janssens de Bisthoven** (BE)

**Anna-Maria Kountouri** (GR)

**Amelia Ni Laoi** (IE)

**Eoin O'Driscoll** (IE),

**Pavlina Pavlova** (SK)

**Maksym Popovych** (UA)

**Martin Tokar** (SK)



Unidos

Ensemble

Gemeinsam

Razem

MADRID! PALACIO DE CO

2015  
STORY  
PRESS  
MADRID

me

CONGRESO  
INTERNACIONAL  
MADRID

# Member Foundations



## Academy for the Development of a Democratic Environment

The Academy was founded with the aim of being an autonomous think-tank and centre of adult education, inspired by Christian Democrat principles. In Malta it took a lead in promoting the ideal of European integration, a dialogue society and the rights of future generations. The Academy and its associates have wide interests but AZAD is currently focused on Euro-Mediterranean issues and maritime affairs.

**Akkademja għall-Izvilupp ta' Ambjent Demokratiku (AZAD)**  
Casa Pereira 224, Republic Street, Valletta, Malta  
T. +356.21.247.515 - +356.21.234.884 - F. +356.21.220.496  
E. [info@azad-malta.com](mailto:info@azad-malta.com)



## Amaro da Costa Institute

The IDL-Instituto Amaro da Costa is an independent political association founded in 1975. IDL aims to serve Portuguese leaders and citizens interested in enhancing their understanding of the past and appreciating present challenges through research and education on cultural, social, economic and political phenomena that influence the free exercise of democracy in Portugal –notably those related to Christian democracy. After the death of Adelino Amaro da Costa in 1980, IDL took on the name of the co-founder of the Portuguese democratic regime and since then has been dedicated to preserving and promoting his legacy.

**Instituto Amaro da Costa (IDL)**  
Rua do Patrocínio, 128 – A, 1350-232 Lisbon, Portugal  
T. +351.21.346.1449 - E. [geral@idl.pt](mailto:geral@idl.pt)  
[www.idl.pt](http://www.idl.pt)



## Anton Tunega Foundation

The Anton Tunega Foundation has been the official think tank Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) for the last 20 years. The foundation is pro-European and supports conservative and centre right values. We organise seminars, training courses, roundtable discussions and conferences in cooperation with our national and international partners. We aim to examine and shed a new light on current issues in society and to propose responsible solutions. Our mission is to promote a new generation of professional, conservative leaders, able to take responsibility in leading the country in the right direction.

**Nadácia Antona Tunegu (NAT)**  
Bajkalská 25, SK-821 01 Bratislava, Slovakia  
T. +421.908.334.344 - E. [info@tunega.sk](mailto:info@tunega.sk)  
[www.tunega.sk](http://www.tunega.sk)



## Association Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria

The GERB Association was founded with the aim of promoting European values, ideas and the principles of civil society within the context of Bulgaria's European integration process. In the last years, priority was given to more specific policy issues with the EU dimension in mind - such as education, entrepreneurship and youth, European energy policy, social policies, defence, fight against organized crime and corruption, EU funds management and control, environment, culture and tourism.

**Сдружение 'Граждани за европейско развитие на България' (GERB)  
4 'Adam Mitskevich Street', Vrabnitsa, 1360 Sofia, Bulgaria  
T. +359.88.480.0293 - E. office@gerb-bg.org**



## CDA Research Institute

The Research Institute for CDA has as its goal to conduct scientific research for the CDA based on the foundations of the CDA and its programme of principles. The institute gives documented advice about the outlines of policy, either by its own initiative or upon request of the CDA and/or its members in representative bodies.

**Wetenschappelijk Instituut voor het CDA (WICDA)  
Postbus 30453, 2500 GL The Hague, The Netherlands  
T. +31.70.342.4874 - E. wi@cda.nl  
www.cda.nl/wi**



## CEDER Study Centre of CD&V

CEDER is an autonomous scientific institution which operates as study center for CD&V. Apart from initiatives under the authority of the party, CEDER also elaborates on its own issues in a number of publications.

**CEDER Studiecentrum CD&V (CEDER)  
Wetstraat 89, 1040 Brussels, Belgium  
T. +32.2.238 38 87 - E. ceder@cdenv.be  
www.ceder.cdenv.be/ceder**



## Croatian Statehood Foundation

The Croatian Statehood Foundation's objective is to contribute to strengthening political culture, the culture of dialogue, and to support the development and enhancement of democratic society and the rule of law, and a socially-conscious market economy so that democracy may be reinforced, for the meaning of democracy is human dignity and freedom. The Foundation works toward the achievement of its objectives by organizing seminars, round table lectures and conferences.

**Zaklada Hrvatskog Državnog Zavjeta (ZHDZ)  
Gundulićeva ul. 21a, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia  
T. +385.1.4854.555 - F. +385.1.4854.439  
E. zaklada.hdz@zg.t-com.hr - srecko.prusina@zhdz.hr  
www.zhdz.hr**



## De Gasperi Foundation

The De Gasperi Foundation was created in 1982 at the initiative of the leadership of the Italian Christian Democrat Party. It is a cultural, Christian-based institution operating at national, European and international level to strengthen democracy, promote freedom and advance studies on European integration and international relations. Its activities are inspired by De Gasperi's moral and political teachings. Father of Italy's post-war democratic reconstruction, he was a champion of European unity, peace and security among nations. The Foundation collaborates with institutes with similar ideals in other countries but is also open to debate with movements with different ideals.

**Fondazione De Gasperi (FDG)**  
Via Gregoriana, 5 - 00187 Rome, Italy  
T. +39 06.68.33.592 - E. [info@fondazionedegasperi.org](mailto:info@fondazionedegasperi.org)  
[www.fondazionedegasperi.org](http://www.fondazionedegasperi.org)



## Dr. Jože Pučnik Institute

The Jože Pučnik Institute strives towards the implementation of high standards of the European political culture in Slovenia, a democratic and open society, tolerance and understanding in public life, enhancement of plural cultural and scientific creativity, stabilisation of Europe with the enlargement of the European Union and with the support of democratic forces in the accession process, for cooperation with the political, cultural and scientific groups and individuals in Europe and around the world joined together by the principles of the society of democracy, openness and solidarity.

**Inštitut dr. Jožeta Pučnika (IJP)**  
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[www.ijpucnik.si](http://www.ijpucnik.si)



## European Academy for Democracy

Founded in Prague in 1991, the European Academy for Democracy (EAD) is an organisation that encourages democratic processes in the Czech Republic and greater European integration. Along with its partner organisations in Europe, the EAD organises seminars on current political, cultural and educational topics. The EAD seeks to be a contact point among people from different backgrounds and origins, where policy can be discussed and new ideas exchanged.

**Evropská Akademie pro Demokracii (EAD)**  
Karlovo nám. 317/5, 128 00 Praha 2, Czech Republic  
T. +420.602.646.755 - E. [akademie@ead.cz](mailto:akademie@ead.cz)  
[www.ead.cz](http://www.ead.cz)



## Foundation for a Civic Hungary

The Foundation's objective is to increase the coherence of those professing centre-right values, so that they pursue their tasks in a coordinated and professionally well-founded manner. To this end the Foundation supports research projects, publications, dialogues which enhance the authentic, effective and professional representation of Civic Hungary's interests.

**Polgári Magyarországért Alapítvány (PMA)**  
Pauler u. 11, 1013 Budapest, Hungary  
T. +36.1.391.4880 - F. +36.1.391.4889 - E. [alapitvany@szpma.hu](mailto:alapitvany@szpma.hu)  
[www.szpma.hu](http://www.szpma.hu)



## Foundation for Social Research and Analysis

FAES is a leading think-tank and is committed to nurturing the political thought and action processes of the liberal and reformist centre. FAES seeks to reinforce the values of Western freedom, democracy and humanism. They aim to come up with, promote and disseminate ideas based on political, intellectual and economic freedom. Ideas that can offer political alternatives and ways of thinking that are different from those of socialism.

**Fundación para el Análisis y los Estudios Sociales (FAES)**  
C/ María de Molina 40 - 6a Planta, 28006 Madrid, Spain  
T. +34.91.576.6857 - E. [fundacionfaes@fundacionfaes.org](mailto:fundacionfaes@fundacionfaes.org)  
[www.fundacionfaes.org](http://www.fundacionfaes.org)



## Hanns Seidel Foundation

The Hanns Seidel Foundation is a German political foundation that has been committed to its fundamental mission of 'serving democracy, peace and development' since its establishment in 1967. The foundation is active in Germany - especially in Bavaria - as well as in more than 50 countries worldwide, where it promotes democracy, freedom, the rule of law and a just social order. It aims at ensuring the fundamental principles and norms of our community on the basis of Christian values, the unrestricted development of personality and autonomy as well as social responsibility and solidarity.

**Hanns Seidel Stiftung (HSS)**  
Lazarettstraße 33, 80636 Munich, Germany  
T. +49.89.125.80 - F. +49.89.125.83.56 - E. [info@hss.de](mailto:info@hss.de)  
[www.hss.de](http://www.hss.de)



## Institute Dr. Janez Evangelist Krek

The Institute dr. Janez Evangelist Krek is systematically involved in civic and political education and acts as a think-tank for economic, social and political research. The Institute was established in August 2009 and its aims are: the development of democratic culture and political dialogue, civic and political education, support of European integration through international dialogue, political action based on research and consultancy, as well as the development of new methods for democratic implementation of political goals. The organisation supports science and scientific research, arts and culture, aiming to become the leading foundation based on Christian Democratic values in Slovenia.

**Inštitut Dr. Janeza Evangelista Kreka (IJEK)**  
Cankarjeva cesta 11, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
T. +386.1.241.66.55 - E. [info@ijek.si](mailto:info@ijek.si) - [www.ijek.si](http://www.ijek.si)



## Institute for Eurodemocracy Glafcos Clerides

The Glafkos Clerides Institute was established by the Democratic Rally Party of Cyprus in 1999 as a think tank centre for social, economic and political research. It aims to encourage a dialogue around developments in the European Union as well as international developments and challenges of our time through the organization of conferences, seminars and lectures in association with similar institutions, particularly within the European Union.

**Ινστιτούτο Ευρωδημοκρατίας Γλαύκος Κληρίδης (EGC)**  
25 Pindarou Street, PO Box 25305, 1308 Nicosia, Cyprus  
T. +357.22.883.115 - F. +357.22.752.751 - [info@clerides.org](mailto:info@clerides.org)  
[www.clerides.org](http://www.clerides.org)

## Institute for Modern Slovakia

The Institute for Modern Slovakia was established as a civic association in March 2007 targeted to create a space for further education, lifelong enhancement of knowledge and skills of centre right-wing oriented people, whose views, opinions and attitudes are close to SDKÚ-DS, with a special focus on education for party members.

**Inštitút pre moderné Slovensko (IPMS)**  
Račianska 71, 831 02 Bratislava, Slovakia  
T. +421.2.5443 5328 - [ipms@ipms.sk](mailto:ipms@ipms.sk)  
[www.ipms.sk](http://www.ipms.sk)



## Institute for Popular Studies

ISP is the foundation of the Democratic-Liberal Party (DLP), a think tank that shapes the doctrine and political identity of the DLP. ISP's mission is to contribute to the consolidation of democratic values in Romania and the region. ISP aims to participate in the development and promotion of the popular doctrine in Romania, and to formulate and recommend the public policies necessary for an efficient centre-right government.

**Institutul de Studii Populare (ISP)**  
Str. Alecu Russo nr. 13-19 | Ap. 3, Sector 2, 020522 Bucharest, Romania  
T./F. +40.31.10.76.645 - E. [office@isp.org.ro](mailto:office@isp.org.ro) - [www.isp.org.ro](http://www.isp.org.ro)



## Institute of Democratic Politics

The Institute of Democratic Politics was founded in 1999 by a group of Conservative and Christian Democratic politicians, analysts, essayists, and scholars. From the outset, its principal concerns have been the strengthening of the centre-right ideology and public defense of conservative values in Lithuania. We aim to accelerate the political and civic maturity of the Lithuanian society and to promote democracy and development in the European neighbourhood, seeking to contribute to security and stability in the region. To this end, we organize national and international conferences, seminars, round table discussions, issue publications and conduct research. The Institute also belongs to the European Ideas Network of the EPP Group in the European Parliament and its long-standing cooperation partners include Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Robert Schuman Foundation, International Republican Institute, and National Endowment for Democracy.

**Demokratinės Politikos Institutas (DPI)**  
J. Savickio str. 4, 01108 Vilnius, Lithuania  
T. +370 62090592 - F. +370.5.278.4914 - [info@dpi.lt](mailto:info@dpi.lt) - [www.dpi.lt](http://www.dpi.lt)



JARL  
HJALMARSON  
FOUNDATION

## Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation

Created in the aftermath of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Iron Curtain, the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation promotes co-operation and European development founded on freedom, democracy and market economy. Our means are education and information on democracy and European integration aimed at political parties and organizations. At present, the JHS work in the Balkans, the Caucasus region, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

**Jarl Hjalmarson Stiftelsen (JHS)**  
Stora Nygatan 30, Box 2080, 10312 Stockholm, Sweden  
T. +46.8.676.8000 - F. +46.8.676.8086 - E. [hjalmarsonstiftelsen@moderat.se](mailto:hjalmarsonstiftelsen@moderat.se)  
[www.hjalmarsonstiftelsen.se](http://www.hjalmarsonstiftelsen.se)



## Konrad Adenauer Foundation

The Konrad Adenauer Foundation is a political foundation with a strong presence throughout Germany with two conference centres and 16 regional offices as well as nearly 80 offices around the globe. Due to civic education programmes both at home and abroad the Konrad Adenauer Foundation promotes freedom and liberty, peace and justice. Furthermore, the Foundation works as a think-tank as well as a host of conferences on current political issues. In addition, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation grants scholarships and supports young people from Germany and beyond. The Foundation's most important goals are strengthening democracy, furthering European unification, improving transatlantic relations and deepening development cooperation.

**Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)**  
Klingelhöferstraße 23, 10785 Berlin, Germany  
T. +49.30.269.960 - E. zentrale-berlin@kas.de - www.kas.de



## Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy

The Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy (KKID) was established in January 1998. A non-profit organisation, the Institute was founded for the purpose of examining and analysing social, political and economic issues. The objective of the Institute is to contribute to the advancement of democracy, civil liberties and private enterprise, while remaining committed to development and social cohesion.

**Ινστιτούτο Δημοκρατίας Κωνσταντίνος Καραμανλής (KKID)**  
340 Syngrou Avenue, 2nd floor | 176 73 Kalithea, Greece  
T. +30.210.725.7495 - F. +30.210.725.7510 - E. info@idkaramanlis.gr  
www.idkaramanlis.gr



## Kós Károly Academy Foundation

The general objectives of the Kós Károly Academy Foundation are the following: to support the modernisation process of the centre right, to consolidate and develop the Romanian democracy, to protect the rights of the national minorities and to organise activities that target the development of human resources and education more efficiently. Other specific objectives range from elaborating and coordinating programs concerning scientific research and education, supporting activities regarding the protection, preservation and development of the national minorities' identity in Romania, as well as elaborating and applying strategies that regulate the protection of the national minorities' individual and collective rights and providing scholarships and training courses.

**Kós Károly Akadémia (KKA)**  
Str. Ulciorului nr. 4, 540099 Târgu Mureş, Romania  
T./F. +40.265.210.020 - E. koskarolyakademia@gmail.com  
www.koskarolyakademia.ro



## Luigi Sturzo Institute

The Luigi Sturzo Institute (ILS), founded in 1951, is a cultural foundation committed to the preservation and valorisation of Christian Democratic cultural heritage. Based in Rome, the ILS organises training activities and research on historical, sociological, political and economic topics. Its archives hold over 4,550 documents as well as iconographic, photographic and audiovisual materials concerning the history of the Catholic movement. The library, specialised in social sciences and modern and contemporary history, holds about 130,000 volumes and more than 600 journals.

**Istituto Luigi Sturzo (ILS)**  
Via delle Coppelle 35, 00186 Rome, Italy  
T. +39.06.684.04.21 - E. infopoint@sturzo.it - www.sturzo.it

## Inštitút Mateja Bela Bél Mátyás Intézet

### Matthias Bel Institute

The Matthias Bel Institute is the political foundation of the Most-Híd Party, Slovakia. Its goal is to promote the idea of a civic Slovakia through political education and debate. It was established in February 2014. Its activities include seminars, conferences, discussions and roundtables which are aimed to educate the party members or to discuss current issues with the general public. The Institute also provides Most-Híd with strategic documents, manuals and publications.

**Inštitút Mateja Bela – Bél Mátyás Intézet (IMB – BMI)**  
Trnavská cesta 37, 831 04 Bratislava, Slovakia  
E. [institutmatejabela@gmail.com](mailto:institutmatejabela@gmail.com) - [belmatyasintezet@gmail.com](mailto:belmatyasintezet@gmail.com)  
[www.imb-bmi.org](http://www.imb-bmi.org)



### Miquel Coll i Alentorn Institute for Humanistic Studies

The aim of INEHCA is to be a space for dialogue, open to everybody, where everybody can express their ideas, their convictions, their reflections and ideas with full freedom, in order that we may all move forward together in the gradual development of individual and collective human rights, for the good of humanity and world peace.

**Institut d'Estudis Humanístics Miquel Coll i Alentorn (INEHCA)**  
Carrer de Nàpols 35-39 / 08018 Barcelona, Spain  
T. +34.93.486.97.54 - F. +34.93.486.41.92 - E. [secretaria@inehca.cat](mailto:secretaria@inehca.cat)  
[www.inehca.cat](http://www.inehca.cat)



### New Initiatives Centre

Since 2011, the New Initiative Centre founders and staff have been organising political trainings for different target groups, which aim at promoting political participation, as well as inter-ethnic and inter-party dialogue and cooperation. With the support of eminent foundations, young leaders have had the chance to participate in numerous skills-based seminars and trainings. As a result, a network of aspiring politicians from the SDA, PDP, HDZ BiH and HDZ 1990 (all EPP member parties from Bosnia and Herzegovina) has been created. The goal of this network is to promote progressive and reformist policies, as well as constructive dialogue that transcends ethnic and partisan lines

**Centar za nove inicijative / Центар за нове иницијативе (CNI)**  
Olimpijska 35, 71000 Sarajevo, BA – Bosnia and Herzegovina  
T. +387.33.296.306 - E. [info@cni.ba](mailto:info@cni.ba)  
[www.cni.ba](http://www.cni.ba)



### Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party

The Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party is the leading conservative think tank in Austria focusing on political education and research. The Political Academy is committed to fulfilling the role of a meeting place and discourse medium for both national and international experts and representatives from various fields of policy-making, politics, science and research and diplomacy. A dense programme of activities such as panel discussions, workshops, conferences and public lectures as well as regular publications is aimed at informing and involving the public.

**Politische Akademie der ÖVP (PolAk)**  
Tivoligasse 73, 1120 Vienna, Austria  
T. +43.1.814.200 - E. [akademie@politische-akademie.at](mailto:akademie@politische-akademie.at)  
[www.polak.at](http://www.polak.at)



## Pro Patria Institute

Koolituskeskus Pro Patria was established in 1995 as a non-profit voluntary organisation which provides right of centre political, economic and general cultural education. Pro Patria Institute is the only organization attached to Pro Patria and Res Publica Union that provides political education for party members, and organises conferences and seminars for the wider public with an aim to promote the political programme of the party.

**Koolituskeskus Pro Patria**  
Kivisilla 4-9, 10145 Tallinn, Estonia  
T. +372.773.42.01 - F. +372.773.42.07 - E. [kaja.villem@irl.ee](mailto:kaja.villem@irl.ee)  
[www.propatria-instituut.ee](http://www.propatria-instituut.ee)



## Toivo Think Tank

The Toivo Think Tank is a non-profit foundation under Finnish law and is a separate legal entity from the National Coalition Party; it was founded in 1938 and has operated ever since (under the name of Kansallinen Kulttuurisäätiö until 2007). Toivo Think Tank is a foundation without individual members or member associations and is run by a board of six members from the National Coalition Party, universities and media. The think tank is responsible for organising the research activities of the party. The yearly research programme includes a member satisfaction survey, individual research studies ordered by party or parliamentary group and a joint research of the five largest parties on government success, citizens concerns, image of the party leaders and demographics of support for different political parties. Toivo publishes annually two to four research reports and several other policy papers and expert articles in the website on topics described in the annual action plan approved by the ministry of education and culture. Planning processes of publications usually contain work shops and conferences to release the results.

**Suomen Toivo Ajatuspaja**  
Runeberginkatu 5.b.7.krs, 00100 Helsinki, Finland  
T. +358 500 442 761 - E. [markku.pyykkola@toivoajatuspaja.fi](mailto:markku.pyykkola@toivoajatuspaja.fi)  
[www.toivoajatuspaja.fi](http://www.toivoajatuspaja.fi)



názory & vzdělávání

## TOPAZ

TOPAZ was founded in 2012 by the Czech conservative party TOP 09 and took on the role of its educational committee. Furthermore, it started to serve as a platform for organizing conferences and seminar for a broader public in order to present ideas and information related to conservative thinking. TOPAZ is fully party-based. The institute's board consists of TOP 09 officials. TOPAZ has organized numerous seminars targeted on educating party members and officials as well as a number of public conferences. TOPAZ also supplies its home party with publications, such as manuals, reports and policy briefs.

**Topaz**  
Újezd 450/40, 11800 Praha 1, Czech Republic  
T. +420.255.790.919 - E. [info@top-az.eu](mailto:info@top-az.eu)  
[www.top-az.eu](http://www.top-az.eu)





# Publications & Events

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As the political foundation of the EPP, the Martens Centre monitors, analyses and contributes to the debate relating to EU policy that is relevant for both experts and the broader European public. The six main research themes cover a wide range of specific political issues. Stemming from these themes, the Martens Centre produces research papers and policy briefs and organises events and conferences.

The first research theme, party structures and EU institutions, aims to explain EU policies to voters and covers matters such as the arguments, methods and funding of populist parties.

Economic and social policies is the second theme and focuses on the main issues related to economic growth and welfare. The Martens Centre aims to enhance the understanding of the structural elements and actors of the European and global economy. Having a clear picture of the multipolar global structure is the main priority.

The third theme, EU foreign policy, covers topics like the Arab revolutions, the European integration of the Western Balkans and Turkey's transformation and its implications for the EU.

The fourth research theme, environment and energy, aims to analyse the developments in environmental and energy policies, which have become a challenge for Europe's political and economic role on the world stage.

The fifth theme covers values and religion, tackling questions such as the future of Christian Democracy and secularisation of society.

The sixth theme involves new societal challenges, concerning immigration, domestic security and the relationship between the Internet and modern society.

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All Publications & Events  
available on  
[www.martenscentre.eu](http://www.martenscentre.eu)



2014

2015



**21**  
**.01**  
—

### Kyiv

Ivan Mikloš shared the Slovak experience of economic reforms with experts and business representatives.

**23**  
**.04**  
—

### Odesa

Janez Janša focused on EU integration, economic reforms and the reform of the military sector, providing best practices from Slovenia.

**12**  
**-14**  
**.05**  
—

### Lviv/Kyiv

Jan Krzysztof Bielecki lectured in major universities in the region and promoted reforms in the sphere of restructuring of state-owned enterprises and corporate governance among businesses and policy makers.

**10**  
**.11**  
**2014**  
—

### Kyiv

Mikuláš Dzurinda announced the initiation of the project and encouraged the reform process in Ukraine by meeting interested parties.

**23**  
**.02**  
—

### Dnipropetrovsk

Andrius Kubilius met representatives of local authorities, businesses and universities to discuss economic recovery, the role of SMEs and the implementation of the DCFTA with Ukraine.

**26**  
**.04**  
—

### Kyiv Marathon

Mikuláš Dzurinda formed a half marathon team with MEP Ivan Štefanec, MEP Dita Charanzova and Roman Babjak, European Commission, to participate in the Kyiv Half Marathon. This initiative showed solidarity with Ukrainians for the comprehensive reform process ahead.



2016



**01  
-03  
.07**  
—

### Kharkiv/Kyiv

Juhan Parts addressed the topics of anti-corruption, e-governance and taxation, providing good practices from Estonia. He met government officials, civil society representatives and business associations.

**12  
-14  
.10**  
—

### Kyiv

Ivan Kostov spoke on macroeconomic stabilisation and monetary policy in times of crisis in a series of meetings with experts and decision-makers. He also met leading think-tankers to discuss the Russian hybrid war.

**03  
-05  
.11**  
—

### Odesa/Kyiv

Alojz Peterle travelled to Odesa to share Slovenia's success story with EU integration. In Kyiv he discussed with business associations and government officials the DCFTA and the most urgent reforms for Ukraine.

**29  
-31  
.05**  
—

### Lviv/Kyiv

Leszek Balcerowicz provided expertise on the management of privatisation and the communication of reforms in times of transition. The visit included several academic lectures and meetings with civil society activists and the media in Lviv and Kyiv.

**16  
-17  
.09**  
—

### Kyiv

Einars Repse focused on the reforms in the banking sector, in a public debate with civil society, and delivered several media interviews.

**25  
.11**  
—

### Kharkiv

Mikuláš Dzurinda commented on the upcoming reforms on tax, decentralisation and public administration. He met local officials, representatives of the business community and students in Kharkiv.

#UkraineReforms campaign brings together the expertise of senior EU decision makers in support of the reform process in Ukraine.



*'The key to success for Ukraine is a combination of domestic reforms and a clear vision to join the EU. Macroeconomic stabilisation and fiscal consolidation are essential.'*

**Mikuláš Dzurinda**  
President of the Martens Centre, former Prime Minister of Slovakia



*'In order to implement reforms, you need several ingredients: a deep economic crisis, a good team in the government, and a set of political priorities for the reform process. Ukraine already has the first two. Now, it is time to get your priorities straight.'*

**Andrius Kubilius**  
Member of the Lithuanian Parliament, former Prime Minister of Lithuania



*'Partial reforms are even worse than no reforms at all. The more radical, deeper and complex the reforms are, the better for Ukraine.'*

**Ivan Mikloš**  
Member of the Slovak Parliament, former Minister of Finance of Slovakia



*'Ukraine needs radical reforms to allow for economic competition, including a clear separation of state and business. Only demagogues and populists can reject the effectiveness of liberal reforms.'*

**Leszek Balcerowicz**  
Former Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister of Poland, former President of the National Bank of Poland



*'It is factors like the highly-qualified workforce, the unique geographic location, natural resources, and big domestic markets that allow us to think positively about the future of Ukraine.'*

**Juhan Parts**  
Member of the Estonian Parliament,  
former Prime Minister and Minister of Economy  
and Communication of Estonia



*'Judging from the Slovenian experience, it is much easier to build up institutions from scratch, rather than trying to change people who are comfortable with keeping the existing system and status quo.'*

**Janez Janša**  
President of the Slovenian Democratic Party  
and former Prime Minister of Slovenia



*'Transition is always a painful process, but Ukraine needs to continue its political reforms. Their success will depend on reaching a public consensus on the steps to be taken.'*

**Jan Krzysztof Bielecki**  
Chairman of the Partners Board at  
EY Poland, former Prime Minister  
and Minister for the European  
Integration of Poland



*'Reforms are only done successfully in the times when it is impossible not to do them. Having a crisis is the best time for reforms.'*

**Ivan Kostov**  
Former Prime Minister and  
Minister of Finance of Bulgaria



*'There are four things that a nation needs to be successful: to be able to learn, to innovate, to promote free enterprise, and the rule of law.'*

**Einars Repše**  
Former Prime Minister of Latvia



*'When you do reforms, you need to convince the people that they will gain in the long run.'*

**Alojz Peterle**  
Member of the European Parliament,  
former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of  
Foreign Affairs of Slovenia





Web Show

# The Week in #60seconds

This year, the Martens Centre launched its own European political show by Roland Freudenstein, Policy Director of the Centre. Every week, particularly notorious news items were highlighted in the 60 seconds show. The faithful audience engaged on social media regularly to comment on the show, and there were two special editions: one during the sixth Transatlantic Think Tank Conference (TTTC) in Washington and the other during the EPP Congress in Madrid.



👁 Video Views

11448

+ 22%/2014

🕒 Minutes Watched

51221

+ 246%/2014

⌚ Av. Watching Time

4:28m.

+ 182%/2014





Publication

# 2015, the Renaissance of the West



## 02 .15 — **The Renaissance of the West: How Europe and America Can Shape Up in Confronting Putin's Russia.**

by Roland Freudenstein and Ulrich Speck

The West is being challenged in an unprecedented way: as crises and conflicts multiply in the eastern and southern neighbourhoods of the EU, terrorist movements, authoritarian regimes and especially a newly aggressive, fundamentally antagonistic Putin's Russia are threatening the core values as well as the cohesion of the West. But the West is stronger than it looks and has lost none of its normative attraction to democrats across the globe or the subversive power that authoritarian regimes fear. A West that is rising to the challenges can open the way to a bright future: a Western Renaissance.

The confrontation with a newly aggressive Russia is the most severe test. The EU has to bury the idea of a modernisation partnership with Russia as long as the Putin regime is in power, let go of its Russia First approach, engage massively on reform in Eastern Europe and learn to accept the reality of a substantial conflict with Russia.

The EU as an organisation must become stronger economically, streamline its decision-making structures and improve its security and defence policy while intensifying links with NATO. It has to reform its eastern neighbourhood policy and reduce its energy dependence on Russia. NATO members will have to increase defence spending, reform structures and find new answers to the challenge of hybrid warfare. EU member states will also have to find answers to the growing Russian propaganda and information warfare.

Transatlantic relations remain the foundation of the global liberal order. They have to be strengthened and put on a more strategic basis. This includes much more determination on both sides to make the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership a success. But it also implies better burden sharing, with Europe assuming more responsibility in security and strategy, and improved Euro-American coordination in global democracy support.



Event

# Towards a Transatlantic Renewal

## The Transatlantic Think Tank Conference

07  
.15

From 15 to 17 July, the Martens Centre, together with the European Ideas Network, the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the Hudson Institute, held the sixth Annual Transatlantic Think Tank Conference in Washington, DC. The event brought together high-level think tankers, experts, policymakers and other stakeholders from both sides of the Atlantic to discuss important themes in transatlantic relations.

The sixth Transatlantic Think Tank Conference addressed the many challenges the transatlantic alliance needs to tackle. In his opening statement, Ambassador Mark Green, President of the International Republican Institute, highlighted that democracy and human liberty are threatened and called upon the West to defend its standards and lead by example. He was joined by Kenneth Weinstein, President and CEO of Hudson Institute, who criticised US President Barack Obama's unilateral decision-making and action, and advocated for strengthening the friendship with Europe. President of Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, Mikuláš Dzurinda, said that the success of the West and its institutions is being challenged in unprecedented ways by Russia's invasion in Ukraine and the conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa, and urged to defend a framework in which human rights, democracy and rule of law can thrive.

### Session 1: State of the Unions.

This session provided an update on current political developments from both sides of the Atlantic. The first half consisted of a state of play on the US economy and politics, and the state of debates in the Republican Party, followed by a Q&A on the US. The second half of the session was devoted to the important developments in the EU member states and the EPP, and was concluded with a Q&A on Europe.

Moderator:

**Mikuláš Dzurinda**

President, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

### 30 minute Special on Brexit—scenarios on the UK's EU departure

#### **Christopher DeMuth**

Distinguished Fellow, Hudson Inst.; former President American Enterprise Inst.

#### **Barry Jackson**

Managing Dir., Lindsey Group; Strategic Advisor, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

#### **Antonio López-Istúriz**

Member of the European Parliament; Secretary-General, EPP; Treasurer, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

#### **Paulo Rangel**

Member of the Eur. Parliament; Chairman, European Ideas Network; Vice-Chair, EPP Group

#### **Pantelis Sklias**

Head, Academic Council, Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy

#### **Alan Mendoza**

Executive Director, Henry Jackson Society

#### **David McAllister**

Member of the European Parliament; Chair, Delegation for Relations with the US

## Session 2: Turning Turkey: How to engage Turkey again with the West?

Turkey, once leaning towards Western-style democracy in a largely dictatorial region, now challenges its relationship with the US and the EU. The country seems to be turning away from Western values, and under the leadership of President Erdogan, Turkey's freedom of speech and media have been curbed. How much of a friend is Turkey still? How much influence does Turkey have in the region? How can we get Turkey back 'on our side'?

Moderator: **Eva Gustavsson**  
Managing Director, Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation

## Session 3: Intelligence Cooperation

The Snowden revelations of 2013 have wreaked the biggest havoc in transatlantic relations since the 2003 crisis over the Iraq War. Especially in Germany, but also in EU institutions (notably the European Parliament), the collection of data by US agencies such as the NSA has made public opinion wary of any deeper cooperation with the US. Data privacy has become a major European demand in the TTIP negotiations. And yet, intelligence cooperation is key to a successful Western answer to the major threats from Russia and jihadist terrorism. How can Europeans and Americans square the circle and safeguard fundamental civil rights while maintaining and enhancing the West's capacity to collect intelligence on future threats?

Moderator: **Kenneth Weinstein**  
Director and CEO, Hudson Institute

## Session 4: Transatlantic Economic Relations: TTIP's final hurdles

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) aims to remove the last remaining trade barriers between the world's two largest economies—the EU and the US—and lead to a common regulatory framework. However, the level of opposition in Europe to such an agreement has increased significantly with debate focusing on the proposed Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism, issues concerning data protection and the general notion that the US has no such thing as consumer protection. The anti-TTIP campaign is well-structured, largely emotional and driven by anti-American sentiment. In the US, more advanced negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement are taking precedence, since President Obama gained 'trade promotion authority' to expedite the process. What are the implications of the current transatlantic political climate for TTIP? Will the TTIP process be slowed by the forthcoming US presidential election? What can both sides do to bring this process to fruition?

Moderator: **Tomi Huhtanen**  
Executive Director, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

### Dinner: Conversation on the Future of the West

Thursday 16 July 2015: Opening

**Eric Brown**  
Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute; Co-Editor,  
*Current Trends in Islamist Ideology*

**Denise Natali**  
Senior Research Fellow, Institute for National  
Strategic Studies

**Pantelis Sklias**  
Head, Academic Council, Konstantinos Kara-  
manlis Institute for Democracy

**György Schöpflin**  
Member of the European Parliament; Member,  
Foreign Affairs Committee

**Mike Pompeo**  
US Congressman, senior member,  
House Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence

**Antonio Tajani**  
Member of the European Parliament; Vice-  
President, European Parliament; former Vice-  
President, European Commission

**Daniel Caspary**  
Member of the European Parliament; EPP  
Coordinator, International Trade

**John Bruton**  
Former Prime Minister of Ireland

**Craig Kennedy**  
Founder, Creative Engagement, former Presi-  
dent of the German Marshall Fund  
of the US

**John G. Murphy**  
Senior Vice President for International Policy,  
US Chamber of Commerce

**Gérard Araud**  
Ambassador of France to the United States

**David Rothkopf**  
CEO, *Foreign Policy Magazine*

**Ambassador Mark Green**  
President, International Republican Institute

**Paulo Rangel**  
Member of the European Parliament;  
Chairman, European Ideas Network;  
Vice-Chair, EPP Group

## Session 5: Getting Our Act Together: A counter-narrative for Putin's war

Since Putin came to power, Russia has engaged in an undeclared war against the liberal values which underpin Europe's peace and prosperity and has threatened the security of NATO allies. Hybrid warfare, weaponised information, anti-Western ideology, support for radical political movement in the West and threats with nuclear war mark the Kremlin's new methods. How can the West shape up and meet this challenge? How should the West structure its future relationship with Russia? How can the West provide a strong counter-narrative?

Moderator: **Stephen Nix**  
Director for Eurasia, International Republican Institute

**Mikuláš Dzurinda**  
President, Wilfried Martens Centre  
for European Studies

**Sandra Kalniete**  
Member of the European Parliament;  
Vice-Chair, EPP Group

**Jeffrey Gedmin**  
Former President, Radio Free Europe/  
Radio Liberty

**David J. Kramer**  
Director for Human Rights and Democracy,  
McCain Institute

## Session 6: Power Politics in the MENA Region

In the Middle East and North Africa, the West is facing a myriad of challenges that it will have to address in order to protect its democracies and values. The jihadist terrorism of the Islamic State, civil wars in Syria, Libya and Yemen, and the threat of a nuclear Iran require a strong West. Would this imply that the US and Europe need one single approach, or can they—equally strong—follow their own approaches in order to achieve the world order envisioned by the West? How can the West help our partners in the region, improving governance and combining stability requirements with democratic principles?

Moderator: **Werner Fasslabend**  
President, Political Academy

### Opening

**Michael Benhamou**  
Visiting Fellow, Wilfried Martens Centre  
for European Studies

**Michael Doran**  
Senior Fellow on Middle East Security Issues,  
Hudson Institute

**Elliott Abrams**  
Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies,  
Council on Foreign Relations

**Davis Lewin**  
Deputy Director and Head of Policy Research,  
Henry Jackson Society

**Kenneth Weinstein**  
President and CEO, Hudson Institute

**Mikuláš Dzurinda**  
President, Wilfried Martens Centre for Euro-  
pean Studies

## Session 7: The Importance of Economic Growth Strategies to the Transatlantic Relationship

The EU and the US are the world's two largest economies and they are deeply intertwined. Their problems easily feed into each other and have an enormous impact on global economic performance. For this reason, a failure of policy makers on both sides of the Atlantic to address, debt, financial fragility and the job crisis, pose the most acute challenges to the global economy. Although there are many nuances in addressing economic challenges, what are the simple but critically important differences that lead a policy measure to succeed or fail? This session will provide an open space for a genuine exchange of ideas on the implications of different models and policies that were put in practice on one or another side of the Atlantic. It will also identify policies and measures to increase EU-US trade and investment to support mutually beneficial job creation, economic growth and international competitiveness.

Moderator: **Christopher Sands**  
Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute

**Michael Benhamou**  
Visiting Fellow, Wilfried Martens Centre  
for European Studies

**Michael Doran**  
Senior Fellow on Middle East Security Issues,  
Hudson Institute

**Elliott Abrams**  
Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies,  
Council on Foreign Relations

**Davis Lewin**  
Deputy Director and Head of Policy Research,  
Henry Jackson Society

## Session 8: Pivoting to Asia together

China's remarkable economic growth has been one of the most significant trends in recent years—although somewhat receding recently. As China may overtake the US as the world's largest economy and in military expenditure, the global balance of power appears to be altering considerably. Can a powerful 'Middle Kingdom' be accommodated within the international system, or are we witnessing a shift in the global order? Can Chinese success be maintained within its authoritarian system, and does its success challenge Western liberal democratic values on the global stage? How would a Chinese slowdown, or increased domestic political tensions, affect the world?

Moderator: **Roland Freudenstein**  
Policy Director, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

### Wrap up Session

### Dinner: The beginning of the US presidential campaign

**Michael Pillsbury**  
Senior Fellow and Director for Chinese Strategy, Hudson Institute

**Olin Wethington**  
Atlantic Council Fellow, former U.S. Government Special Envoy on China and IRI Board member

**Raquel Vaz-Pinto**  
Chair, Editorial Board, Amaro da Costa Institute

**Benjamin Haddad**  
Research Fellow, Hudson Institute

**Paul McCarthy**  
Deputy Director Europe, IRI

**Frank Fahrenkopf**  
Founder and Co-Chairman, Commission on Presidential Debates; former Chairman, Republican National Committee

## Session 9: Meeting

With: **Kate Simmons**  
Associate Director Research; Co-author Global Trends and Attitudes Survey on NATO and Ukraine Pew Research Center

## Session 10: Meeting

With: **Sean Cairncross**  
Chief Operations Officer Republican National Committee





# It's Our Job

Reforming Europe's  
Labour Markets

von **Oliver** und **Siegfried Munnich**





Publications

# Research: Publications over 2015

## 02 .15 — **The Renaissance of the West: How Europe and America Can Shape Up in Confronting Putin's Russia**

by Roland Freudenstein and Ulrich Speck

Recently, the West has been challenged on many fronts: crises multiply in the eastern and southern neighbourhoods of the EU, terrorist movements gain traction in the Middle East and authoritarian regimes such as a newly aggressive, fundamentally antagonistic Russia are threatening the core values as well as the cohesion of the West. This research paper argues that, by countering the threat posed by Putin's Russia, we can achieve a stronger transatlantic relationship that will ultimately lead to a Renaissance of the West and serve as foundation for a continued global liberal order.



## 04 .15 — **Dawn of the Drones: Europe's Security Response to the Cyber Age**

by Henna Hopia

In the twenty-first century, Europe faces disruptive technological developments that have an immediate impact on its societies. The history of mankind has seen several of these disruptions, such as the inventions of gunpowder, aircraft, tanks, weapons of mass destruction and missiles.

Remotely piloted aircraft systems and cyber technologies pose the newest technological challenges of our time and this research paper provides answers to how the EU and its member states should deal with them.

Through assessing the political and legal status quo, the author analyses how these technologies can be used and addresses concerns, such as privacy and the applicability of international law.



05  
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## It's Our Job: Reforming Europe's Labour Markets

by Eoin Drea and Siegfried Mureşan

- The creation of jobs across Europe remains a key economic and social challenge for the EU. Given the negative impact of the financial crisis on European citizens, the EU's ability to promote effective job creation policies will be viewed as a major success of the wider integration process.

In this context, a new approach is required to provide a growth-based strategy for creating employment across Europe. What is required is an achievable strategy based on the realities of modern EU labour markets. This research, based on an analysis of six member states, provides a set of recommendations designed to reflect the current characteristics of the EU labour markets. This research concludes that:

- EU employment policies should be simplified and better coordinated;
- Clearly defined actions should be introduced to further improve labour mobility;
- The focus of policymaking should be switched from combating unemployment to creating jobs;
- It is possible to finance the recovery by bridging the gap between investment and reform.



05  
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## An Unholy Alliance: The European Far Right and Putin's Russia

by Antonis Klapsis

European far-right parties have developed close relationships with Russia, based both on ideology and strategy. These parties see in President Vladimir Putin the model of a strong, conservative leader who defends traditional values and opposes the decadent West. Since most far-right parties are at the same time anti-American and against European integration, they also see a close relationship with Russia as a necessary foothold in order to achieve the gradual disassociation of their countries from Euro-Atlantic institutions. The Kremlin views these parties as possibly being useful to expand Russia's geopolitical influence. This unholy alliance should be emphasised and condemned more often in Europe.



06  
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## Muzzling the Bear: Strategic Defence for Russia's Undeclared Information War on Europe

by Salome Samadashvili

Since Putin came to power, Russia has engaged in an undeclared war against the liberal values underpinning the peace and prosperity of Europe. Russia's information warfare capability constitutes an integral part of Russia's new strategy for 'hybrid' or 'non-linear' warfare. This strategy uses military, criminal, intelligence, business, diplomatic, media, cyber and political means to achieve Russia's goals.

This paper analyses the main elements of Russia's vast, well-integrated and well-organised information warfare capabilities. It also deciphers the main messages of Russia's propaganda machine in the West, concentrating on Russia's efforts to undermine faith in liberal values and legitimise its claim to former constituent parts of the USSR. The paper examines how Russia is using its allies in European business and political circles to spread its message. It also provides recommendations for policymakers and non-governmental actors, with a view to countering Russia's propaganda. Europe is at war—an information war. Like any other war, this requires a defence strategy.



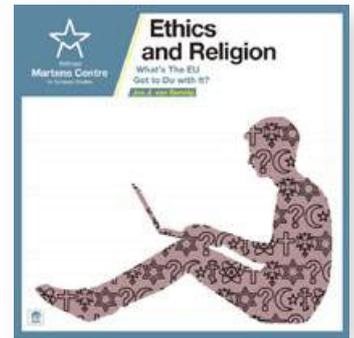
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## Ethics and Religion: What's the EU Got to Do with It?

— by Jos J.A.M. van Gennip

This paper contends that, contrary to the prevailing opinion, the EU is highly relevant to the issues of ethics and religion. Although policy matters should be dealt with at the lowest possible level, some are best dealt with by a common approach at the EU level of decision-making. In examining areas such as ethics and the economy, human rights, multiculturalism and the relationship with the Orthodox churches, the paper applies the tests of subsidiarity and centre and centre-right values. It also looks at areas that represent 'unfinished business' for the European People's Party (EPP), including socio-economic and socio-cultural questions and the notions of social market.

The author argues that member states and member parties of the EPP should lead the debate on ethics, values and religion. Within the atmosphere of pluralism, dialogue and tolerance, the EPP should continuously cherish its Christian roots and values while responding to the economic, social and cultural realities of the day. The party should also leave enough room for those that belong to non Christian religions and have other beliefs and convictions.



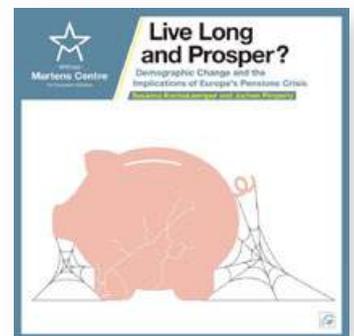
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## Live Long and Prosper? Demographic Change and Europe's Pensions Crisis

— by Susanna Kochskaemper and Jochen Pimpertz

The recent financial and economic crisis has exacerbated the funding shortfalls of Europe's public pension systems. However, although the ageing of Europe's population is a general trend observable in all member states, its scale and timing will impact differently on a national level. By analysing demographic trends and utilising a case study approach, this research highlights the challenges facing national pension systems in the years ahead. Politically, it will be on the basis of national preferences that further pension system reform will occur in the future.

With this in mind, it is too narrow-minded to take a solely fiscal perspective from which to develop European reform strategies which meet the requirements for both fiscal balance and sustainable public pension systems. Therefore, the EU should support national reform strategies by monitoring public pension reforms as well as improving the single market. However, public pension policy should remain a national competence. In addition, the examples of the Italian and British case studies highlight that long term pension reform should be innovative and involve public, occupational and private elements.



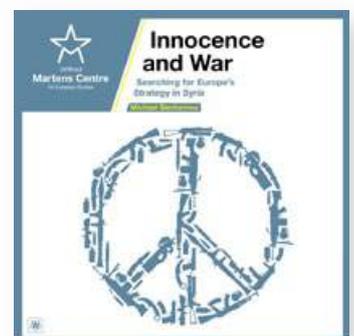
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## Innocence and War: Searching for Europe's Strategy in Syria

— by Michael Benhamou

After four years of war, Syria threatens the balance of its neighbours and the security of the entire Mediterranean basin. Europe's interests are directly at stake in a conflict where it did not have the appropriate tools to react with at first: long procedures, a lack of cohesion between EU institutions, an absence of military culture in a country that shows no sign of appeasement and the inability of EU Member States to define a joint stand in the Middle East are fair criticism of Brussels' performance.

And yet, more than four billion euros were spent to heal wounds and help suffering communities while EU diplomats try to bring all sides to the negotiating table. With regional powers such as Russia, Iran, Turkey or Saudi Arabia playing on opposite sides, it appears that no factions can reach a decisive victory on the ground, as Bashar Assad, the Islamic State and the Syrian opposition are holding on against each other. Europe learned from the conflict's dynamics and adapted its own foreign instruments to this violent context, notably in support of partners and civil society groups.





02  
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**Ukraine after Minsk II  
In Focus: The Military  
Situation on the Ground**

by Roland Freudenstein and Viktor Artemenko

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**TTIP In Focus:  
11 Myths Exposed**

by Eoin Drea

05  
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**Politics of Identity  
In Focus: What Next  
after Multiculturalism**

by Vít Novotný

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**Brexit In Focus:  
Six Ways it Will  
Fundamentally  
Change the EU**

by Roland Freudenstein

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**Seniors in the 2014  
European Parliament  
Elections: Turnout,  
Voting Intentions and  
Representation**

by Lawrence Cappelle, Gilles Pittours and Steven Van Hecke

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**Caught in the Act:  
Proof of Russian  
Military Intervention  
in Ukraine**

by Adam Čech and  
Jakub Janda

09  
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**Greece In Focus:  
Between farce and  
tragedy: Four realities of  
Syriza in power**

by Eoin Drea and  
Panagiotis Tasiopoulos

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**The Refugee Crisis  
In Focus: Towards  
Better Cooperation  
Between Europe's  
National Governments**

by Vít Novotný

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**Russia's Downfall:  
The Worst Economic  
Crisis Since the Collapse  
of the USSR**

by Vladimir Milov



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Events

# Food for Thought

In 2015, the Martens Centre continued in its Food For Thought Series, lunchtime seminars that brings together high-level speakers from the world of politics, academia and business. Comprising of 10 events, the series discussed international political developments.



## 16 05 .15

### Moldova 2015: Moving West?

The panel consisted of Mihaela Spataru, a prominent Member of Parliament for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova; Rudie Filon, Team Leader for Relations with the Republic of Moldova and Georgia at the EEAS and MEP Siegfried Mureşan, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Budget in the European Parliament and Spokesperson of the European People's Party. The debate was moderated by Roland Freudenstein, Policy Director of the Martens Centre.



## 12 05 .15

### Consequences of the UK General Election for Britain's Future in Europe

On 12 May 2015, the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies in conjunction with the EPP's European Ideas Network (EIN) organised a debate on the UK general election outcomes and Britain's future in Europe. Over 60 people were in attendance at the European Parliament in Brussels. The panel comprised Paulo Rangel, MEP; Andrew Duff, MEP (UK ALDE); Dirk Hazell of the Four Freedom Party (UK EPP); Mairead McGuinness, MEP (Irish EPP); Tomi Huhtanen, Executive Director of the Wilfried Martens Centre and Roland Freudenstein, Policy Director of the Wilfried Martens Centre.



## 17 06 .15

### Skilled to Succeed: Harnessing the Potential of Digital Learning

The discussion, attended by over 50 people, was moderated by Eoin Drea, Research Officer at the Martens Centre and opened with a welcome address by Martens Centre's Executive Director Tomi Huhtanen.

In his introductory remarks, Tomi Huhtanen emphasised Europe's need to understand the educational benefits of the digital economy and the groundbreaking innovations that the Internet and new technologies can bring into the learning process.

Eva Paunova, MEP for the EPP Group, argued that Europe's educational model has to evolve and encompass e-skills in the learning process.

The second panellist, Director General of Digital Europe John Higgins, emphasised that academia, education and companies have to work together.

Juha-Pekka Nurvala, Political Adviser to the EPP, called for more involvement from industry and commitment from the EU political sphere to improve digital learning.



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## Crimea and Donbas: The Human Rights Situation on the Ground

The event was opened with a welcome address given by Mikuláš Dzurinda, President of the Martens Centre and former prime minister of Slovakia. He observed that the Ukraine war is not only a regional conflict, because it has potentially global consequences. He insisted that the humanitarian consequences of the war have so far been neglected by European public opinion because there is a lack of information, and stressed that the Martens Centre's objective was breaking this unacceptable silence. He also referred to the strong engagement of the Martens Centre to make the case for reforms in Ukraine and to ensure that a more stable and modern country emerges from the present crisis. The panellists were Maria Tomak, Anton Nagolyuk and Andrej Plenković, MEP.

Maria Tomak is a civil activist and journalist at the Centre for Civil Liberties, a human rights NGO based in Kyiv. She shared with the audience some results of her journalistic work documenting human rights violations (mostly kidnappings and torture) in Donbass and Crimea.

Anton Nagolyuk, a Ukrainian asylum seeker in Belgium, shared with the audience his difficult personal experience as a pro-Ukrainian activist. Anton was an active participant in the Euromaidan rallies that started in Donetsk on the same day as in Kyiv.

Andrej Plenković is a lawyer, diplomat and a Croatian Democratic Union politician. He is an MEP and served as Chair of the Delegation for the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Cooperation Committee. He reflected on what the EU and the international community can do to improve the situation on the ground and help find a solution to the crisis.



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## Croatia: Europe's Hidden Crisis

On 23 September 2015, the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies organised a panel discussion addressing the economic situation in Croatia as part of the Food for Thought country series. The discussion was attended by over fifty people and moderated by Dr. Eoin Drea, Research Officer at the Martens Centre.

The event was opened with a welcome address given by Tomi Huhtanen, Executive Director of the Martens Centre. He highlighted the fact that most events in Brussels focus on general issues or big countries, and that often times small and medium countries are often neglected even though their economies can have major effects on the European economy.

Ivana Maletić is a Croatian MEP. She gave a very in-depth look at the economic situation from just before the crisis to the present day.

Dr. Marina Tkalec, Research Associate and Editor of the Croatian Quarterly Economic Outlook, Institute of Economics, Zagreb, gave a presentation of the future prospects of Croatia.

Dr. Erik Gordy, Senior Lecturer in Southeast European Politics, University College London School of Slavonic & East European Studies, then portrayed the political situation in Croatia.



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### Europe's Senior Voters: Long Term Implications and Challenges for the Centre-Right

To mark the UN International Day of Older Persons on 1 October 2015, the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, in conjunction with the European Seniors' Union organised a panel discussion addressing the changing demographic in Europe and how as part of the Food for Thought series. The discussion was attended by over 40 people and moderated by Tomi Huhtanen, Executive Director of the Martens Centre. Speakers included:

Anne-Sophie Parent, Secretary General AGE Platform Europe

Heinz K. Becker, MEP, Secretary General of the Austrian Senior Citizens' Association

Nathalie Brack, Senior Research Fellow ULB

Gavrilo Nikolic, Former Project Assistant Belgrade EPC, 2015 Wilfried Martens Fund laureate KU Leuven. The conclusions were provided by Prof. Dr. Em. An Hermans, from the KU Leuven, President of the European Seniors' Union (ESU) and President of the CD&V-senioren.



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### Caught In The Act: Russia and the (Non-)implementation of the Minsk II Agreement

The discussion was attended by over 50 people and moderated by Roland Freudenstein, Policy Director of the Martens Centre.

The event was opened with a welcome address given by Tomi Huhtanen stating that the (Non-)implementation of the Minsk II agreement needs to remain on the EU agenda.

Jakub Janda, Deputy Director of the European Values Think-Tank presented the Martens Centre paper *Caught in the Act: Proof of Russian Military Intervention in Ukraine*.

Ilze Milta, a representative of the Russia and Ukraine Relations Section of the Political Affairs and Security Policy Division of the NATO International Staff, communicated the NATO perspective of the subject.

Ivanna Klympush-Tsyntsadze, a Member of the Ukrainian Parliament and Head of the Ukraine's Parliamentary Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly stressed the importance of having a continuous discussion on the Minsk II implementation process on the European level.

Balázs Jarábik, a Visiting Scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, provided an alternative perspective of the situation. He stressed that Ukraine is too fragile to implement the requirement of changing its constitution.



## 12 11 .15 — **New Election, New Turkey?**

The discussion was moderated by Tomi Huhtanen, Executive Director, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, and saw a lively discussion between:

Cristian Dan Preda, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair of the Subcommittee on Human Rights;

Serdar Yesilyurt, Executive Director of TUSKON EU Office

Amanda Paul, Senior Policy Analyst, European Policy Centre;

Ilija Vojnovic, Resident Country Director for Turkey, International Republican Institute



## 17 11 .15 — **The Refugee Crisis and the Future of the EU**

The discussion was attended by nearly fifty people and moderated by the Martens Centre's Vít Novotný.

Tomi Huhtanen, Martens Centre's Executive Director, opened the event by highlighting the hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants who have arrived to Europe by sea this year. The refugee crisis has become the latest in a series of existential challenges to the continent. Divisions between countries are beginning to emerge, between the North and South as well as between the West and the East.

Andrej Plenković, MEP, proceeded with the analysis of the situation in the newest member states and especially in Croatia (which joined the EU in 2013), where there is a huge influx of refugees as is also the case in neighbouring countries, such as Greece, Italy and Malta.

Artis Pabriks, MEP from Latvia, made his points both from a national and a general perspective. He stated that the EU has failed to handle the migration crisis. This was not a failure of immigration policy but of the EU's foreign and security policy.

Roland Freudenstein, Martens Centre's Policy Director, likened the current policies on the refugee crisis to the politics of the 1930s. Then, countries practiced 'beggar thy neighbour', self-centred attitudes that resulted in the prolongation of the economic crisis.

Carlos Coelho, MEP from Portugal, noted that we must realise how different the refugees and migrants are from one another. Nevertheless, the refugee crisis is a humanitarian crisis, not seen since the Second World War.



## 01 12 .15 — **Finland: From Boom to Bust and Back Again**

The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Eoin Drea, Research Officer, Martens Centre and saw the participation of the following speakers:

Henna Virkkunen, Member of the European Parliament;

Taneli Lahti, Head of Cabinet of Commission's Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis and Leo Baumann, Head of EU Representative Office, Nokia



Events

## Martens Centre sideline events at the EPP 2015 Congress Madrid

As in previous years, the Martens Centre organised a sideline programme of panels and workshops in the framework of the EPP 2015 Madrid Congress. The aim of these panels was to debate the hottest topics of the European agenda and discuss the policy solutions the centre-right political family can offer. Our series of panels and workshops included topics such as Brexit, political party reform, the threat of populism, and recent developments in Ukraine.



### 21 **Brexit? No, Bremain!**

10 **Moderated by Roland Freudenstein,**  
.15 Policy Director of the Martens Centre.

— On Wednesday, 21 October 2015, the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies organised a roundtable discussion entitled 'Brexit? No, Bremain!' on the margin of the EPP Congress in Madrid.

David McAllister, Member of the European Parliament and former Minister President of lower Saxony, delivered a short kick-off speech. McAllister – half Scottish himself but elected in Germany – argued that Britain is at times a difficult partner, but also a valuable one. He stressed that continentals should be aware that this important decision must be made by Britons and they



should avoid taking a negative or moralising posture when contributing to the debate ahead of the referendum.

Esperanza Aguirre, President of Madrid's Partido Popular and former President of the Madrid Region, stressed that a 'Brexit' would be detrimental to values we should all hold very dear: the fight for more and better freedoms for all citizens as well as for free markets and less bureaucratic economies. Aguirre pondered over the reasons of the Tories' success with their electorate and concluded that the strongest is the growing feeling among citizens that EU institutions are in the hands of distant 'Eurocrats' whom they cannot control and know little about.

Thomas Spiller, President of the British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium, spoke from a business perspective. He said that membership of the UK in a reformed EU is vital for everybody, not just for the UK. The UK, he argued, is the most business-friendly country in the EU and we need the UK in to help us make the case for a more business-friendly EU as a whole.

Davis Lewin, Deputy Director and Head of Policy and Research at the Henry Jackson Society, offered the perspective of an expert with an excellent knowledge of British politics. He said that the way many continental Europhiles see Europe is not shared by most of the British electorate. He stressed that for the Conservative party the issue of EU membership is extremely divisive and emotional, and that the risks of an accidental Brexit evoked by David McAllister are indeed real.



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## Political Party Reform: Dealing with Twenty-first-Century Challenges

Moderated by Tomi Huhtanen,  
Executive Director of the Martens Centre

The workshop, organised on the sidelines of the EPP Congress in Madrid, focused on political party reforms. Ingrid Habets from the Martens Centre first presented the latest issue of the Martens Centre's European View journal, 'The Future of Political Parties'. Martens Centre's Tomi Huhtanen moderated the panel, in which the following participated: Gernot Maier from the Austrian People's Party, Nico Lange from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and Rien Fraanje from the CDA Research Institute. Brief presentations were followed by a discussion in the panel and contributions from the audience.

Political parties are being challenged by technological and societal changes. Lifetime membership and lasting party loyalties are diminishing, and citizens seem to be losing interest in traditional politics. The Internet is altering modes of political communication. A number of analysts observe that citizens are losing trust in politics. Despite these modern changes, parties are undergoing the established democratic process of winning and losing elections. The panel debated how to adapt to these many developments.



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## Russia and Ukraine: Is There Light at the End of the Tunnel?

Moderated by Roland Freudenstein,  
Policy Director of the Martens Centre

The breakfast panel on Russia and Ukraine was opened by the Martens Centre President Mikuláš Dzurinda. The subsequent panel, chaired by Martens Centre's Roland Freudenstein, was composed of Gabrielius Landsbergis, MEP (Lithuania), Vladimir Milov of the Democratic Choice Party, Russia, Volodymyr Arieiev, Party 'Solidarnist' Petro Poroshenko Bloc, Ukraine and Karel Schwarzenberg MP, TOP09 party, Czech Republic. Closing remarks were provided by Tomi Huhtanen of the Martens Centre.

Issues concerning the situation in Ukraine are many. They include the state of reforms in Ukraine, Russian policies in Ukraine and Syria, and policies of the EU. The panel mostly agreed on what needs to be done, although different speakers put emphasis on different points and there were some differing interpretations as well



## 22 10 .15 **Democracy under Assault: The Threat of Populism for Modern Societies**

**Moderated by Roland Freudenstein,**  
Policy Director of the Martens Centre

The event took place on the margin of the Madrid Congress of the European People's Party (EPP) in Palacio Municipal de Congresos from 11:15 to 13:00. After a brief welcome speech by Martens Centre Executive Director Tomi Huhtanen, Martens Centre President Mikuláš Dzurinda delivered a kick-off address in which he argued that the big challenges of recent years have given populist parties an opportunity to further their agenda and capitalise on the voters' discontent.

Martens Centre Policy Director Roland Freudenstein introduced the distinguished panellists and moderated the discussion. Erna Solberg, Antonis Samaras, Pablo Casado and Angelino Alfano shared their thoughts on the topic of populism.

Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway, argued that, however threatening for democracy, populist parties are in a way also a symptom that the policies of established parties are not fully accepted or understood by the electorate.

Antonis Samaras, former Prime Minister of Greece, argued that populism in Greece has been in power since January 2015 and displayed the best of its disruptive abilities, pushing a country on its way to recovery back into deep recession and financial disarray.

Pablo Casado, Vice Secretary of Communications of the Partido Popular and a Spanish Member of Parliament, contended that populism has a lot in common with communism in so far as it often exhibits collectivist tendencies and divides people into fictitious opposing categories. As populist parties bring about disasters when they reach power, Casado argued that it is the duty of People's Parties in Europe to prevent them from getting there.

Angelino Alfano, Interior Minister of Italy, explained that in Italy there are two varieties of populism: first, a populism axed around the antinomies corruption vs. honesty and status quo vs. radical change, best represented by the Five Stars Movements of former comedian Beppe Grillo; second, a far-right populism taking the French National Front as a model and taking radical anti-EU and anti-immigration positions.

The event was closed by EPP Secretary General and Martens Centre Secretary-Treasurer Antonio López Istúriz who criticised the aggressive and destructive tone of populists' communication and their questionable claim to be the sole legitimate representative of the people. He also referred to the damage that populism has made to democracy and prosperity in countries in which it was particularly successful and extreme, such as Venezuela.









Event on December 2nd 2015

# The Economic Ideas Forum 2015

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The Economic Ideas Forum (EIF) is an annual high-level conference that brings together economic experts, decision-makers and business leaders to discuss and consider innovative ideas and solutions to the economic challenges facing the EU today.

The Forum has so far been a roadshow affair, with previous editions successfully held in Bratislava, Helsinki, Dublin, London and Madrid. Organized by the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, the official think tank of the EPP, the aim of the EIF is to act as a laboratory for policy-oriented ideas.



*'We have stabilised the euro and carried out reforms. Now we need to focus on innovation for growth and the digital economy.'*

**Manfred Weber**

Leader of the European People's Party (EPP) Group in the European Parliament



### Digital Single Market (DSM): You snooze, you lose

The Commission's plans for a Digital Single Market featured prominently in the discussion and all speakers agreed that their successful implementation could be a game-changer for the future of the digital economy in Europe. According to one speaker, some EU member states still need to wake up from their 'digital snooze', otherwise the EU will continue to lag behind in digital innovation, most notably in comparison with the US. One big market, rather than 28 different ones will make Europe an investment and digital-friendly continent.

### Industry 4.0: Embrace, don't erase

As the birthplace of the industrial revolution, Europe has long relied on its industrial eco-system as a core economic strength. But the relative contribution of industry to the EU economy is declining. In response, we need to activate a new industrial revolution: we need to transform industrial production through the merging of digital technology, the internet and conventional industry. In an era where users take the driving seat, and the economy becomes an 'on demand' one, including the personalization and digitalization of products, the EU needs to provide a co-ordinated response on how to embed innovation at the core of Europe's industrial sector.



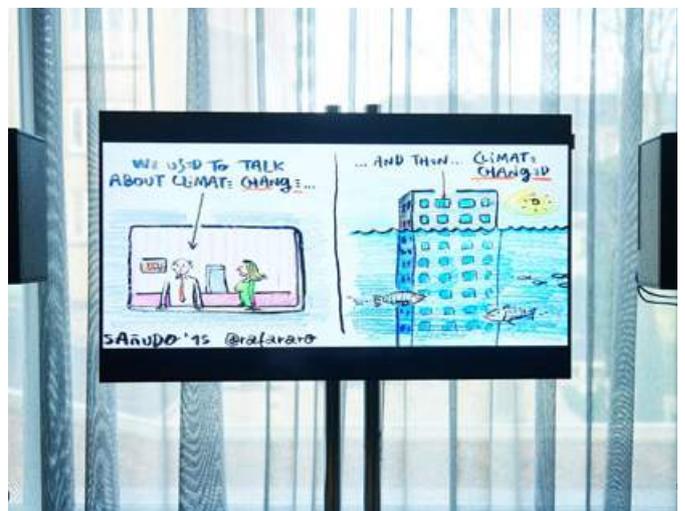


**Collaborative Economy:  
Disrupt yourself**

Revolutionising our economies and work habits, that's no modest ambition set out by the new, dynamic players that are part of the so-called collaborative economy. How about the more traditional players that are challenged in the process? They can use this as an opportunity to disrupt their own business models by adapting and borrowing practices from the newer players. This will lead to growth, lower prices for the consumer and increased efficiency in the utilization of resources.

**It's the (data-driven)  
economy, stupid!**

All the digital innovations discussed raised complex issues of data treatment, storage and protection. There was a general agreement that a balanced deal on data protection is a necessary prerequisite for the digital economy to fully accelerate in Europe. On the issues of data flows and 'safe harbor' the temptation to build walls around Europe should be avoided.





### **Energy Union: Don't rush to Russia**

In the energy field, speakers agreed that the objectives are security of supply, climate protection and the reduction of energy costs. The EU has gone a long way towards having a common policy to achieve these goals, but further steps will still be needed. Tackling the overreliance of some EU countries on external supply (i.e. Russian gas) can be achieved through a better connected European energy market, a stronger energy union and intelligent diversification. As for the latter, agreement on the importance and role of renewable energy sources was mixed with an acknowledgement that other complementary solutions should also be considered, including nuclear power.

### **COP21: Leader, not lonely front-runner**

With the EIF taking place just before the Climate Change Summit, the timing was right to underline that what was at stake in Paris was the future of Europe as a leader in clean energy. If an agreement was not reached, Europe could turn into a 'lonely front-runner', shouldering a disproportionate part of the burden in fighting climate change and losing its competitiveness to countries with laxer standards.



## Ukraine: Remain Calm – Now reform and support

The need for diverse and comprehensive reforms in Ukraine was best summarized by a speaker that urged for a 'Maidan in government structures', as well as de-regulation, privatization and an independent judiciary. In this, Ukraine should value the experiences of centre-right reformers from Central and Eastern Europe during the 1990s. In turn, Europe needs to avoid that Ukraine falls off the EU agenda and offer concrete rewards to encourage the reform process in the country, such as the concrete prospect of visa liberalisation.



Closing the event, Martens Centre Executive Director Tomi Huhtanen told the audience how, in previous years, 'financial crisis' and 'economic recovery' were the topics dominating the EIF discussions. This time around, new buzzwords such as 'collaborative economy', 'industry 4.0' and 'data-driven economy' took over the conversation. In a world where change seems to happen at an exponentially growing pace, 2016 is no doubt going to bring new, disruptive trends for the European economy. The Martens Centre will be there to discuss them as they happen, with a continued appetite for new ideas and concrete policy recommendations.





# Common Projects

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In 2015, the Martens Centre continued to expand its network of likeminded organisations which now include 30 member foundations and 15 official partners from 25 countries. The Martens Centre organised in cooperation with most of its member foundations and partners, a record number of successful events across Europe.

68 **Projects with  
Member Foundations**

72 **Projects with  
External Partners**



# Projects with Member Foundations

## Amaro Da Costa Institute (IDL)



### Around Books

January - December, Lisbon



### Lunch Lectures

January – December, Lisbon

## Anton Tunega Foundation (NAT)



### SEEF

January - November, Slovakia

## Association Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria (AGERB)



### An Energy Strategy For Europe – Diversification And Energy Security

26 May, Sofia



### Debate for the Future of the Political Parties

7 September, Sofia

## CDA Research Institute (WICDA)



### Growth and Jobs

7-April, The Hague



### 13th Norbert Schmelzer Lecture

22-April, The Hague



### The Urgency of Christian Democracy

7 October, Utrecht

## Croatian Statehood Foundation (ZHDZ)



### Creating Croatia – Short and Long-Term Policy Requirements to Strengthen Sustainable Growth and Employment in Croatia in the Context of the EU Membership

January-July, Zagreb

## De Gasperi Foundation (FDG)



### Asylum Seekers / Refugees in Italy Reception Centres and the Contexts of Reference

Rome



### The Arts of Politics:

#### Young people looking forward to the future

October-December, Turin, Lisbon and Rome

## Dr. Jože Pučnik Institute



### Leaders with a Purpose

11-July, Maribor



### The Slovenian Transversal of Democracy

22-24 September

Ljubljana, Klagenfurt, Vienna



### The Future of Slovenia's University System

9-December, Ljubljana



### Judicial Reform in Slovenia

15-December, Ljubljana

- 🗣️ **Culture and Creativity in Shaping A Common European Identity**  
21-December, Ljubljana
- 🎤 **The Role of Media in Slovenia**  
22-December, Ljubljana
- 🎤 **Knowledge Transfer Between the EU and the USA**  
22-December, Ljubljana

### European Academy for Democracy (EAD)

- 👥 **TTIP: Challenges and Perspectives**  
2 November, Prague

### Foundation for a Civic Hungary (PMA)

- 🔍 **Good Governance Index 2014**  
January – November, Budapest
- 🔍 **Immigration and the Refugee Crisis**  
September – December, Budapest

### Foundation for Social Research and Analysis (FAES)

- 📌 **European Political and Economic Integration as A Model for Latin America**  
20-26 September, Brussels

### Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSS)

- 🎤 **Greece After the Elections: What Next?**  
3-February, Brussels
- 🎤 **Serbia and Its Reforms Processes Towards the European Union**  
9-12 February, Brussels
- 🎤 **European Security and Relations with Russia**  
24-February, Brussels
- 🎤 **Local Government's Role In Promoting Economic Growth**  
25-May, Split
- 🎤 **The European Agenda Under Luxembourgish Presidency**  
24-June, Brussels
- 🎤 **Europe At Crossroads: Christian Democratic and Conservative Answers to European Challenges**  
24-September, Brussels
- 🎤 **New Security Challenges in Europe**  
29-31 October, Munich
- 🎤 **Live Long and Prosper? Understanding Europe's Pensions Crisis**  
10-November, Brussels
- 🎤 **The European Agenda Under the Dutch Presidency**  
11-December, Brussels

### Institute for Modern Slovakia (IPMS)

- 🔍 **Gathering Storm: Empowering Generation 30+**  
August-December, Slovakia
- 🎤 **Commemoration Day of the Velvet Revolution**  
17-November, Bratislava
- 🎤 **Europe Calling for Growth**  
February-December, Slovakia
- 👥 **Public Discussions on the first of May**  
1-May, Bratislava
- 🎤 **Central European Forum**  
16-17 November, Bratislava

### Institute for Popular Studies (ISP)

- 👥 **Communication Skills**  
April-December - Bucharest, Tulcea, Bacau
- 👥 **Democracy and Freedom of Information Seminar for Transylvania**  
8-10 May, Turda
- 👥 **The Leadership School**  
July-October, Bucharest, Turda, Marmatiei
- ⚙️ 🎤 **Best Practices in Municipal Government**  
18-September, Poiana Braşo
- 👥 **Liberal Women Can Help Romania**  
November, Arad, Craiova, Botosani
- 🎤 **Regional Security In Context of the Ukrainian Conflict**  
11-December, Bucharest

### Institute of Democratic Politics

- 📌 👥 **Young Leaders Academy**  
January-December, Vilnius
- 🎤 📖 **Pivot To Europe or Business As Usual? NATO and the New Strategic Reality after the Ukraine Crisis**  
4-November, Klaipeda

### Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS)

- 👥 **Visions and Wishes for Europe (I and II)**  
January-November, Prevalle, Struga, Ohrid, Bitola Prilep Kocani, Stip
- 🎤 **The Digital Century**  
24 February – 1 March, Brussels
- 👥 **London Debates**  
21-22 April, London

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 👥 <b>Seminar</b>        | 🎤 <b>Conference</b>    |
| 📖 <b>Publication</b>    | 🔍 <b>Research</b>      |
| 🗣️ <b>Lecture</b>       | 📌 <b>Training</b>      |
| ⚙️ <b>Workshops</b>     | 🎓 <b>Summer School</b> |
| 👁️ <b>Public Debate</b> |                        |

-  **Euro-Atlantic Integration of Montenegro**  
March-November, Kolasin
-  **War and Peace 1945-2010**  
5-6 May, Brussels
-  **Connecting the Dots of the Single Market 5-8 March, Zagreb**
-  **Digital Communication – New Challenges for Governments and EU Institutions**  
26-27 March, Sofia
-  **Strengthening Dialogues in Southeastern Europe Through the EU Integration Process**  
4-7 June, Prishtina
-  **GLOBSEC 2015**  
19-21 June, Bratislava
-  **Cathedra Adenauer**  
February-December, Skopje and Stip
-  **EuroMaidan – Two Years After**  
3-6 December, Kiev
-  **Youth for Growth: Strengthening Generation E**  
29 September- 4 October, Skopje
-  **Communicating Democracy – New Challenges for Political Parties**  
4-6 June, Bucharest
-  **3rd Summer School of Christian Democracy: Promoting Political Engagement of the Youth**  
6-11 September, Braşov
-   **The Black Sea Region – The Role of NATO and EU in the Wider Black Sea Region**  
9-10 September, Sofia
-  **The Refugee Crisis and its Implications for The European Union. Mapping the Right EU Policies.**  
16-17 November, Sofia
-  **Building Tomorrow's Digital Society**  
2-5 July, Barcelona
-  **Security Academy**  
15-17 October, Sliven
-  **The Challenges of TTIP: Where does Romania stand?**  
8-December, Bucharest
-  **Perception of Europe in Romania 2015**  
January-December, Romania
-  **United for the Better**  
January-December, Berlin
-   **Religion In Focus: Core Religious Issues in Contemporary Society**  
February-November, Belgrade

## Kós Károly Academy (KKA)

-  **Let's Find Out! A New Beginning of the EU Funding**  
April-September  
Cluj and Târgu Mureş, Satu Mare and Oradea
-  **EU Camp 2015**  
July-December, Bihor County
-  **Internal Communication and HR Management Training**  
11-13 December, Săvădisla
-  **Data Use for the Development of EPP Parties**  
27-29 November, Cluj-Napoca
-  **The 25 Years of Minority Protection Policy Making**  
January-December 2015, Transylvania
-  **Demographic Perspectives A projection of the Hungarian speaking population of Transylvanian for the time period between 2011 and 2031**  
January-December, Transylvania

## Matthias Bel Institute (MBI)

-  **The Future of Roma In An Intercultural Europe**  
29-October, Bratislava

## Miquel Coll i Alentorn Institute for Humanistic Studies (INEHCA)

-  **EU Academy 2014-Values and Politics**  
21-22 November, Barcelona

## Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party (POLAK)

-  **How Europe Works: A First-Hand Perspective on European Institutions 2015**  
March – October, Budapest
-  **European Forum: Current Security Policy Challenges for Europe 2015**  
May – December, Vienna
-  **Event Upon Day of Europe 2015**  
7-May, Vienna
-  **Seniors Summer Academy**  
3-5 July 2015, Vienna

## Pro Patria Institute

-  **20 Year Anniversary Conference of Pro Patria Institute**  
23-24 April, Tallinn

## Toivo

 **Earth, Wind and Fire?  
Elements of Sustainable Energy policy**  
16-April, Helsinki

 **Fortress Europe. Frustration at Our Borders**  
22-25 October, Malta

  **Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy**  
16-November, Helsinki

 **Growth and Jobs to Europe -  
With a little help from the TTIP?**  
17-December, Helsinki

## TOPAZ

 **Young Generation Conservative Politics**  
26-28 June, Prague

 **Leading Leaders: Enhancing Skills of Regional  
Opinion Makers**  
26-27 September, Prague

 **Digital Single Market in the EU  
and its advantages for the Czech Republic**  
1-October, Prague

 **Europe and Migration – Heritage of the 20th  
Century and Challenges of the 21st**  
2-October, Prague



- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Seminar       |  Conference    |
|  Publication   |  Research      |
|  Lecture       |  Training      |
|  Workshops     |  Summer School |
|  Public Debate |   |



# Projects with External Partners

## Antall József Knowledge Centre (AJKC)

- 🎤 **The Prospects of the EU and the Central and Eastern European Region in Light of the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century**  
12-May, Brussels
- 🎤 **Thoughts on Europe – The Legacy of the Founding Fathers in the Europe of Today**  
31-March, Brussels

## Center for European Affairs (CEA)

- 🎤 **TATRA SUMMIT 2015**  
4-6 November, Bratislava

## Central European Policy Institute (CEPI)

- 🐾 **An Energy Strategy for Europe: Diversifying Resources, Achieving Energy Security**  
April-Nov., Bratislava, Prague, Warsaw, Budapest

## European Values

- 🐾 **Gaining Votes Back from Populists**  
13-May, Brussels
- 🎓 **Summer Academy on the Islamic State and Counter Radicalisation**  
2-5 September, Prague

## Platform for a Sustainable Growth (PCS)

- 🔍 **Demographic Changes and Social Implications**  
July-December, Lisbon
- 🔍 **Game Changers II: Changing the Towards Competitiveness and Jobs**  
January-June, Lisbon

## Qvorum

- 🐾 **Training on The European Institutions**  
7-9 December, Brussels
- ⚙️ **Follow Up Event Training**  
14-15 December, Bucharest

## Robert Schuman Foundation

- 📄 **Schuman Report - State of the Union 2015**  
April, Paris, Brussels

## Sa Carneiro Institute

- 🐾 **A Stable Europe in a Changing World**  
14-15 May, Porto

## Slovak Atlantic Commission (SAC)

- 🎤 **Chateau Bela 2015**  
4-6 December, Chateau Bela

## Sofia Security Forum

-  **New Challenges to European Security – Refugee Flow, Integration, Radicalisation**  
03-December, Sofia

## Stream of Thought

-  **The Greek Political Economy 2000-2010: From Entering the EMU to Support Mechanism**  
August-December, Athens

## TalentBase

-  **Europe's Migration Crisis and Possible Short Term Solutions**  
22-Sep, Brussels
-  **EU-China Cooperation on Sustainable Development with Special Focus on Smart Cities**  
20-November, Brussels

## ThinkYoung

-  **Entrepreneurship Summer School 2015**  
13-17 July, Brussels
-   **The Skills Mismatch 2015**  
January – December, Brussels



- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Seminar       |  Conference    |
|  Publication   |  Research      |
|  Lecture       |  Training      |
|  Workshops     |  Summer School |
|  Public Debate |   |



# Outreach

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Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies



@MartensCentre



Martens Centre



Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

## Our Network

With more than **40 partner organisations** and over **100 yearly events** across Europe, we are continuously expanding our network and expertise.

We function as a pan-European platform for our member foundations, think tanks and experts from all over Europe that share our values and those of our political family. Working closely with national partners allows us to bring the European debate where it matters the most: closer to the European public.



## Our Strengths

10<sup>th</sup>

 Political Think Tank Worldwide

100+

 Events a Year

500+

 Speakers and Experts

40+

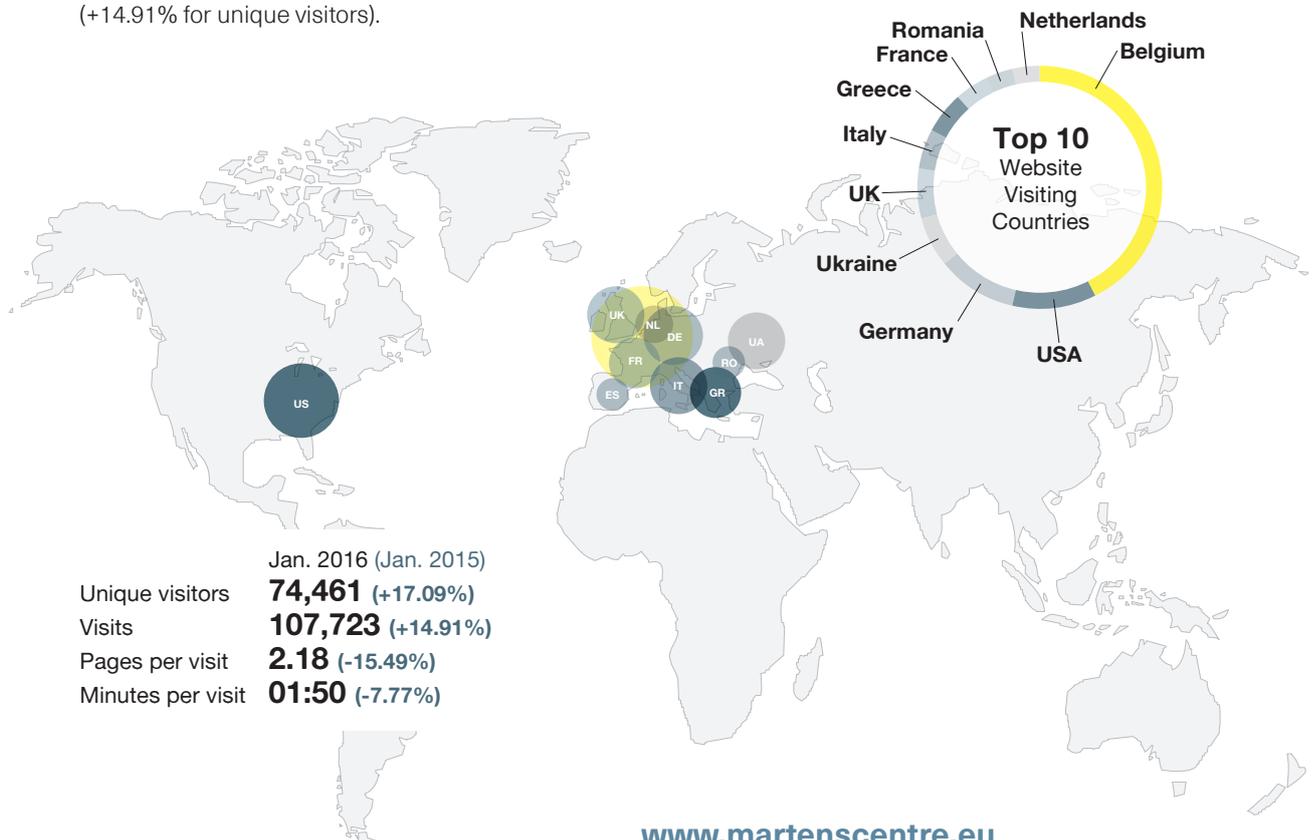
 Partners across Europe

## Website Visitor Trends

In 2015, the Martens Centre's website had a total of **74,461** unique visitors, a strong increase of **17.09%** from the previous year.

This increase is likely due to high traffic from Southern and Eastern Europe, on which we report and produce analysis regularly.

Web traffic continues to be high compared to the previous year (+14.91% for unique visitors).



## Social Media



52548

Facebook Likes

30445

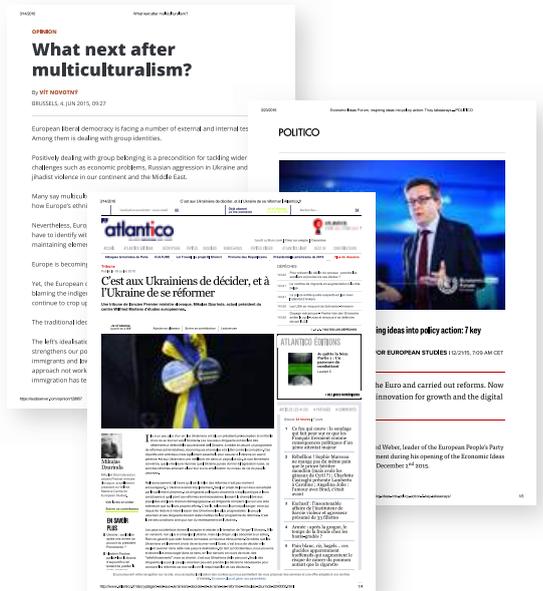
Followers

2101

Connections

## In the Press

In 2015, several **Martens Centre** experts were invited to be interviewed, to comment on current events and to speak at **high-level conferences**. This has resulted in a great **press impact** for the Martens Centre.



# Martens Centre Activity Report 2015

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