

# Activity Report

# 2010



Thinking Europe

## CREDITS

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**In Memoriam to**

**Dr. Peter Weilemann (1949-2010)**

# Table of Contents



# 5 WELCOME

# 7 ABOUT US

EXECUTIVE BOARD / ACADEMIC COUNCIL / RESEARCH ASSOCIATES / STAFF / VISITING FELLOWS / INTERNSHIP / INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

# 25 RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

**RESEARCH** RESEARCH PAPERS / POLICY BRIEFS

**REGULAR PUBLICATIONS** CES WATCH: EUROPE FROM THE CENTRE-RIGHT PERSPECTIVE / EUROPEAN VIEW / EUROPEAN FACTBOOK

**COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATIONS** THE EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY: SUCCESSSES AND FUTURE CHALLENGES / THE STATE OF THE UNION 2010 – SCHUMAN REPORT ON EUROPE / VOTERS OF THE CENTER-RIGHT PARTIES IN SLOVAKIA AND THE EU MEMBERSHIP / HEALTH CARE REFORMS IN AN AGEING EUROPEAN SOCIETY, WITH A FOCUS ON THE NETHERLANDS / APPLIED CHRISTIAN DEMOCRACY: THE RHINELAND MODEL

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS** EUROPE: I STRUGGLE, I OVERCOME / THE POWER OF FREEDOM: CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE AFTER 1945

# 43 EVENTS

**OUR EVENTS** ECONOMIC IDEAS FORUM / THE EU-US CENTRE-RIGHT THINK TANK CONFERENCE / TRANSATLANTIC TEST: WHAT SHOULD THE WEST DO WITH IRAN / CREATION OF A REAL GLOBAL MARKET: POST-CRISIS CHALLENGES / BALTIC FREEDOM: THE NEXT 20 YEARS

## COMMON PROJECTS OF CES WITH MEMBER FOUNDATIONS

CROATIA IN THE EU / THE INCLUSION OF THE ROMA IN A EUROPEAN DIMENSION / THE EUROPEAN COMMON POSITION ON CUBA / LATIN AMERICAN VISITORS' PROGRAM / SECURING EUROPE / FROM GERMAN UNITY TO UNITED EUROPE / ROMANIA'S ACCESSION INTO THE SCHENGEN AREA / WILFRIED MARTENS' BOOK PRESENTATION IN NORWAY / COMMEMORATION OF THE VELVET REVOLUTION / STRENGTHENING POLITICAL INTEGRITY WITHIN THE CENTER-RIGHT POLITICAL PARTIES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE / WILFRIED MARTENS' BOOK PRESENTATION IN GREECE / EU'S MACRO REGIONS / HEALTH POLICY IN EUROPE / THE ATLANTIC SEMINAR: UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL ISLAM IN EUROPE / EUROPE AND ITS REGIONS

# 85 CES ONLINE THINKINGEUROPE

# Welcome



2010 proved to be a successful, while at the same time challenging year for the European centre-right. While addressing challenges and struggles over a new model of economic governance and the future of the Eurozone, Europe had to accustom itself to the implementation of the Lisbon Treaty. The functioning of the European Union had been affected by the need for better cooperation between the institutions and had created many constructive debates in our society. The Lisbon Treaty reinforced the role of European political parties; therefore these parties and their foundations had to keep up their political efficacy and use to a larger degree the capacity for action and influence that the Lisbon Treaty gave them.

In view of reinforcing civil society and awareness about the EU, think tanks started to play a more significant role. The Centre for European Studies in cooperation with its member organisations had an impact on crucial political debates in Europe as well as on the citizens of Europe.

Through our successful activities in 2010 we made a further step in our ambitious path towards “thinking Europe”.





Keith Chrysler

Lindsay Lloyd

Frank White

Jim Patten

Chris...

# ABOUT US

EXECUTIVE BOARD

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

STAFF

VISITING FELLOWS

INTERNSHIP

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS



The Centre for European Studies (CES) is the official think tank of the European People's Party (EPP), the largest political organisation in Europe with 72 member parties from 39 countries, 19 Heads of State and Government, 13 European Commissioners, and the largest Group in the European Parliament, with 265 members. CES has become one of the major think-tanks in Brussels in just a few years of existence.

Our members are foundations, think tanks and individuals from all over Europe that share our values. Currently, CES has 19 member foundations in 17 Member States and 15 individual members.

The main bodies of CES are: the Executive Board, the Academic Council and the General Assembly, where all the individual members of CES and delegates of the member foundations are represented.

Our aim is to rethink politics, and by bringing together experts, academics, like-minded foundations and other think tanks from all across Europe and even beyond, to create a space for debate, exchange of views and ideas.

These discussions provide innovative ideas, original policy options and solutions which result in highest quality research papers for decision-makers and opinion leaders and conferences that bring Europe and European politics closer to the people.

The Centre for European Studies through its publications and events focused on the main European and global political issues from the point of view of the core values of the European People's Party family and European centre-right.

As such, CES organised more than 50 events across Europe. The events engaged citizens and political actors in serious, fruitful and stimulating debates on the key challenges and issues of today's Europe. The conferences also expressed an increasing need of mutual cooperation between political parties and foundations throughout Europe.



# Executive Board

The Executive Board of the Centre for European Studies is composed by a maximum of eight members - including its President and Secretary-Treasurer - elected by the General Assembly. The Executive Board manages the Centre, has all the competences which are not attributed to the General Assembly and has to convene at least twice a year.



**Wilfried Martens**  
President of CES

Wilfried Martens is the President of the Centre for European Studies. He has been the Prime Minister of Belgium nine times and has been EPP President since 1990. Mr. Martens was the Chairman of the Belgian CVP (now renamed Christen-Democratisch en Vlaams CD&V) from 1972 - 1979, sitting as a Deputy in the Belgian Chamber of Representatives from 1974 - 1991, and serving as a Senator from 1991- 1994. He was co-founder of the European People's Party (EPP) in 1976. From 1993 he was President of the European Union of Christian Democrats (EUCD), until its merger with the EPP. From 1994 - 1999, he was a Member of the European Parliament, chairing the EPP Group. From October 2000 to November 2001 he was also the President of the Christian Democrat International (CDI).



**Antonio López-Istúriz White**  
Secretary Treasurer of CES

Antonio López-Istúriz White is the Secretary Treasurer of the Centre for European Studies. He is also a Member of the European Parliament sitting in Committees on Legal Affairs and Foreign Affairs. Starting from 2002 he has been the EPP Secretary-General and beforehand he worked as an assistant to Prime Minister of Spain José María Aznar from 1999 - 2002. Since 2003, Mr. López-Istúriz White has been the Executive Secretary of the Centrist Democrat International. He is also a member of the National Executive Committee and Committee on External Policies of the Partido Popular. Antonio López-Istúriz White is a Patron of the European Studies Foundation. He is an Officer of the Order of Bernardo O'Higgins as well as of the order of the Star of Jordan.



## Joseph Daul

Joseph Daul has been the Chairman of the EPP Group in the European Parliament since 2007. He is a member of the French Union for a Popular Movement (UMP). Joseph Daul was elected Member of the European Parliament in 1999. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and as Chairman of the Conference of Committee Chairmen from 2002 - 2004. Previously he was a member of the Economic and Social Committee from 1980 - 1982 and the Chairman of the Meat Group of the Committee of Agricultural Organisations in the European Union from 1996 - 1999. He has been Mayor of Pfettisheim (Bas-Rhin) from 1989 - 2002, and is an Officer of the Agricultural Order of Merit, Knight of the National Order of Merit and Knight of the Légion d'Honneur.



## Raymond H.J.M. Gradus

Raymond H.J.M. Gradus is the Director of Wetenschappelijk Instituut voor het CDA (CDA Research Institute). He was a part-time Associate Professor at the Research Centre for Economic Policy at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam. He has been a Professor of Economics at the Free University in Amsterdam since 2004. He served as a Director of the Directorate for Financial and Economic Affairs of the Dutch Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment from 2003 - 2007 and Director of the Directorate for Forecasting and Analysis of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment from 2002 - 2003. From 1999 - 2002 Mr. Gradus was Head of Department for wage and income policy of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment.



## † Peter Weilemann

Peter Weilemann was the Director of the European office of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) in Brussels. He began his career as an Assistant Professor at the Research Institute of Political Science and European Questions at the University of Cologne and as a West European Analyst with IRIS in Arlington, Virginia. From 1983 to 2000, he was Deputy Director at the Research Institute and at the Department of Political Research of KAS, Head of Division on International Politics and Economics and Director for International Cooperation. Mr. Weilemann was a Member of the German Council on Foreign Relations, the Political Science Association and the Commissions on European Politics and on Foreign Security Policy of the Christian Democratic Union.





## Yannis G. Valinakis

Yannis G. Valinakis was a Special Advisor to the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1983 – 1986). He worked as Professor of International Relations at the University of Athens (since 1992), and Director of the Department of European and International Studies at the University of Athens. From 1995 – 1998, he served as the Director General of the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy. Moreover, from 2000 – 2003, he served as the Director of the Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence of the University of Athens. He was named a Patron of European Democrat Students (EDS) in 2003. In 2004, he was elected Member of Parliament and held the office of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.



## György Granasztói

György Granasztói served as a Hungarian Ambassador to European Union and NATO in years 1990 - 1994. From 2000 to 2002, he was a President of the Union of Hungarian Civic Cooperation. 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.



## Olof Ehrenkrona

Olof Ehrenkrona is an Ambassador and a Senior Advisor for the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, where he deals with issues related to globalisation. He is also a Policy Advisor at the Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation. In the early 1990s, during the collapse of the Soviet Union and the transformation of Eastern and Central Europe, he was a Head of Policy Planning in the Swedish Prime Minister's Office.

# Academic Council

The Executive Board can nominate esteemed academics and researchers as members of the Academic Council to increase the academic scope of the Centre for European Studies and oversee the scientific standards of the research and studies.

This includes enhancing the standing and credibility of CES in the academic sphere, contributing with expertise, advice and ideas to ensure CES is always pursuing cutting-edge research, proposing new and innovative projects, implementing the highest standard of peer review and ensuring that all documents are technically correct.



## Werner Fasslabend

Werner Fasslabend is the Chairman of the Centre for European Studies' Academic Council. From 1987 to 2007 he was a member of the Austrian National Council, the lower chamber of the Parliament, and from 2000 to 2002 he was the Third President of the National Council. For 10 years, from 1990 to 2000, he was the Federal Minister of Defence. From 1997 to 2003 he was the Federal Chairman of the League of Workers and Employees, and since 2004 he has been President of the ÖVP's Political Academy.



## Constantine Arvanitopoulos

Constantine Arvanitopoulos is the Director of Nea Demokratia's President's Office and Professor of International Relations at the Department of International and European Studies at Panteion University in Athens. He taught International Relations and Comparative Politics in the School of International Service at the American University of Athens, was a Post-doctoral Fellow at the Centre for European Studies and Assistant Professor of Government at Harvard University. He was the Director General of the Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy since 2000 - 2010.



## Bruno Aguilera Barchet

Bruno Aguilera Barchet is Professor of Comparative Law and Director of the Institute for International Law Studies at King Juan Carlos University in Madrid. He holds a Ph.D. in Law and was Deputy Dean of International Relations of the Law School at Complutense University in Madrid and a visiting Research Fellow at Harvard Law School. Bruno Aguilera Barchet contributes to several newspapers in Spain (e.g. El Mundo, El Pais) and has published a book on “Islamic Law in the light of the history of Al-Andalus”.



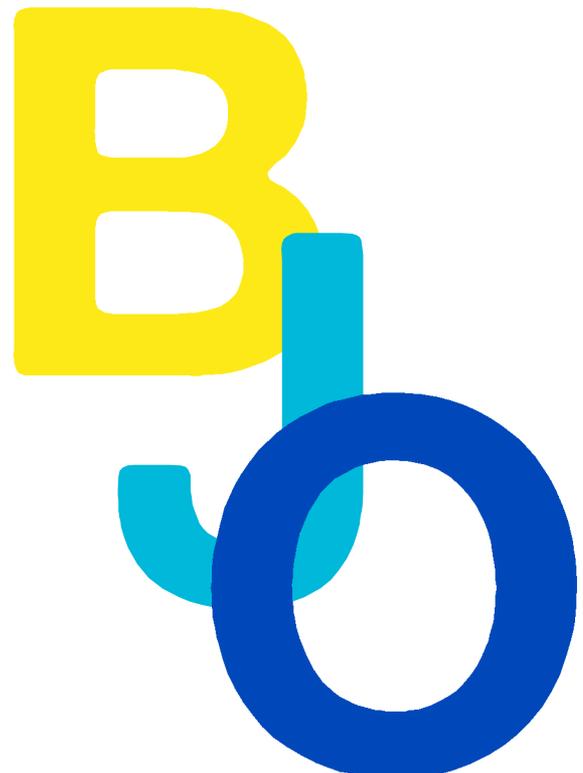
## Olof Ehrenkrona

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## John Bruton

John Bruton is a former Irish Prime Minister (Taoiseach) from 1992 to 1997. He served as European Union Ambassador to the United States since 2004-2009, and is a former Vice-President of the European People’s Party. Bruton held a number of top posts in Irish government, including Minister for Finance (1981-1982 and 1986-1987) and Minister for Industry, Trade, Commerce and Tourism (1983-1986). He is also the Chair of the CES Fundraising Committee and the Chair of the Organising Committee of the European Ideas Forum. 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 and the National University of Ireland.



# JFAMZ



## Jos J.A.M. van Gennip

Jos J.A.M. van Gennip is currently a Member of the Upper House of the Dutch Parliament and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate. He is a member of the Executive Board of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA). Previously he worked as a Deputy Director General at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was a Chairman of the Economic Committee of NATO.



## Risto Harisalo

Risto Harisalo is a Professor of Administrative Science at the University of Tampere, in Finland. His research specializes in theories of innovative leadership in public/private organisations, theories of entrepreneurship in public or private contexts, public structure change, political and administrative decision-making, the theory of city economies, theories of classical liberalism (defined as the Scottish enlightenment and the English or evolutionary tradition) and the theory of regulation (motives, growth and outcome of regulation).



## Mart Laar

Mart Laar was the Prime Minister of Estonia from 1992 to 1994 and from 1999 to 2002. He is currently a member of the International Council of the Human Rights Foundation. Mart Laar was the 2006 recipient of the Cato Institute's Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty. In 2007, he was elected Chairman of the Union of Pro Patria and Res Publica Party.



## Žiga Turk

Žiga Turk is a Professor and Chair in Construction Informatics at the Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering at the University of Ljubljana and Secretary General of the Reflection Group on the Future of Europe. Born in 1962, he holds a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering, M.Sc. in Computer Science and Ph.D. in Technical Sciences.

# Research Associates

Building a mutually supportive and synergetic network of researchers, the Centre for European Studies is continuously improving its capacities to timely respond to the demand for expert analysis in different fields. Research Associates are politically like-minded academics who can provide research papers, short analyses and blogs and who are also capable to offer a prompt advice on current affairs.

# FS



## Filippo L. Calciano

Filippo L. Calciano is an academic economist affiliated to the Centre for Operations Research and Econometrics (CORE) at the Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, and to the Department of Economics of the University of Rome 3. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from CORE, a Master in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania (USA), and a Bachelor Degree in Economic Policy from the University of Rome 3.



## Svante Cornell

Svante Cornell is the Research Director of the Institute for Security and Development Policy in Stockholm as well as Associate Professor in Government at Uppsala University and Assistant Research Professor at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. Cornell holds a Ph.D. in Peace and Conflict Studies from Uppsala University, a B.Sc. with High Honor in International Relations from the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey, and an honorary doctoral degree from the Behmenyar Institute of Law and Philosophy of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan. He is a member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Military Science.



## David Gregosz

David Gregosz has a double degree in Political Science (Diploma) and Economics (Bachelor) in Marburg. He is a former scholar of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), a former speaker of the KAS-university group of Marburg and worked during his studies at two departments dealing with economic and regulatory issues. He also worked for Members of Parliament in Brussels and Berlin. His theses dealt with economic issues. He addressed the question, why economic reforms are difficult to implement in Germany. On the other hand he dealt with the issue of "market forces in the electricity market". Since the beginning of 2009, David Gregosz works for the "Department of policy and guidance" in the KAS economic team in Berlin - first as a research fellow, and since November 2009 as a coordinator of Policy issues and Governance.



## Martti Häikiö

Martti Häikiö is a full-time historian and Adjunct Professor at the University of Helsinki, Institute of Political and Social History since 1978. During the past ten years he has published six books about business history, the latest being the history of Finnish alcohol monopoly Alko Ltd. in 1932-2006 and Nokia. The "Inside Story" (2002) is the first and only book based on open and full access to all original Nokia sources. He has published a major biography of the Finnish national poet and academician V. A. Koskenniemi (1885-1962) (2010). At the moment professor Häikiö is working on "Helsinki of Knowledge, The History of Research, Education and Media in Helsinki 1945-2010". The manuscript is to be completed in 2012.



## Nikolaos Tzifakis

Nikolaos Tzifakis is Deputy Director and Coordinator of the International Co-operation Department of the Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy and Lecturer of International Relations in the Department of Political Science and International Relations of the University of Peloponnese. He is a graduate of the Department of Political Science and International Studies of Panteion University of Athens and holds M.A. with distinction in International Relations and Strategic Studies and a Ph.D. in International Relations from Lancaster University, UK.

# EM



## Evert Jan van Asselt

Evert Jan van Asselt is Deputy Director at the CDA Research Institute since 2007. He studied Theology at the University of Utrecht and Economics at the University of Amsterdam. His research areas include Welfare state, Health care, Housing market, Government finances. Some of his recent publications in English include: "Crossing bridges. Democratization in the Middle East and A Christian Democratic Approach" (with Arie Oostlander); "The Scandinavian model: not as desirable as it seems" (with Tim Willems); "Modern life course support systems. Christian-democratic perspectives on changes in the life course and their consequences for demography, labour markets and generational relations" (with Peter Cuyvers and Ab Klink).



## Michael Wohlgemuth

Michael Wohlgemuth is an economist and Managing Research Associate at the Walter Eucken Institut, Freiburg. He has been lecturer at the Universities of Freiburg, Erfurt, Friedrichshafen and Witten/Herdecke, Research Fellow at the Max-Planck- Institute for Economics in Jena, Affiliate Assistant Professor at George Mason University and New York University and "Friedrich von Hayek-Professor" at the University of Innsbruck. Wohlgemuth is also Rapporteur of the European Ideas Network (EIN).



# Visiting Fellows

The Centre for European Studies as a political think-tank has launched its activities on a wide-range of political themes with particular emphasis on European policy-oriented studies. Therefore, each year it offers 6-12 month Visiting Fellow positions to dynamic, motivated and innovative individuals with academic credentials.

In 2010, there were three Visiting Fellows at CES:

## Mojca Kucler Dolinar



Slovenian, former Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology.

## Angelos Chryssogelos



Greek, political scientist specialized in international relations and comparative politics at the European University Institute in Florence.

## Eugeniusz Smolar



Polish, Senior Fellow at the Polish Institute of International Affairs in Warsaw.

# Internship

The Centre for European Studies offers **six months internships for recent graduates and young researchers**. The internship programme provides interns with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of European affairs and to gain firsthand experience of daily work of the European institutions in Brussels.

It therefore constitutes an excellent opportunity for young graduates aspiring to pursue a career in the area of European politics and related fields. The great value of an internship at the Centre for European Studies is the opportunity **to be involved in political activities and the creation of new policy concepts at European level**. CES is a young and evolving organisation that offers a dynamic environment and gives interns a unique opportunity to test their potential and to see their ideas have real impact.

The internship is focused on immersing successful candidates in the short- and long-term policy research and other activities of CES: organising meetings and conferences, preparing reports and analyses, editing publications, updating the website and databases, communicating with the European People's Party in policy research and other activities, and liaising with officials from the European Institutions. More information on the programme is available on our website.

## This year our interns were:

**Patricia Murray** from Ireland / **Giovanni Mastrobuono** from Italy/ Canada / **Bonnie Chan** from Canada / **Lubica Nadasska** from Slovakia / **Boyan Tanev** from Bulgaria / **Lauren Zoebelein** from the United States / **Ewelina Pach** from Poland / **Stian Tvede Karlsen** from Norway



# Individual Members

Wilfried Martens  
Antonio López-Istúriz White  
Yannis Valinakis  
Joseph Daul  
João Marques de Almeida  
Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb  
Miguel Papi-Boucher  
Kostas Sasmatzoglou  
Filippo Terruso  
Kristóf Altusz  
Timothy Beyer Helm  
Jacob Lund Nielsen  
Antti Timonen  
Nicolas Pascual de la Parte  
Marianne Thyssen

INSPIRATIONAL  
INDIVIDUALS



# CES Members



**Academy for the Development of a Democratic Environment | Akkademja għall-Izvilupp ta' Ambjent Demokratiku | (AZAD)**

224, Republic Street, Valletta, MALTA

Phone: +356.21.247.515, +356.21.234.884 | Fax: +356.21.220.496

info@azad-malta.com



**CDA Research Institute | Wetenschappelijk Instituut voor het CDA | (WICDA)**

Buitennom 18, 2512 XA Den Haag, NETHERLANDS

Phone: +31.70.342.4870 | Fax: +31.70.392.6004

wi@cda.nl | www.wi.cda.nl

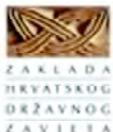


**CEDER Study Centre of CD&V | CEDER STUDIEDIENST CD&V | (CEDER)**

Wetstraat 89, 1040 Brussels, BELGIUM

Phone: +32.2.238.38.11

info@cdenv.be | www.cdenv.be



**Croatian Statehood Foundation | Zaklada Hrvatskog Dravnog Zavjeta | (ZHDZ)**

Gunduliceva 21, 10000 Zagreb, CROATIA

Phone: +385.1.4854.555 | Fax: +385.1.4854.439

srecko.prusina@zhdz.hr | ivo.ivancic@zhdz.hr | www.zhdz.hr



**Dr. Joze Pucnik Institute | Inštitut dr. Jože Pučnika | (IJP)**

Hribarjevo nabrezje 13, 1000 Ljubljana, SLOVENIA

Phone: +386.1.425.30.87 | Fax: +386.1.425.30.89

info@ijpucnik.si | www.ijpucnik.si



**Foundation for a Civic Hungary | Polgári Magyarorszáért Alapítvány | (PMA)**

Visiting address: Gábor Áron u. 40. H-1026 Budapest

Mailing address: PO Box 328 H-1535 Budapest, HUNGARY

Phone: +36.1.391.4880 | Fax: +36.1.391.4889

alapitvany@szpma.hu | www.szpma.hu



**Foundation for Social Research and Analysis | Fundación para el Análisis y los Estudios Sociales | (FAES)**

C/ María de Molina 40 - 6ª planta, 28006 Madrid, SPAIN

Phone: +34.91.576.68.57

info@fundacionfaes.es | www.fundacionfaes.es



**Hanns Seidel Foundation | Hanns Seidel Stiftung | (HSS)**

Lazarettstrasse 33, 80636 Munich, GERMANY

Phone: +49.89.125.80

info@hss.de | www.hss.de



**Høyre Study Centre | Høyre Studieforbund | (HS)**

Postboks 1352 Vika | 0113 Oslo, Norway  
Phone: +47.22.829.171 | Fax: +47.22.829.088  
aftenskolen@aftenskolen.no | www.aftenskolen.no



**Institute for Eurodemocracy Glafkos Clerides |**

**Ινστιτούτο Ευρωδημοκρατίας Γλαύκος Κληρίδης | (EGC)**

Ioanni Kliridi 5, 1070 Leukosia, CYPRUS  
Phone: +357.22.883.139 | Fax: +357.22.752.751  
insteurodemocracy@cytanet.com.cy



**Institute for Modern Slovakia | Inštitút pre moderné Slovensko | (IPMS)**

Šancova ul.70, 811 05 Bratislava, SLOVAKIA  
Phone: +421.2.572.04620



**Institute for Popular Studies / Institutul de Studii Populare (ISP)**

Str. Alecu Russo nr. 13-19, Ap. 3, Sector 2, Bucharest, ROMANIA  
Phone: +40311076645 | Fax: +40216191989  
office@isp.org.ro | www.isp.org.ro



**Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation | Jarl Hjalmarson Stiftelsen | (JHS)**

Box 2080, 103 12 Stockholm, SWEDEN  
Phone: +46.8.676.8000 | Fax: +46.8.676.8086  
stiftelsen@moderat.se | www.hjalmarsonstiftelsen.se



**Konrad Adenauer Stiftung**

**Konrad Adenauer Stiftung | Konrad Adenauer Foundation | (KAS)**

Klingelhöferstraße 23, 10785 Berlin, GERMANY  
Phone: +49.30.269.960  
zentrale-berlin@kas.de | www.kas.de



**Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute For Democracy |**

**Ινστιτούτο Δημοκρατίας Κωνσταντίνος Καραμανλής | (KKID)**

10 Vas. Sofias st, 106 74 Athens, GREECE.  
Phone: +30.210.725.7495 | Fax: +30.210.725.7510  
info@idkaramanlis.gr | www.idkaramanlis.gr



**Miquel Coll I Alentorn Institute of Humanistic Studies/ Institut d'Estudis Humanístics Miquel Coll I Alentorn (INEHCA)**

Carrer de Napsols 35-39, 08018 Barcelona, SPAIN  
Phone: +34.93.240.2200 Fax: +34932402205  
secretaria@inehca.org | www.inehca.org



**National Educational Association | Kansallinen Sivistysliitto | (KANSIO)**

Kansakoulukuja 3.3.krs., 00100 Helsinki, FINLAND  
Phone: +358.500.442.761  
markku.pyykkola@kansio.fi | www.kansio.fi



**Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party | Politische Akademie der ÖVP | (PolAk)**

Tivoligasse 73, 1120 Vienna, AUSTRIA  
Phone: +43.1.814.2076  
office@modernpolitics.at | www.modernpolitics.at



**Pro Patria Training Centre | Koolituskeskus Pro Patria | (KPP)**

Kivisilla 4-9, Tallinn 10145, ESTONIA  
Phone: +372.773.42.01 | Fax: +372.773.42.07  
kaja.villem@irl.ee | www.irl.ee



The New Eastern Europe: Challenges and Opportunities for the EU

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# RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

RESEARCH

REGULAR PUBLICATIONS

COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATIONS

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

# Research

As the official think tank of the EPP, the Centre for European Studies monitors, analyses and contributes to the debate related to the policies of the EU and relevant for both the expert level and for the wider European public. The six main research themes cover a wide range of specific political issues and stemming from these themes, CES produces research papers and policy briefs and organises launching events.

The first research theme, **Party Structures and EU Institutions**, covers matters such as the Europe 2020 strategy, the Baltic Sea strategy, the arguments, methods and funds of populist groups and aims to explain EU policies to the voters.

**Economic and Social Policies** is the second theme, and focuses on the main issues related to economic growth and welfare. CES aims at providing the readership with a thorough understanding of the structural elements and actors of the European and global economy. This year, the focus has been on debt, flat tax and economic governance.

To have a clear picture of the multi-polar global structure, the Centre for European Studies gives special attention to investigating developments on a global level. The third theme, **EU Foreign Policy**, covers topics like immigration and integration, the future of the West and the privatization of security.

**Environment and Energy**, as the fourth CES research theme, analyses the developments of innovative environmental and energy policies which have become a crucial challenge for Europe's political and economic role on the world stage. The nexus between new growth and job creation on one hand, and the continuing efforts at fighting climate change on the other hand, formed one priority. Energy security is another important topic.

The question of culture and religion takes on particular importance in the context of an increasingly multicultural society. The fifth research theme, **Values and Religion**, tries to find solutions and comments on vital issues for Europe's identity like political Islam in the EU, dialogue with Islam and others.

In view of contemporary political, economic, societal and technological developments in the EU, a new-sixth theme has been added to CES research – **New Societal Challenges**. That concerns demographics, education policy, domestic security and above all the relation between the Internet and modern society which is a strategic issue that will remain with us for years to come.

In 2010, the Centre for European Studies has continued with an ambitious research plan aimed at the production of **research papers** with strong emphasis on policy recommendations. CES has also produced **policy briefs**, shorter papers which react to the current issues.

**All research papers and policy briefs are available at**  
**[www.thinkingeurope.eu](http://www.thinkingeurope.eu)**



Party Structures and EU Institutions



Economic and Social Policies



EU Foreign Policy



Environment and Energy



Values and Religion



New Societal Challenges

# Research Papers

**1 SIX YEARS AFTER THE 2004 ENLARGEMENT: TAKING STOCK** by two Czech authors from the Prague Security Studies Institute, Director **Jiří Schneider** and **Václav Nekvapil**, focuses on the political and economic impact of the ‘Big Bang’ enlargement of 2004, and discusses the question of the capacity of the enlarged EU to cope with the financial and economic crisis.

**2 BALTIC SEA STRATEGY: A PILOT PROJECT FOR MACRO-REGIONALISATION IN THE EU** by Dr. **Esko Antola**, the Director of Centrum Balticum in Finland, describes the development of the Baltic Sea Strategy and the area which is the first macro-region recognized in Europe.

**3 FLAT BUT FAIR: A PROPOSAL FOR A SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS FLAT RATE TAX** by Director of the Research Institute for the CDA and Professor of Economics at VU University Amsterdam, **Raymond Gradus**, advocates the introduction of a flat rate income tax in the Netherlands and gives some recommendations for lowering the flat tax rate.

**4 EU-AFRICA RELATIONS: DEALING WITH THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE** by a Greek author Professor **Asteris Huliaras**, describes relations between the EU and Sub-Saharan Africa and includes some suggestions for initiatives that may help strengthen the current relationship.



## 5 EUROPEAN POLITICAL PARTIES AS CAMPAIGN ORGANISATIONS: TOWARD A GREATER POLITICIZATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS

by **Wojciech Gagatek** from the European University Institute in Florence, looks at the origins and development of the European political parties, describes the campaign strategies in the recent European elections, analyses the results and implications of Europarties' campaign involvement and outlines challenges and prospects for the future.

6 **FREEDOM IN THE DAYS OF INTERNET** by **Bart Schermer** and **Ton Wagemans** aims to reassess how in view of contemporary technological, economic and societal developments, internet freedom is becoming an issue of intense policy debate. This study outlines the technological trends and societal changes, looks at the question of regulation of the internet and addresses topics such as innovation, privacy and intellectual property.

7 **DIALOGUE WITH ISLAM: FACING THE CHALLENGE OF MUSLIM INTEGRATION IN FRANCE, NETHERLANDS, GERMANY** by **Hendrik M. Vroom** aims to contribute to a balanced and consistent EU policy on Muslim immigrants. It pleads for creative and open approaches to the needs of both Muslims and society as a whole.

8 **STOPPING THE DRIFT: RECALIBRATING THE TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP FOR A MULTIPOLAR WORLD** by **Fabrice Pothier**, **Constanze Stelzenmüller** and **Tomas Valasek** examines America's and Europe's positions in the world and their relationship with one another.



# Policy Briefs

**CES**  
CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

## Muslim Brotherhood Parties

in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region

Olivier Guitta

**Policy Brief**

September 2010

Among concerned parties from Washington to Brussels, from political leaders to government officials, an intense debate is being waged on how to handle the Muslim Brotherhood (MB). A strategy of engaging the MB has recently been gaining currency, and official meetings have taken place in both Europe and the US. The issue is not limited to foreign relations but has domestic implications as well, especially for Europe. Indeed, the MB has a strong presence in Europe, and its influence on Europe's Muslims cannot be underestimated. In order to arrive at an informed opinion on the MB, we will look at its history, its ideology and its vision of the West, and at three branches of the MB in the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region.

### 1 The History of the Muslim Brotherhood

The end of the 1920s found the Muslim world in total disarray due to the expansion of European colonialism and, even more importantly, the collapse of the Ottoman Caliphate and its replacement by a secular republic in Turkey in 1924. *Al-Ikhwan al-Muslimun*, also known simply as the Ikhwan or the Muslim Brotherhood, was founded in 1928 by an impassioned Egyptian schoolteacher, Hassan al-Banna. The creation of the MB was to some extent a response to these two events: an attempt to fill the void and reunite the *ummah* (the Muslim nation).<sup>1</sup>

1 Gilles Kepel, *Jihad, Espionnage et Islamisme* (Paris: Gallimard, 2003), 36.

**1 MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD PARTIES** by Olivier Guitta, a security and geopolitical consultant, looks at the Muslim Brotherhood - its history, its ideology and its vision of the West as well as at three branches of the Muslim Brotherhood in Middle East and North Africa region.

**CES**  
CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

## GDP and its Enemies:

the Questionable Search for a Happiness Index

Johan Norberg

**Policy Brief**

September 2010

*To the sure of hitting the target, shoot first, and call whatever you hit the target.*  
Ashleigh Brilliant

### Executive Summary

The financial crisis and global warming have led to a crisis of confidence in our traditional ways of measuring wealth because they do not take speculative risk and environmental costs into consideration. A number of alternative indexes have been proposed that would measure people's well-being and the environmental sustainability of the planet.

Even though the gross domestic product (GDP) measure has its problems, a look at the alternatives reveals that they are constructed with a specific political agenda in mind and are easily manipulated by governments. In fact, a strong argument for sticking with GDP is that it is narrow in scope and value free. It tells us what we can do, but not what we should do, and does not even try to define well-being. It fits a liberal, pluralistic society where people have different interests, preferences and attitudes to well-being. Our present environmental and financial problems can and should be solved within the intellectual framework of economic growth.

### Telling us so

A recent commission on measures of well-being suggested that "had there been more awareness of the limitations of standard metrics, like GDP, there would have been less euphoria over economic performance in the years prior to the crisis." It also points out that the global warming crisis is made worse due to the fact that "no

**2 GDP AND ITS ENEMIES: THE QUESTIONABLE SEARCH FOR A HAPPINESS INDEX** by Johan Norberg, Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute, analyses the GDP measure and other measures of happiness, and describes why even though GDP measure has its problems, we should stick with it.

# Regular Publications

## CES WATCH

### Europe from the Centre-Right Perspective

The **Financial Crisis Watch**, later renamed to the **Economic Recovery Watch**, started successfully in 2008 as a bi-weekly newsletter monitoring the effects of the global financial crisis which had resulted in a worldwide economic recession. In the second half of 2010, it underwent a series of changes aimed at expanding the content and format. Now, this monthly online publication looks not only at the economic, but also at the political and other important developments in Europe and beyond. The focus of the newsletter also shifted – from pure news monitoring and reporting to a stronger analysis of the European politics and policies from the centre-right perspective.

The first issue of CES Watch was published at the end of 2010 and analysed and commented on the events such as the Council of the Party of European Socialists, parliamentary elections in Moldova, presidential elections in Belarus, Polish-Russian relations, EU budget 2011, EU enlargement, debate on immigration and on the European Strategy for Roma. An inseparable part of the CES Watch is the Watchtower, a foreword by the CES Deputy Director and Head of Research, **Roland Freudenstein**. In this volume, the Watchtower drew some interesting parallels between WikiLeaks and the Chinese government.

The CES Watch remains a constantly evolving project, open to discussion and suggestions for further improvements from our readers.



## CES keeps an eye on Europe!

# EUROPEAN VIEW

The European View, the academic journal of the Centre for European Studies, serves as an intellectual platform for politicians, opinion makers and academics that tackle contemporary themes in each issue.

The Spring 2010 issue of the European View analyses the Europe 2020 programme and the role that it can play in economic recovery and structural change to the European economy, trying to answer the questions about whether or not it will be effective, if it is the silver bullet for economic growth and how it places Europe in the process of globalisation.

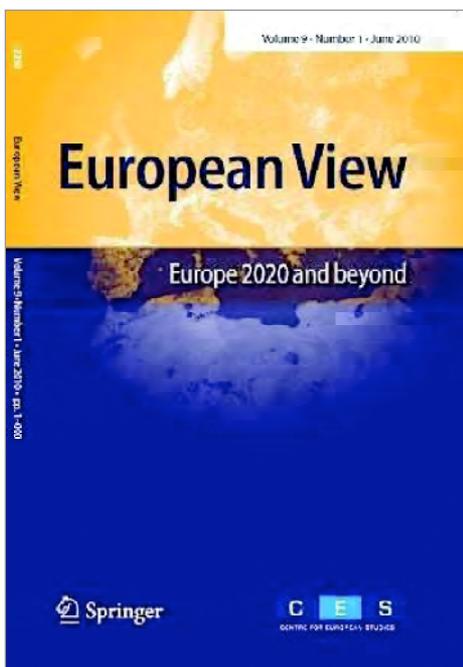
The issue combines articles by prominent figures including José Manuel Barroso, José María Aznar López, Tony Barber, John Bruton, Fabrizio De Filippis and Giovanni Scarano, Mario Draghi, Fredrik Erixon, Asteris Huliaras, Mojca Kucler Dolinar, Wilfried Martens, Günter Nooke, Günther Oettinger, Hans-Gert Pöttering, Gerhard Sabathil, Andrew Small, Žiga Turk, Jos Van Gennip and Tom Ward.

The autumn 2010 edition provides an analysis of the “Future of the West” and thus examines the crisis of the West, the prosperity of today but sustainability of tomorrow. It also focuses on the foreign and security policy in a multipolar world and the challenges to old, new and future democracies.

The autumn edition of the European View has benefited from important contributions from prominent authors including Georges Prevelakis, Alexander Stubb, Robin Sheperd, Nikolay Mladenov, Alan Mendoza, Othmar Karas, Ian Bremmer, Herman Van Rompuy, Maurice Fraser, Koko Warner, Razeen Sally, Franco Frattini, Rafal Trzaskowski, Angelos Chrysosgelos, Franck Debie, Aleksandr Lahviniec, Aleksandr Papko, Connie Hedegaard and Stefano Riela.

**Editor-in-chief: Tomi Huhtanen**

**Assistant editor-in-chief: Katarína Králiková**



# EUROPEAN FACTBOOK

“The European Factbook 2010: The European People’s Party and Centre-Right Politics” is a regular publication, providing a snapshot of the centre-right political activities each year.

It is first and foremost a tool, a resource through which one can become acquainted with both the national centre-right political parties and active participants in research, communication and policy formulation.

The European Factbook enforces the commitment of the Centre for European Studies to contribute to the awareness of the centre-right’s policies among European citizens and decision-makers alike.

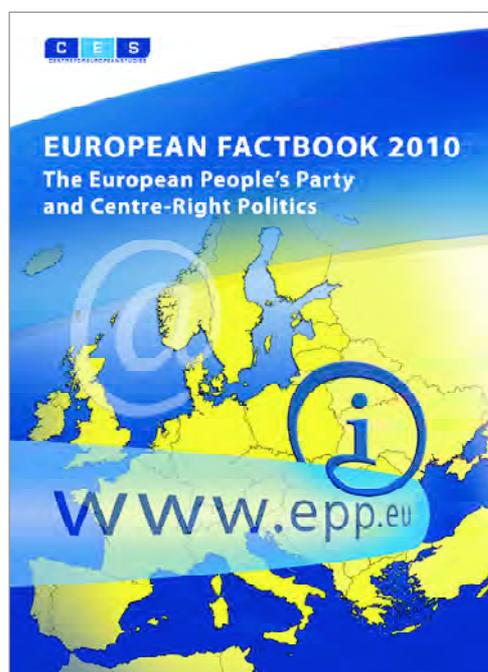
One year after the European Parliament elections, the new European Commission’s first term and significant elections throughout Europe, the Factbook provides all the data needed to keep you on track with the European centre-right.

The 2010 edition of Factbook offers insight into the functioning of the European People’s Party (EPP) family as a whole. It includes details about not only the Party itself, but also about the EPP groups in the European Parliament, the Committee of the Regions, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly.

In promoting intellectual liberty, raising awareness and facilitating the growth of EU politics from the perspective of the ideology and the central values of the EPP and its centre-right partners, the European Factbook is an essential reference tool.

The publication is also available online at [www.eurofactbook.eu](http://www.eurofactbook.eu)

**Editor-in-Chief: Kostas Sasmatzoglou**



# Collaborative Publications

The Centre for European Studies is committed to raising awareness and understanding of European issues through its collaborative publications with the member foundations. Covering a wide spectrum of crucial topics on the European political agenda, these publications are issued in English, but often also in the native language of the member foundation, in order to guarantee a wider diffusion throughout Europe.

## THE EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY: Successes and Future Challenges



The Centre for European Studies, in cooperation with the Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party (PoIAk), has published a book entitled "The European People's Party: Successes and Future Challenges".

The mission and aim of this book is to reflect on values of centre-right parties. It provides a clear view of the history, intellectual basis and values of selected member parties of the EPP.

This volume provides the first overview of the binding fundamental values as well as the traditional elements of the EPP. It includes portraits of the EPP parties from Germany, Sweden, Poland, Austria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Italy, France and the special case of the British Tories in order to show the varying traditions and approaches of the individual member parties.

The parties presented in this publication provide an insight into the different historical and ideological development of the individual EPP members. The fall of the Iron Curtain in 1989 made it possible for new democratic parties to be established and historical ones revitalized in Europe's formerly Communist countries.

The book is edited by Chairman of the CES Academic Council, **Werner Fasslabend**, and **Josef Pröll**, Chairman of the Austrian People's Party and Vice Chancellor and Minister of Finance of Austria.

# THE STATE OF THE UNION 2010

## Schuman Report on Europe



“The State of the Union 2010”, by the Centre for European Studies and the Robert Schuman Foundation, captures the challenges ahead for EU through original contributions from well respected authors and includes statistical analysis.

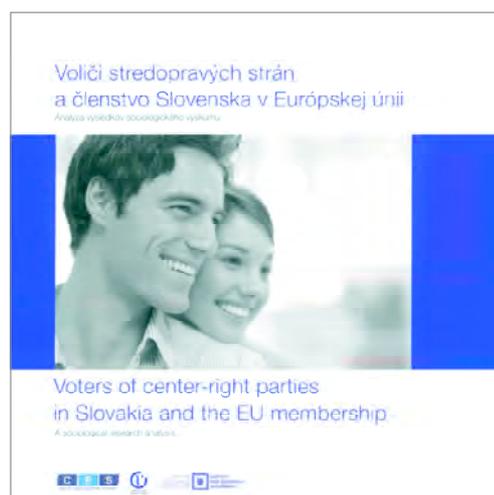
Globalisation, international and security tensions, economic and financial crisis, institutions and integration – the issues addressed in this book are some of the key questions the EU has faced this year, one year after the European Parliament elections.

The publication is both a work of reference, combing contributions from high level scholars and politicians, and a tool offering essential information on and an analysis of European politics and economics.

Through a statistical overview and graphical presentation, The State of the Union 2010 covers all the major themes Europe is dealing with: from female political participation to purchasing power, from immigration to energy, it offers a diversity of processed data and opinion polls, and is an essential publication for understanding the Europe of tomorrow.

# VOTERS OF THE CENTER-RIGHT PARTIES

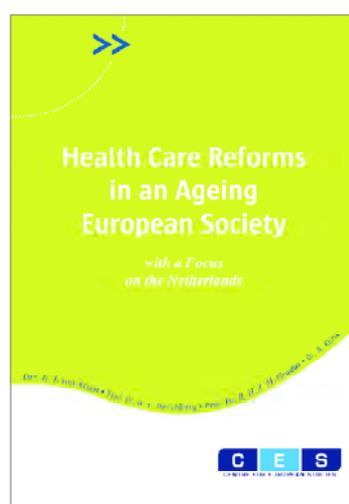
in Slovakia and the EU Membership



The Centre for European Studies in cooperation with the Institute for Modern Slovakia and the Institute for Public Affairs wrote a publication called “Voters of the center-right parties in Slovakia and the EU membership: an Analysis of Results of a Sociological Research”. It is a study based on representative sociological research and on a questionnaire as well as on results of other research projects.

The study analyses the perception of EU membership by voters of the center-right and liberal political parties in Slovakia, it focuses on the differences between pre-accession expectations and the post-accession reality, explores current expectations connected to membership in the EU and opinions on EU-level representation and on priorities set by the EU for the upcoming years.

# HEALTH CARE REFORMS IN AN AGEING EUROPEAN SOCIETY, with a Focus on the Netherlands

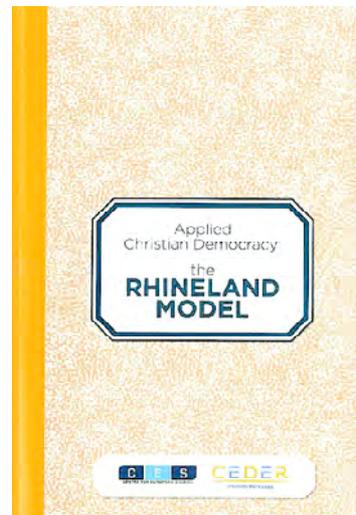


The Centre for European Studies with the cooperation of the CDA Research Institute published this study on health care in an ageing Europe. The accessibility and affordability of care is a major issue in ageing societies. All EU countries have to handle this issue, although the increase in costs is uneven and financing and organisation varies widely.

It is to be welcomed that the Dutch experience with reforms in health care is shared in this study. It shows that great reforms are possible and what the necessary conditions are. On the other hand it also demonstrates the serious risks that countries face when they don't succeed to reform.

The role of the Centre for European Studies is to exchange views and ideas as well as to disseminate the results of research to the public and the decision-makers. This study by **Evert Jan van Asselt, Hans Bovenberg, Raymond Gradus and Ab Klink** contributes to this mission. All four are involved in the work of the CDA Research Institute, the think tank of the Christian Democratic Party in the Netherlands. Raymond Gradus as Director and Evert Jan van Asselt as Deputy Director, Ab Klink as former Director and until recently Minister of Health Care and Sport. Hans Bovenberg was involved in many political studies of the Dutch institute as adviser and as an expert on ageing issues. The combined knowledge and experience has led to a forward looking study with a challenging policy agenda.

# APPLIED CHRISTIAN DEMOCRACY: the Rhineland Model



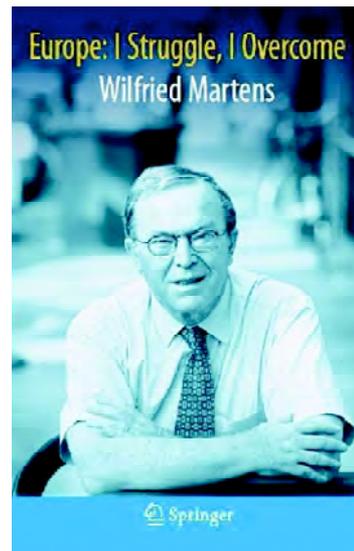
The Centre for European Studies in cooperation with CEDER Study Centre of CD&V has published a book entitled 'Applied Christian Democracy: the Rhineland Model'.

This publication is a collection of ideas and thoughts, which according to the authors in no way pretend to be "the truth". Rather than formulate an easy answer, in this document, the attempt was to search for the right questions. The direct impetus for this kind of book was the outcome of the evaluation of the CD&V's electoral defeat in June 2010. It became clear that one of the weak points was the lack of a clear long-term vision.

This text is aligned with the principles of Christian Democracy in the determination of socio-economic policy. These actualized principles should be the leitmotif in the decision-making processes, that is to say, the daily application of the principles. Christian Democracy is present all over Europe, and many of the challenges that CD&V is facing are similar to those that other Christian Democratic parties are facing. Therefore, this book is a platform for discussion, it is the beginning of a series of debates.

# Others Publications

## EUROPE : I STRUGGLE, I OVERCOME



The autobiography of the EPP and CES President, **Wilfried Martens**, “Europe: I Struggle, I Overcome” was published by the Centre for European Studies in 2009.

Wilfried Martens has devoted his entire life to politics. Starting out as a student leader and youth activist, he later became the President of the Flemish Christian Democrats, then Prime Minister of Belgium, and then President of the European People’s Party and a European statesman.

In his autobiography, Martens offers the inside story behind the running of a complex country like Belgium. He talks about fighting for European integration and unification, and his experience in transforming the European People’s Party into a strong, united centre-right movement and leading European political family.

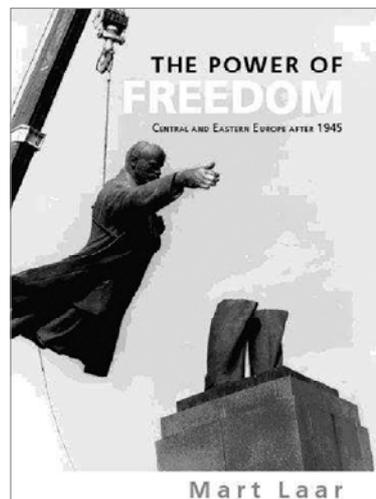
This is, above all, a book about the intricacies of European politics, about how policy is made and the ideas, values and principles that inspire it. The book is printed by Springer and is also available as an e-book.

In 2010 the book was presented in Baku, Yerevan, Sofia, Nicosia, Oslo, Istanbul and Athens.



# THE POWER OF FREEDOM:

## Central and Eastern Europe after 1945



The Centre for European Studies published “The Power of Freedom: Central and Eastern Europe after 1945” by **Mart Laar**, member of CES’ Academic Council.

Mart Laar was the Prime Minister of Estonia for two terms, from 1992 to 1994 and from 1999 to 2002. His role in the successful democratic transformation of Estonia made him an internationally recognized expert in “democratic transition”. In addition to his political career, Mart Laar is the author of several books on Estonian and Soviet history. He held the position of President of the Council of Historians for the Preservation of Estonian History, and he founded the Foundation for the Investigation of Communist Crimes (UNITAS Foundation). Mart Laar graduated from the University of Tartu in 1983 and received a Masters degree from the same university in 1995.

“The Power of Freedom” tells the gripping story of the journey of Central and Eastern European countries “back to Europe”. It maps the history of Communism in Central and Eastern Europe in times when Europe was divided by the Iron Curtain. On the western side people enjoyed freedom, democracy, the rule of law and successful market-based economies, while those on the other side suffered at hand of violent totalitarian regimes and the socialist “planned” economy. These regimes destroyed economies and provoked an environmental disaster.

The constant annihilation of basic, universally-recognised freedoms and the destruction of human souls made people stand up for democracy. This led to the formation of anti-Communist resistance in the civil society of these troubled countries, the collapse of Communism and the changes of 1989.

“The Power of Freedom” offers a detailed analysis of the transition to democracy and successful integration into Euro-Atlantic structures. It looks at past achievements; current political, social and economic developments; and the challenges ahead – and concludes that the transition has been a true success story. The book provides several examples of how the reunification of Europe brought stability and prosperity to Central and Eastern European countries through sound economic policies and democratic political engagement.



After its successful launch in Bonn in December 2009, “The Power of Freedom” was also launched in Brussels on 30 June 2010. Mart Laar presented the book by describing a gripping journey through the history of Central and Eastern Europe, mapping the anticommunist resistance and the changes of 1989. In the words of the EPP President **Wilfried Martens**: “Mart Laar’s “The Power of Freedom” is more than just a historical book. The author’s personal experiences make its narrative intimate and personal. Indeed, the real protagonists of the book are not politicians or other important historical figures, but the people of Central and Eastern Europe themselves, the anonymous citizens who stood before tanks and cut through barbed wires. We owe it to their struggle that we do not lose sight of the challenges that democracy and the market economy constantly face. Twenty years ago, democracy and the free market expanded eastwards thanks to the resilience and the vision of people deeply committed to freedom – people like Mart Laar and others. We should all be proud of our common success in unifying Europe, and helping the cause of human freedom”. The launching event was a real success attended by more than 200 participants.





# EVENTS

OUR EVENTS  
COMMON PROJECTS  
OF CES WITH  
MEMBER FOUNDATIONS

Besides the presentations of its research papers and policy briefs, the Centre for European Studies organised a series of events, both in Brussels and all over Europe, with the aim to bring Europe closer to its citizens.

Some of these events are organised solely by CES, while others are run in cooperation with its member foundations. These events address the current and most pressing issues in Europe and the world, as well as in the countries where the member foundations are based. The events range from conferences and seminars to research projects, publications and book presentations.

“TRANSATLANTIC TEST : WHAT SHOULD THE WEST DO WITH IRAN?”, CONFERENCE, [BRUSSELS](#) / “BALTIC FREEDOM : THE NEXT 20 YEARS”, CONFERENCE, [VILNIUS](#) / “CREATION OF A REAL GLOBAL MARKET: POST-CRISIS CHALLENGE”, CONFERENCE, [BRUSSELS](#) / “THE EU-US CENTRE-RIGHT THINK TANK CONFERENCE”, [BRUSSELS](#) / “ECONOMIC IDEAS FORUM”, [MADRID](#) / “THE POWER OF FREEDOM” BY MART LAAR, BOOK LAUNCH, [BRUSSELS](#)

“SQUARING THE CIRCLE”, RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION, [BRUSSELS](#) / “AVOIDING THE DEBT TRAP”, RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION, [BRUSSELS](#) / “THE NEW EASTERN EUROPE”, RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION [BRUSSELS](#) / “EUROPEAN POLITICAL PARTIES AS CAMPAIGN ORGANISATIONS”, RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION, [BRUSSELS](#) / “BALTIC SEA STRATEGY”, RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION, [BRUSSELS](#) / “FLAT BUT FAIR”, RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION, [BRUSSELS](#) / “EU-AFRICA RELATIONS”, RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION, [BRUSSELS](#) / “GDP AND ITS ENEMIES”, RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION, [BRUSSELS](#)



“HEALTH POLICY CONFERENCE”, VIENNA / “THE ATLANTIC SEMINAR: UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL ISLAM”, VIENNA / “EUROPE AND ITS REGIONS”, VIENNA / “THE EUROPEAN PEOPLE’S PARTY: SUCCESSES AND FUTURE CHALLENGES” BOOK PRESENTATION, VIENNA / “SUMMER ACADEMY FOR LEADING SENIORS”, VIENNA / “SERBIA ON THE ROAD TO THE EU”, VIENNA / “SOCIAL INNOVATION: WORK OF THE FUTURE – THE FUTURE OF WORK”, VIENNA / “CHALLENGES OF THE SOUTH SUDANESE REFERENDUM: INTERDEPENDENCIES FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE”, VIENNA, BADEN / “THE ROLE OF AN ACTIVE CIVIL SOCIETY IN AUSTRIA AND THE EU”, LINZ / “MACRO-REGIONS: THE NEXT STEP IN EU INTEGRATION?”, JYVASKYLA / “THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE: COMMON CHALLENGES IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION”, HELSINKI / “TRANSATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP”, HELSINKI / “POLICIES AND STRATEGIES FOR ROMA INTEGRATION”, ESZTERGOM / “COMMEMORATION OF THE VELVET REVOLUTION”, BRATISLAVA / “EU AND NORWAY”, OSLO, BERGEN, KRISTIANSUND, TONSBERG, ALESUND, FORNEBU / “W. MARTENS, EUROPE: I STRUGGLE, I OVERCOME”, OSLO – BOOK PRESENTATION / “W. MARTENS, EUROPE: I STRUGGLE, I OVERCOME”, ATHENS – BOOK PRESENTATION / “SURVEY OF SERBIAN CITIZENS REGARDING RELIGION AND EU ACCESSION”, BELGRADE / “SCENARIO FOR SERBIAN EU ACCESSION”, BELGRADE / “CROATIA IN THE EU”, ZAGREB / “THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE”, BERLIN / “ROMANIA’S ACCESSION INTO THE SCHENGEN AREA”, BRUSSELS / “EU-RUSSIA RELATIONS”, BRUSSELS / “FROM GERMAN UNITY TO A UNITED EUROPE”, BRUSSELS / “SECURING EUROPE”, BRUSSELS / “THE COMMON POSITION OF THE EU ON CUBA”, MADRID / “POST CRISIS AND POST LISBON EUROPE: A DIALOGUE WITH LATIN AMERICA”, BRUSSELS / “W. MARTENS, EUROPE: I STRUGGLE, I OVERCOME” BOOK PRESENTATION, NICOSIA / “EPP AND EU ISSUES”, NICOSIA / “NORTH IRISH PEACE PROCESS”, NICOSIA / “INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE”, NICOSIA / “STRENGTHENING POLITICAL INTEGRITY WITH THE CENTRE-RIGHT POLITICAL PARTIES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE”, BUCHAREST / “CENTRE-RIGHT VS LEFT” LECTURES, SLOVAKIA



# Economic Ideas Forum (EIF)

The Centre for European Studies organised the Economic Ideas Forum which took place in Madrid, Spain on 15 April during the ECOFIN Meeting of Ministers of Economy and Finance. The Forum tackled the hottest topics on the economic agenda: international cooperation; coordination of strategies; economic dynamism; the promotion of a value-driven economy; building a competitive and sustainable economy that promotes green investments, innovation, the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises, and the activation of sustainable recovery actions.

This forum brought together high level economic experts, Ministers of Economy and Finance, Commissioners, Former EU Prime Ministers, CEOs of companies from around the world and enterprises representatives, in an effort to set in motion a synergetic chain by involving EU leaders and inspiring them with strategic insights.

The event was hosted by **Wilfried Martens**, EPP and CES President, and **José María Aznar**, President of the Foundation for Social Research and Analysis (FAES) and former Prime Minister of Spain. The main organiser of the event was **Antonio López-Istúriz White**, EPP Secretary General and CES Secretary Treasurer. The Special Guest was **Alan D. Solomont**, Ambassador of the United States to Spain.



There were four very high profile panels. The topic of the first one was “Banking reform: Sharing the Burden or Splitting the Bill”. The panel was moderated by **Jaime García-Legaz**, Secretary General of FAES, and the panelists were: **Philippe Maystadt**, President of the European Investment Bank, **Daniel Dăianu**, former MEP and Minister of Finance of Romania and **Valdis Dombrovskis**, Prime Minister of Latvia. The panelists argued that the response of European governments and the EU to the current crisis has been legitimate. The panel agreed that the need for reform is strong in all fields, and that the main cause of the crisis is the fact that the transparency rules have failed.



The discussion on how to refuel economy was the topic of the second panel and it was approached from several angles while reflecting whether the European Union is on the right path to the recovery or the United States. The panelists argued that the pain Europe is feeling now is the result of a loss of global competitiveness which occurred due to cheap imports and low interest rates. A lot of our expenses in welfare are unsustainable for the future. The panelists were José María Aznar and **John Bruton**, former Prime Minister of Ireland and EU Ambassador to the US. It was moderated by **Thomas Bernd Stehling**, Director of the Madrid Office of Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS).



In the third panel, **Antonio Tajani**, Vice President of the European Commission and EU Commissioner for Industry and Entrepreneurship, **Algirdas Šemeta**, EU Commissioner for Taxations and Customs Union, Audit and Anti-Fraud, and **Bridget Cosgrave**, Director General of DigitalEurope, discussed the “Landscape after the crash- Governance or Government”. The moderator was **Bruce Stokes**, international economics columnist for the National Journal.

Panelists of the fourth panel discussed “Who’s got the Recovery Right?”. Restoring GDP growth and keeping unemployment low are top priorities for the short-term but medium to long-term strategies must look at the challenges that will determine if Europe will be a leader in the global scenario. For this reason it is crucial to discuss and define the direction of Europe’s socio-economic model and a common coherent strategy to tackle climate change. The two panels were moderated by Bruce Stokes. The panelists were: **Jyrki Katainen**, Minister of Finance of Finland, **Adriean Videanu**, Minister of Economy of Romania, **Jacek Rostowski**, Minister of Finance of Poland, and **Mariano Rajoy**, President of Partido Popular.

Mariano Rajoy concluded the panels arguing that Europe is currently going through one of its worst crisis, a crisis which without a doubt marks the end of a period to which we cannot return, and from which we have to extract lessons, rules and opportunities which will allow us to strengthen the Stability and Growth Pact and the Monetary Union and help us to continue the process of constructing a strong Europe.



Apart from the panels, there were two working lunches during this event, each dedicated to a different topic. The first one covered the topic of “Transatlantic economies: Partners or Competitors”. A lot of interesting questions were addressed during this lunch. One of the highly discussed questions was how should politicians on both sides of the Atlantic resist the temptations of erecting protectionist barriers that would damage the transatlantic economic partnership even further?

The second working lunch had its own topic on “The Challenges of the digital revolution and energy efficiency”. As experts pointed out, a digital revolution is transforming the environment in which economies operate. To underline the importance of the sector, the new EU executive has a commissioner dedicated to the so-called “Digital Agenda”.



# The EU-US Centre-Right Think Tank Conference

On 12 and 13 October 2010, the Centre for European Studies, in cooperation with the International Republican Institute (IRI), organised a two day EU-US centre-right think tank conference with the aim to reassess the transatlantic relationship after the Lisbon Treaty, governance of the Obama administration a year and a half after coming into office and the common challenges that the West is facing.

The event took place in Brussels – at CES headquarters and the Stanhope Hotel. CES had the pleasure to host prominent speakers from Europe and the USA.

The welcome speech was given by **Wilfried Martens**, President of EPP and CES, in which he highlighted the view that American and EU Conservatives and Christian Democrats should engage in active communication and cooperation in present global situation. The financial crisis and its aftermath, the shift of power from West to East, the need to counter terrorism, demographic changes and the new challenges posed by international migration are issues that will have to be addressed by the West and undoubtedly require a common effort by the centre-right from both sides of the Atlantic. These efforts should also be extended to the level of think tanks and political foundations.



The two day conference was divided into five panels. The first open roundtable discussion was represented by: Wilfried Martens, **Klaus Welle**, Secretary General of the European Parliament, **Elmar Brok**, Chairman of the Delegation for Relations with the United States and MEP, **Myra Miller**, Senior Vice President of the Winston Group and **Mark Milke**, Director of Alberta Policy Studies at the Fraser Institute, and was moderated by **Antonio López-Istúriz White**, Member of the European Parliament, EPP Secretary General and CES Secretary Treasurer. The main subject of the debate concerned “The State of the Unions: Current developments in the EU and North America”.



The second panel included **Jim Kolbe**, a Senior Transatlantic Fellow for the German Marshall Fund of the US and former US Congressman, **John Noonan**, Policy Advisor at the Foreign Policy Initiative, **Peter Weilemann**, Director of the Office of Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) in Brussels and **Tunne Kelam**, Member of the European Parliament and was moderated by **Nikolaos Tzifakis**, Deputy-Director of the Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy. The panelists exchanged opinions regarding upcoming security challenges: the future of NATO and a transatlantic Eastern policy.

The next roundtable discussion was moderated by **Werner Fasslabend**, President of the Political Academy of the ÖVP, and the panelists were: **Roland Freudenstein**, CES Deputy Director and Head of Research, and **Seth Cropsey**, Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute. They exchanged opinions regarding “Islam and the West: Politics and Religion in Transatlantic Relations”.



**On the second day**, the first roundtable discussion concerned “A Green Economy: Fighting Climate Change” and it was represented by **Christian Kremer**, EPP Deputy Secretary General, **Myra Miller** and **Margaritis Schinas**, Deputy Head of the Bureau of European Policy Advisers. The discussion was moderated by **Raymond Gradus**, Director of the CDA Research Institute.

In the afternoon of the second day, the public event took place at the Stanhope Hotel. The main subject of the discussion was “Between G2 and G20: the transatlantic economy and global governance”. The welcoming speeches were given by Wilfried Martens and **Lorne Craner**, IRI President. The panel was chaired by **Tomi Huhtanen**, CES Director, and the panelists were **Olof Ehrenkrona**, Political Adviser and Chief of Staff at the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and CES Board Member, **Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl**, Member of the European Parliament, **Maurice Thompson**, Citi Vice Chairman, and **Brian Lee Crowley**, Managing Director at Macdonald-Laurier Institute. **Lindsay Lloyd**, IRI Regional Director Europe, moderated the debate.



The title of the last panel was: “Is there a Freedom Agenda? Western values for the 21st century” and was represented by **J. Scott Carpenter**, Keston Family Fellow, Washington Institute for Near East Policy, **Javier Fernández-Lasquetty**, Minister of Healthcare for the Region of Madrid and FAES Board Member, **Alan Mendoza**, Executive Director of the Henry Jackson Society and **Žiga Turk**, Secretary General of Reflection Group, and it was moderated by Roland Freudenstein.



These two discussions were concluded by Jim Kolbe, who reiterated the need for these systems of values to be supported in order to promote freedom on a global scale.

# Transatlantic Test:

## What should the West do with Iran

CES and the German Marshall Fund (GMF) held a two day conference on 5-6 May, 2010 entitled “Transatlantic Test: What should the West do with Iran?” The conference brought together about 50 officials and experts from the US, Europe and the Middle-East region to discuss the various political options open to the transatlantic alliance when dealing with Iran.

The conference addressed Iran’s nuclear ambitions, current domestic developments, and the regional implications of a nuclear Iran and possible scenarios in the West’s relations with the Islamic Republic. In particular, the conference intended to highlight the need to formulate a joint transatlantic strategy based on all the available instruments that policymakers have at their disposal in order to manage the Iranian challenge in the most effective way.

The speakers and participants debated the internal dynamics between the Iranian regime (led by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Iran’s Supreme Leader Grand Ali Khamenei) and the Green Movement and their expectations from the West. The debates centered on the range of policy options open to the West: the role of engagement; the use of sanctions; military options and/or the use of restricted military power to slow down Iran’s progression towards nuclear capabilities. Furthermore, the participants assessed the response of regional actors to the development of Iran’s nuclear power and discussed the Green Movement’s expectations of the West. In the final session, the participants shared their thoughts and ideas on how the US and Europe can cooperate better in devising policies to address the complex issue of Iran’s nuclear programme.



# Creation of a Real Global Market: Post-Crisis Challenges

CES held on 5 October 2010 a conference titled “Creation of a real global market: Post-crisis challenges”. Its aim was to reassess the developments of world trade one year after the Lisbon Treaty’s entry into force. The participants of the conference debated how traditional world economic powers should position themselves to absorb the shocks of global economic change and how to eliminate various persisting barriers that prevent the emergence of a free global marketplace.

**Antonio López-Istúriz White**, the EPP Secretary General, CES Secretary Treasurer and MEP, opened the conference by highlighting the need to maintain strong EU-US economic relations and acknowledged the need for better management in the EU. Mr. López-Istúriz White also mentioned the importance of the digital agenda and the revolutionary impact it has had and will continue to have on communications

The keynote speaker **Jim Cicconi**, the current Senior Executive Vice President for External and Legislative Affairs for AT&T Services, Inc. opened his speech by staunchly supporting the US-EU transatlantic relationship. When addressing digital communication, he presented two trends: the rise of mobile communications and global virtualism. Both trends lowered costs (i.e. travelling expenses) and increased efficiency, productivity and the rate of decision-making. Also, the latter is environmental friendly. Furthermore, ICT innovation in one sector has the ability to spur innovation in other related sectors or create completely new ones

The panel discussion labeled as “Post-Lisbon Developments in the Creation of a Real Global Market” was moderated by CES Director **Tomi Huhtanen**. It included six panelists: **Elmar Brok**, MEP and Chair of the Delegation for Relations with the United States, **Thomas J. White**, Deputy Chief of US Mission to the EU, **Ronaldo Costa Filho**, Deputy Head of Mission for Economic and Trade Affairs of the Brazilian Mission to the EU, **Carlos López Blanco**, Former Secretary of State for Telecommunications and Information Society in the Spanish Government and Director of the International Office of Telefónica, **Gunnar Hökmark**, MEP and member of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, and **Pilar Del Castillo**, MEP and member of the



Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and Former Minister for Education, Culture and Sport in the Spanish Government.

The panelists raised a number of common issues. The emergence of new economic competitors such as China and Brazil underlined many of the issues mentioned, such as the need to establish global standards and regulations that support the Western economic model while the US-EU still have a relative competitive advantage. Prioritization of education and therefore the cultivation of knowledge would be imperative to maintain Western competitiveness in the ICT industry. In terms of the Internet, two speakers explicitly stated the need to create the proper conditions for growth with the shared values and roots of beliefs of the US and EU. One of the speakers outlined three central challenges facing the US and EU: the need for growth, to plan for the future impact of new technological developments and the need to better integrate emerging economies in the world architecture. Although all speakers emphasized the importance of a strong transatlantic relationship, Costa Filho questioned the actual basis of this relationship (whether it be cooperative or competitive) and whether this intent focus on bilateralism between the two was the most prudent strategy in an increasingly multipolar world.

# Baltic Freedom: The Next 20 Years

March 2010 marked the 20th anniversary of the declaration of independence of Lithuania as the first former Soviet Republic on 11 March, 1990. Latvia and Estonia declared their sovereignty as well, in 1990-91. On 10 May 2010, the Centre for European Studies held a high level panel debate in Vilnius. Many prominent figures came to reflect upon these two decades of independence and discussed the challenges of the future.

The event was opened by **Irena Degutienè** Speaker of Seimas and followed by keynote speech of the EPP President **Wilfried Martens** who also handed over the EPP Merit Award to **Vytautas Landsbergis**, First Head of State after Independence of Lithuania and current Member of the European Parliament, for his role in the restoration of Lithuanian independence.



Then the panelists discussed the Baltic experience in overcoming communism and introducing democracy and the market economy, as well as joining NATO and the EU. The discussion also focused on the present and future challenges to the three

Baltic States, in view of financial and economic crisis and recovery, and the multiple challenges of relations with Russia, in terms of security, energy policy and minorities. The panelists agreed that the positive role of the Baltic states in promoting democracy in Eastern Europe should form a third step.

Above all, the panelists came to three main conclusions: First, revolutions need not be violent in order to qualify as such. Peaceful action is often not only morally better, but more efficient in the long run. Second, nothing in the world will change if we don't change it. Third, we can never defend any kind of oppression. Communism was a complete failure. It resulted in the destruction of the economy, the collapse of civil society, poverty and rapid growth of criminality. And it left deep wounds on human souls.

Now, Europe should be united in tolerance and the soul of Europe should lie in the market economy, free elections and good governance, and in the support given to neighbouring countries in the enlargement process.



# Croatia in the EU



The Centre for European Studies in cooperation with the Croatian Statehood Foundation organised on 17 November 2010 in Osijek, Croatia a conference dedicated to the topic of “Croatia in the EU”. The meeting was the occasion to demonstrate the EPP’s and CES support to Croatia and HDZ, the Croatian member party of the EPP, as well as to their Prime Minister **Jadranka Kosor** and the people of Croatia.

The Conference was opened by the welcome remarks of **Srećko Prusina**, the Chairman of the Board of the Croatian Statehood Foundation, and by the hosts of the event, **Wilfried Martens**, President of EPP and CES, and **Jadranka Kosor**, the Prime Minister of Croatia. The speakers of the first panel discussed the topic of “Croatia-the 28th member of the EU”. The panel was moderated by CES Director **Tomi Huhtanen** and was filled with high representatives like Wilfried Martens, **Gordan Jandroković**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and European integration of the Republic of Croatia, **Rumiana Jeleva**, the Vice-President of the EPP, **Dražen Bošnjaković**, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, and **Dragan Čović**, the President of the Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



In the afternoon, the conference continued with a second panel which focused on “Croatia in the EU-for or against”. The moderator was **Ivo Ivančić** the Head of the Political Academy of the Croatian Statehood Foundation and Director of the Office of the Board of the VERN University of Applied Sciences. The panelists were **Paul Vandoren**,

Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Croatia, **Branko Bačić**, MP and Secretary General of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ), **Vladimir Drobňak**, Chief Negotiator for the Accession Negotiations of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union, **Vesna Pusić**, President of the Croatian National Committee for Tracking the Negotiations on the Accession of Croatia to the European Union and Vice-President of the European Liberal Democrat and Reform Party, **Josip Friščić**, Vice-Speaker of the Croatian Parliament Sabor and President of the Croatian Peasant Party (HSS), and **Milorad Pupovac**, President of the Independent Democratic Serbian Party (SDSS).



The third panel was devoted to the topic “Youth in the EU”. It was moderated by the former Vice President of the Youth of the European People’s Party and International Secretary of the Youth of the Croatian Democratic Union, **Darija Jurica**, and the speakers were **Gonzalo Ortiz Lázaro**, member of New Generations of the People's Party in Spain and Political Advisor to the President of the Community of Madrid, **Bence Bauer**, Chairman of the European Democrat Students, **Mate Jurčević** Member of the Board of the Youth of the Croatian Democratic Union, and Ivo Ivančić. The Conference was closed by Srećko Prusina.



# The Inclusion of the Roma in a European Dimension



The Centre for European Studies in collaboration with the Foundation for a Civic Hungary organised a conference entitled “The Inclusion of the Roma in a European Dimension”. The conference took place in the Szent Adalbert Education Centre in Esztergom, in Hungary on 24-26 November 2010.



**Zoltán Balog**, the Secretary of State for Inclusion, explained efforts of the current Hungarian government to improve the integration of Roma and to prepare an EU integration strategy during the Hungarian Presidency in 2011. **Ilona Negro** from the European Commission outlined the Commission's policies. MEP **Livia Járóka** explained in her video message recent developments in the European Parliament. **Flórián Farkas**, Commissioner of the Hungarian minister for Roma inclusion, spoke in more detail about working on the Roma integration.

Subsequent speakers included representatives of Hungarian churches, who movingly described their pastoral work with the Roma community. President of the Esztergom County, **György Popovics** explained local efforts. **Lucia Nicholsonová**, the State Secretary for Inclusion of the Slovak government, spoke about the situation in Slovakia. **Georgi Krastev** from the Bulgarian government described the situation in his country, while **Vít Novotný** from CES provided a summary of EU policies.



# The European Common Position on Cuba



Fundación para el análisis y los estudios sociales

On 17 May in Madrid, the Centre for European Studies, with the support of FAES, organised an activity which aimed to give homage to those who long for a free and democratic Cuba. The seminar, explaining the EU position on Cuba, took place one day before the summit between European Union – Latin American which was celebrated in Madrid on 18 May 2010.



At a time when Cuban civil society seems stronger and braver than ever to the world, the celebration of the EU-Latin American Summit was a great opportunity to call for the release of all political prisoners, as well as to demand the Spanish Government to work towards the transition to democracy, freedom and human rights on the island instead of promoting cooperation and negotiation with the Communist regime.

The welcome note of the CES Seminar was made by **Antonio López-Istúriz White**, CES Secretary Treasurer and EPP Secretary General, and **Jaime García-Legaz**, MP. The first topic discussed was “Mechanisms of pressure to the regime and support to the democrats” and this panel was coordinated by **Elena Larrinaga**, President of the Federación Española de Asociaciones Cubanas (FECU). The speakers were **Yaxis Cires**, Vice President of the Partido Demócrata Cristiano of Cuba, and **Sylvia Iriondo**, President of Madres y Mujeres Anti-Represión (M.A.R.) por Cuba. The conclusions were made by **Alfredo Mesa**, former Executive director of the Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana (FNCA).

The subject of the second panel was “The importance of the EU common position towards Cuba” and was moderated by **Antonio López-Istúriz White**. The panelists were **Soraya Sáenz de Santamaría**, Spokeswomen of the Partido Popular (PP) Group in the Congress, and **Jorge Moragas**, MP and Coordinator of Presidency of International Relations of PP. **Natalia Bellusova**, Asociación Iberoamericana por la Libertad, made the closing remarks for this panel.



# Latin American Visitors' Programme



From the 15 to 19 November the Centre for European Studies, with the support of FAES, organised the Latin American Visitors' Programme which hosted 50 young leaders from Latin American countries, who all graduated with an excellent academic record and are with proven professional experience in the institutions of their countries of origin.

The areas covered by the programme were: economic freedom, social policies and development; de-centralisation and effective management; globalisation; economic and political integration processes; strengthening of democratic institutions and political parties; leadership training techniques and a better understanding of the European Union, its mechanisms and its institutions.

The programme's aim was to increase the participants' knowledge in the covered areas as well as to create the optimal group environment to encourage a real exchange of expertise among the participants and the speakers.

This year, the participants had the opportunity to meet and discuss with professionals from the EU institutions in Brussels – European Parliament, European Commission, Committee of the Regions and Economic and Social Committee. Special focus was put on the latest developments in EU policies, the Lisbon Treaty, the lessons from the economic crisis and EU-Latin America relations.

In addition, the young leaders participated in several specialized dialogues and discussions with distinguished speakers such as **Antonio López Istúriz White**, Secretary General of EPP, who spoke on the strengthening of democracy in Latin America, **Juan Salafranca** from the EPP-Group in the European Parliament, and the MEPs **Pablo Arias** and **Pilar del Castillo**, who focused on the creation of modern and effective political parties. The participants also attended an inspiring lecture by **Gunnar Hökmark**, MEP and Vice-President of the EPP-Group on the “New Global Economy”, and a discussion with **Diego Canga Fano**, Head of cabinet of the Vice President of the European Commission Antonio Tajani, responsible for Industry and Entrepreneurship.



**Wilfried Martens**, President of the EPP and CES, warmly welcomed the group of young leaders and presented the role of the EPP in the building of the European Union from a historical point of view. In his speech, President Martens referred to the future challenges for the centre-right in Europe and the lessons that could be drawn from the European experience for leaders and institutions in Latin America.



# Securing Europe



On 24 June 2010, the Centre for European Studies and the Brussels office of the Hanns Seidel Stiftung co-organised a conference entitled “Securing Europe”. The aim of the conference, as the title suggests, was to assess new developments impacting European security, as well as highlighting the role of strategic partners such as the US and Russia in this changing configuration of threats and alliances.



H.E. Dr. **Dmitry Rogozin**, Head of Mission of the Russian Federation to NATO, opened the first panel by stating that the transatlantic organisation was an attempt to preserve an order which had already changed, and that many NATO members were incompatible in terms of their contribution to the alliance. In his opinion, the enlargement of NATO has made the body lose its *raison d'être*, becoming a mere tool for the US to legitimise its actions abroad. However, due to economic factors as well as other emerging powers such as China, the US would soon be forced to reduce “its geopolitical constructions”. Following, **Thomas Silberhorn**, Spokesman of the CSU Parliamentary Group for European and Foreign Affairs in the German Bundestag, began his intervention by highlighting that although the Lisbon Treaty was supposed to strengthen the EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy, this was still not happening due to the persistence of national interests. He stressed that this national way of thinking should be replaced by a European one; however, this should not lead to a centralised EU, but to a network model.

The second panel was opened by **Eduard Kukan**, Chairman of the Delegation for relations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo in the European Parliament. He warned that the degree of EU attractiveness was not as high in the Balkans as it used to be in the case of Eastern European countries. The following speaker, **Jamie Shea**, Director of Policy and Planning at NATO, began his remarks by stating he was optimistic about improving EU-NATO cooperation. In his concluding recommendation, he stated that the EU should not only set agendas, but also form coalitions to achieve them, and in order to achieve this power politics remained an essential ingredient. The last speaker of the panel, **Lars-Gunnar Wiegemark**, Head of Unit for Security policy in the European Commission (DG RELEX) noted that the EU had always subscribed to a broad concept of security, and this European model had been most successful in its neighbourhood (with the exception of the Balkans).

# From German Unity to United Europe



On Thursday 30 September 2010, the Centre for European Studies, the Hanns Seidel Stiftung and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung organised a conference “From German Unity to a United Europe” at the Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the European Union in Brussels. The event was moderated by **Jochen Bittner** and was opened by welcoming remarks from Dr. **Angelika Schlunck**, Head of the Bavarian Representation. She highlighted how German unification came about thanks to a stable Europe. Her remarks were followed by a short speech by **Christian Forstner**, Director of the Hans-Seidel-Stiftung Brussels Office. His speech echoed the ideas of Dr. Schlunck, demonstrating that the integration of values, the unification of Germany and consequently of the West took place at the same time.

**Wilfried Martens**, the President of EPP and CES, reflected on how, without Germany’s unification, a whole and free Europe would not exist. At the time of integration and unification, the future was not clear; there was hope but also fear. World War II was an important reminder to the people of Europe as to the importance of peace. A united Germany is a force for good. President Martens stated that “the European People’s Party is truly a European political party”. Though the future is full of challenges, they can be met if nations work together. The European Union needs to be competitive and must deal with immigration and climate change in an appropriate and effective way. The transatlantic relationship is most important to the survival of the West. We must stick to core values and believe in dignity.

During the panel discussion that followed, four politicians from France, Germany, Russia and the United Kingdom presented their views on the significance of the unification of Germany and European integration. First was **James Elles**, MEP, whose comments centered on integration and policy-making. Another MEP, who provided his views, was **Jean-Paul Gauzès** from France. Mr. Gauzès expressed his belief that France and Germany work so well together these days, but that the relationship needs a new impetus so that it remains as significant as it has been over the past 20 years. To present a non-EU view, Dr. **Dmitry Rogozin**, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to NATO, spoke about how Russia was glad for the Germans and how the events of 20 years ago were a foundation for change. The last participant was Dr. **Stephen Eisel**, Former Deputy Head of Office of Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Even though the European Union and Germany have come a long way in the past 20 years, he believes that a good reason for continuing integration is needed.

# Romania's Accession into the Schengen Area



On 9 November 2010, the Centre for European Studies, in cooperation with the Hanns Seidel Stiftung, hosted the conference, “Freedom, Security and Rule of Law in Europe: Romania’s Schengen Accession”, with the Romanian Minister of Interior, **Constantin Traian Igaş** as the keynote speaker. Romania’s pending but expected accession in the Schengen zone was discussed with a focus on the issues that may hamper the progress towards achieving this goal. Overall, it was acknowledged by the speakers that the technical requirements were more or less fulfilled; however, the area of concern that continually arose was the issue of corruption.

Opening remarks to welcome Mr. Igaş and the panelists were made by **Antonio López-Istúriz White**, MEP, Secretary Treasurer of CES and Secretary General of EPP. He recognized and supported the efforts made by Romania in fulfilling the Schengen zone requirements.

Mr. Igaş emphasized that becoming part of the Schengen Zone is the central goal of Romania’s foreign policy which is projected to occur by the Spring of 2011. He emphasized Romania’s investment towards improving institutional capacity and infrastructure in order to achieve the standards set out, in addition to the improvements that have been already made in Romania’s border infrastructure. Also, adjustments in the police structure and (re)training in the Schengen border areas have been made.

Mr. Igaş also provided remarks on the alleged corruption in Romania, stating that anticorruption measures have been taken, including the establishments of the National Anticorruption Directorate and Anticorruption Academy.



Following the speech, remarks were made and discussion was facilitated among panelists. Romania's bid to join the Schengen zone was seen as another step towards building a united Europe that will see all European countries on equal footing. Concerns were raised over the overemphasis on corruption in Romania in conjunction with the country's Schengen aspirations as, if the linkage continues, progress could be stifled. An area of concern linked with corruption in Romania was the sensitive database that would be made available with Schengen accession. Finally, remarks were made on the recently signed Romania-Moldova border agreement.

# Wilfried Martens' Book Presentation in Norway



On 8 May 2010, **Wilfried Martens**, President of CES and EPP, presented his book “Europe: I struggle, I overcome” in Oslo, Norway.

President Martens was joined for the discussion by Ambassador **Jan Petersen**, former Chairman of the Conservative Party in Norway, and **Ine Eriksen Soreide**, Chairwoman of the Parliamentary Committee for Foreign affairs in Norway. Other dignitaries that joined the discussion after the presentation were **Kaare Willoch**, former Prime Minister of Norway when Mr. Martens was Prime Minister of Belgium, and **Sven Stray**, two times Foreign Minister of Norway.

President Martens began his speech by declaring how grateful he was to see that so many people had shown up with an interest in his personal career and political engagement. His goal for the book presentation was an exchange of views and ideas about the future direction of Europe - to which he devoted most of his life and which has shaped his political beliefs. After a thorough presentation of his book and ideas Mr. Martens concluded with the remarks “One has to learn from history. In Belgium, in Norway, as well as in Europe, the danger that new generations are facing, when lacking the knowledge of their own past, would be to improvise solutions that already were proven to be wrong.”

The highly attended seminar finished off with the President signing over two hundred copies of his book.



# Commemoration of the Velvet Revolution



On the 17 November 2010, the Centre for European Studies, in cooperation with the Institute for modern Slovakia organised their annual one day event, “Commemoration of the Velvet Revolution”. This was the third year that such a symbolic event was organised and it was held in the historical building of the Slovak National Theatre in Bratislava, where important events of the revolution in Bratislava took place.

The leaders of today’s coalition parties met at the stage, including the Slovak Prime Minister **Iveta Radicová**, **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, Chairman of the Slovak Democratic and Christian Union (SDKÚ-DS), **Ján Figel’** Chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH), **Béla Bugár**, Chairman of Most-Híd, and **Richard Sulík**, Chairman of the Party for Freedom and Solidarity (SAS), and each of them gave a speech.

**Roland Freudenstein**, CES Deputy Director and Head of Research, also addressed the audience, reminding them of how it was 21 years ago, however encouraging them to look at the present and the future.

The special guest was former President of Poland **Lech Wałęsa** who gave a speech during this ceremony.

The Velvet Revolution commemoration attracts every year hundreds of participants. It serves as a true celebration of freedom and democracy, and a reminder that it was centre-right forces that brought these principles back to Slovakia and protect the values of the revolution - in the past, the present and the future.



# Strengthening Political Integrity



## within the Center-Right Political Parties in Central and Eastern Europe

The Institute for Popular Studies is one of the two newest member foundations that joined CES's expanding network of partners in 2010. The ISP and CES, together with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), the Eduardo Frei Foundation (EFF), the International Republican Institute (IRI) and MEP **Monica Macovei** (EPP Group) organised an international conference in Bucharest, entitled "Strengthening Political Integrity within the Center-Right Political Parties in Central and Eastern Europe".

The conference was attended by over forty participants belonging to centre-right parties in the region, think tanks and civil society representatives, and received wide media coverage. The participants focused on a wide range of aspects of the topic, such as difficulties for post-communist parties in tackling corruption and clientelism, party funding and financial transparency, the transfer of good practices among parties in the region, etc. Following these discussions, the participants concluded on a set of practical steps needed to enhance awareness on the topic and uphold political integrity, which they promised to promote among their colleagues, as well as the leadership of their organisations.



# Wilfried Martens' Book Presentation in Greece



On 20 December 2010 CES and The Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy (KKID) organised jointly the presentation of Wilfried Martens' book "Europe: I struggle, I overcome" in Athens.

The book was presented by the President of Nea Demokratia Party **Antonis Samaras**, by the Chairman of KKID **Evangelos Meimarakis** and by the Vice President and the International Secretary of Nea Demokratia, **Dimitris Avramopoulos** and **Stavros Papastavrou**. The event was chaired by the Director General of KKID and Associate Professor at the University of Peloponnese **Konstantina E. Botsiou**.

Wilfried Martens made the closing remarks and received an honorary distinction from the KKID for his contribution to Democracy and European Integration. At the end of the event the President signed copies of his book.

The book presentation was attended by around 400 people, including several MPs and MEPs of Nea Demokratia, diplomats, academics, journalists and students.



# EU's Macro Regions



The Centre for European Studies and The National Educational Association (KANSIO) organised a seminar and roundtable debate entitled “Regional Trends in European Politics – from the Baltic to the Arctic Sea” on 12 June in Jyväskylä, Finland, focusing on regions in the European Union and especially on the concept of macro-regions.

The event was opened by CES Director **Tomi Huhtanen** who outlined the research the Centre for European Studies had done on the subject and presented the findings of the newest CES research paper “The Baltic Sea Strategy: a Pilot Project for Macro-Regionalisation of the EU” by Dr. **Esko Antola**. This research paper assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the Baltic Sea Strategy, pinpointing areas for improvement.

**Markku Markkula**, Member of the Committee of the Regions and former Member of the Finnish Parliament, gave his view on regional trends in European politics and made a synthesis on the EU 2020 Strategy and its regional impact, focusing especially on promoting innovation. After that, **Frank Bakke Jensen**, Member of the Norwegian Parliament, gave an outline of the rising importance and policy focus on the Arctic Area, which derives largely from the recent discovery of large gas and oil deposits in the region and the possibility that transportation through the Arctic region will become increasingly important in the future. The participants of the seminar included experts of KANSIO and guests from EPP parties or related institutes across Europe.



# Health Policy In Europe



On 19 January 2010, the Centre for European Studies and the Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party organised an expert conference called "Health policy in Europe", where a circle of 40 experts discussed the future of health systems in Europe. **Christian Hagist** from the University of Freiburg pointed out in his lecture, that for securing public health systems it would be necessary to combine percentage excess for patients with competition supporting measures. That would be fair, as such measures do not break the principle of solidarity against the big risks of life.

**Maria Hofmarcher** from "Gesundheit Österreich" showed in her lecture a comparison between several European systems and their state of reforms. Due to demography and medical progress, the health economy branch is strongly expanding; there is a wide area between efficiency and fairness, and unfortunately no country has found the "perfect" system yet.



# The Atlantic Seminar: Understanding Political Islam in Europe



The international workshop “Understanding Political Islam in Europe” was organised by CES in cooperation both with The Political Academy of the Austrian People’s Party (PoIAk) and the International Republican Institute (IRI). It took place on the 22 and 23 March 2010 in Vienna, Austria. More than twenty experts from all over the world participated and discussed the latest developments in the Islamic world. The participants of the two-day seminar considered the different Islamic streams and characteristics in Islamic and Western countries and their impact on politics.

The first day, the welcoming remarks were made by **Werner Fasslabend**, the President of PoIAk, and **Jan Surotchak**, the Resident IRI Director for Europe, and the session was opened by CES and EPP President **Wilfried Martens**. The Summary of IRI’s Work on Political Islam was presented by **Patrick Egan**, Director of Regional Programme for Europe, and a presentation on “Understanding Political Islam” was made by **Walid Phares**, Visiting Fellow at the European Foundation for the Defense of Democracy in Brussels and Washington. **Lorenzo Vidino**, of the Initiative on Religion in International Affairs from Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, talked about Islam in European Politics and the discussion concluded the day’s activities.

The second day session was opened by **Tomi Huhtanen**, CES Director, and **David Vriesendorp**, Member of the Board of Directors from Eduardo Frei Foundation, in the Netherlands. Three case studies regarding the “Mapping of Political Islam” were presented by **Amr Hamzawy** from the Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut. **Gunter Seufert**, freelance Author and journalist writing for the Berliner Zeitung talked about “Understanding the Success of Recep Tayyip Erdogan” and the AK Party. The topic “Engaging Political Islam” was also debated by Ambassador **Olof Ehrenkrona**, advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Sweden. The concluding discussion: “Considering Political Families in the Euro-Mediterranean” was chaired by **Alberto Carnero**, the Director of International Programmes of FAES, Spain.



# Europe and its Regions



On 8 May 2010, CES and The Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party (PoIAk) organised a conference in the House of European Union in Vienna dedicated to "Europe and its Regions". The speakers of this conference were **Richard Kühnel**, Head of Delegation of the European Commission, **Werner Fasslabend**, the President of PoIAk, **Hans Winkler**, the Director of the Diplomatic Academy, **Michael Spindelegger**, the Federal Minister of European and International Affairs and **Johannes Hahn**, the EU Commissioner for Regional Policy. They discussed the status, opportunities, challenges and weaknesses of the future of the European agenda. The House of European Union was filled with an audience that included participants from all age groups.







Navigation menu with icons and labels:

- EU Foreign Policy
- Ethics, Values and Religion
- EU
- Other icons: a star, a building, a gear, and a snowflake.

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Ces Thinkingeurope attended the event Plac but fair - a proposal for a socially conscious fair rate tax.

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12/10
- epptweet** EPP CES Thinkingeurope  
Göran Lenmarker speaking at #IRP...  
The leading role of the centre-right in...  
12/8/10
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- thinkingeurope** CES ThinkingEurope  
 Alan Mendoza analyzes the vigor of the Freedom Agenda and the shift in American Foreign Policy in the last panel of the transatlantic forum  
 13 Oct
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 Goran Lenmarker stresses two economic priorities to put the financial house in order and to tackle structural reforms (transatlantic forum)  
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 Citi Vice Chairman Thompson in transatlantic forum: The new growth model should combine the models of the developed and the developing world  
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**ThinkingEurope** website serves as a window to the online world for its multiple activities. Through its user-friendly interface and subdivision into thematic areas, the website allows users to easily discover the work carried out by CES. It includes activities undertaken by CES and its member foundations, reports from seminars and conferences, descriptions of publications and overviews of research projects, as well as contact details of all our members.

The website provides access to our full range of research activities and publications from some of the most distinguished scholars and high-level politicians worldwide. All our publications are also easily downloadable in electronic format.

Thinkingeurope.eu also serves as a main gateway to our multimedia platform The Zoom, which contains a wide range of speeches and interviews from our events.

Thinkingeurope.eu is an essential item in every bookmark list for anyone interested in understanding European politics.

CES plays an active role in the increasingly important platform of social networks, thus reflecting the CES' core aim to promote an open and transparent public debate on key European issues and engage the younger generation, who are the most reluctant to participate in politics, in European affairs.

The Thinkingeurope website and the Web 2.0 approach constitute part of CES communication strategy to help close the gap between citizens and European political actors.



20, Rue du Commerce  
1000 Brussels  
Phone: +32 2 300 80 04  
Fax: +32 2 300 80 11  
e-Mail: [info@thinkingeurope.eu](mailto:info@thinkingeurope.eu)