



Prague January 2006

INVITATION

Eighth European Conference of Members of National Parliaments on Information and Communication Technologies

Dear colleague,

The development of the Information Society receives its dynamics from the continuous impacts of a demand for new contents and services, and a technology push through new devices, systems and applications. Most areas of daily work and living, particularly our mobility and availability pattern, have been substantially influenced and changed by advanced information and communication technologies and services. Shaping the markets of information and communication technologies and services means shaping the development of the Information Society. On the other side, governments and parliaments should try to do their best to use the dynamics of the development of the Information Society for the social and economic development of their countries. They should exercise leadership using their classical means: by regulating, and by giving good example through good practice.

The Czech Senate – established in 1996 - is a “young” institution in the context of modern democratic era of the Czech Republic. Therefore information and communication technologies serve as standard instruments in our work.

However, during the last few years, we have been making an effort to seek new forms of opening the Czech Senate and thus making it friendlier towards Czech and foreign public. The Information Society should be one of the ways how to improve permanent communication and awareness of the parliament’s activities and to improve the quality of parliamentarism and democracy.

For these reasons the Czech Senate is honoured to host the Eighth European Conference of Members of National Parliaments on Information and Communication Technologies.

“At the cross point of eGovernment & eDemocracy: How ICT in the parliamentary environment is setting standards in participation and usage.”

The conference, to which I cordially invite you, will take place on March 15th – 16th in Prague.

I am looking forward to welcome a delegation of your parliament to this important conference.

With best regards,

Přemysl Sobotka
President of the Senate



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CONDITIONS

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On previous similar occasions, each Parliament sent a delegation of up to three delegates with a particular interest in Information and Communications Technology. The attached – preliminary – programme will give you an overview of issues to be addressed at this event. The delegates will be asked to prepare contributions regarding the effect of the Information Society on national Parliaments in Europe and on each Parliament's use of information and communication technologies with the purpose of exchanging views and experience.

We would very much appreciate if you could inform us about the delegates who will attend the Conference no later than February 17, 2006.

To register, go to www.senat.cz/epri2006 (Login as "" using the password ""), where it is also possible to submit a presentation for the conference. For further information, please contact Mr. Jan Jakob, (secretary of Standing Senate Commission on Media, Address: Valdstejske nam. 17/4, 118 01 Prague, Czech Republic, Tel: +420 257 073 133, Fax: +420 257 534 493).