



**Asociace  
pro mezinárodní  
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Projekt byl podpořen  
odbohem informování  
o evropských záležitostech  
Úřadu vlády  
České republiky

## **Czech Presidency in the Context of Cooperation of the French-Czech-Swedish Trio: Challenges and Opportunities**

International Conference organised by the Association for the International Affairs with the support of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

**Prague, 24 September, 2009**

**Venue:** Liechtenstein Palace

The purpose of this one-day expert conference, organised by the Association of International Affairs (AMO) with the support of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, is to evaluate the performance of the Czech presidency of the Council of the European Union 2009 in the framework of the France - Czech Republic - Sweden presidential trio.

Its goal is to map practical development in particular areas of cooperation and identify topics, where effective approach was reached as well as those where cooperation was limited. The event presents a great opportunity for government officials, academia and professionals in the sphere of business and diplomacy as well as interested public from to meet and exchange their opinions.

The conference comprises four topical blocs concerned with the economy, energy, transatlantic relations and European neighbourhood policy.

An independent study covering the topic, as well as a series of papers prepared by the Research Centre of AMO providing assessment of the performance of the Czech Presidency 2009, will be presented.

**Working language:** English

### **Tentative Programme:**

#### **Opening Remarks**

*(9:00 – 9:30)*

- Mr. Štefan Füle, Minister of European Affairs of the Czech Republic (tbc)
- His Excellency Mr. Charles Fries, Ambassador of France to the Czech Republic (conf.)
- Her Excellency Ms. Catherine von Heidenstam, Ambassador of Sweden to the Czech Republic (conf.)



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### **Panel I:**

#### **“Searching for a Common Solution to the Economic Crisis: How to Coordinate the Interests of EU Countries?”**

*(9:30 – 10:45)*

Chair: Charles Grant, Centre for European Reform, Director (conf.)

- Jean-François Jamet, Sciences-Po; Economist (conf.)
- Michal Mejstřík, Member of the National Economic Council; Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague, Director (conf.)
- Representative of business area (Sweden)

*Coffee break (10:45 – 11:00)*

### **Panel II:**

#### **“Energy: Is the EU Capable of a Common and Coordinated Approach? What are the Possible Ways of Diversification?”**

*(11:00 – 12:15)*

Chair: Jan Žižka, E15 Economic Daily, Deputy Editor in Chief (conf.)

- Philippe Debono, Komerční Banka a.s. (inv.)
- Pavel Šolc, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, Advisor to the Minister (conf.)
- Mats Braun, Institute of International Relations in Prague, Researcher (conf.)

*Lunch (12:15 – 13:30)*

### **Panel III:**

#### **“Transatlantic Relations: Euphoria and Disenchantment or Actually New Possibilities of Cooperation?”**

*(13:30 – 14:45)*

Chair: Michael Romancov, Charles University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Institute of Political Studies (conf.)

- Christian Lequesne, Sciences-Po, Director of the Centre for International Studies and Research (conf.)
- Alexandr Vondra, Former Minister of European Affairs; Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, Senator (conf.)
- Mike Winnerstig, Swedish Defence Research Agency (conf.)
- Mary Thompson-Jones, Embassy of the US to the Czech Republic, Chargé d’Affaires (conf.)

*Coffee break (14:45 – 15:00)*



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#### **Panel IV:**

#### **“New Dimensions of Strengthening the European Neighbourhood Policy: Common Interest or Competition?”**

*(15:00 – 16:15)*

Chair: Antonio Missiroli, European Policy Centre, Director of Studies (conf.)

- Guillaume Klossa, Europanova, President- Founder (conf.)
- Jeff Lovitt, Policy Association for an Open Society, Director (conf.)
- Johanna Popjanevski, Institute for Security and Development Policy, Deputy Director (conf.)

#### **Concluding Remarks**

*(16:15 – 16:30)*

#### **Reception at the Embassy of the Swedish Kingdom in Prague**

*by invitation only, starts at 19:00*

#### **Conference team contacts:**

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