

EU2009.CZ

Czech Presidency
of the European Union
Praha
2009

Parliament of the Czech Republic
Chamber of Deputies

PARLAMENT ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

POSLANECKÁ
SNĚMOVNA
SENÁT

Prague, 12 February 2009

Dear Madam Chairwoman,
Dear Mister Chairman,

On 1 January 2009, the Czech Republic assumed the Presidency of the Council of the European Union. On this occasion, I would like to invite you to a parliamentary conference organized by the Chamber of Deputies.

The conference will take place in Prague on 6 April 2009. With regard to current developments in the area of European security, the theme of the conference will be "*Current Challenges for European Security*".

The official opening of the event will be in the form of a dinner on Sunday, April 5. The working portion of the gathering will commence on Monday, April 6, and will be divided into two thematic blocks: the morning block will be devoted to the theme "*Security threats and their implications for citizens*", with attention also being paid to the human rights aspects of this issue; the theme of the afternoon block will be "*The economic crisis as a threat to European security*", with attention also being paid in this connection to the economic, energy, and environmental aspects of this topic.

The following committees of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic will be taking responsibility over each of the thematic blocks: Committee on Security, Committee on Petitions, Committee on Economics, and Committee on the Environment.

The registration form, the hotel reservation form, and additional information are available on the website of the Czech Parliament: www.parliament.cz. The deadline for sending the hotel reservation form and the registration form is **6 March 2009**. The preliminary conference programme will be sent to you in the very near future.

It would be an honour for me if representatives of your parliament attended the conference. In this connection, I would like to ask you to forward this invitation to the respective committees.

I look forward to our meeting in the Czech Republic.

Yours sincerely,



Lubomír ZAORÁLEK
Vice Chairman
Chamber of Deputies

-Draft Programme-

Parliamentary Conference
„Current Challenges for European Security“
Prague, 6 April 2009
the Žofín Palace

Sunday, 5 April 2009

Arrival of delegations
Registration of participants at the hotels
Andel's Hotel (Stroupežnického 21, Praha 5)
Angelo Hotel (Radlická 3216/1g, Praha 5)
Mövenpick Hotel (Mozartova 261/1, Praha 5)

afternoon Guided tour of the Prague Castle

19.30 Departure by bus to St. Agnes Convent

20.00 Official Dinner hosted by Mr. Lubomír Zaorálek, Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
St. Agnes Convent, U Milosrdných 17, Prague 1

Return to the hotels

Monday, 6 April 2009

8.00 Departure by bus to Žofín Palace

8.30 Registration of participants at the Žofín Palace

9.00 Welcome address:

Mr. Lubomír Zaorálek, Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

Opening speech:

Mr. Robert Cooper, Director-General, Directorate General for External and Political-Military Affairs, General Secretariat of the Council of the EU (tbc)

9.30 **MORNING SESSION: SECURITY THREATS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR CITIZENS**

Co-chairs:

Ms. Zuzka Bebarová-Rujbrová, Chairwoman of the Committee on Petitions of the Chamber of Deputies

Mr. František Bublan, Chairman of the Committee on Security of the Chamber of Deputies

Intervention by:

Mr. Jacques Barrot, Vice-President of the European Commission
Responsible for Justice, Freedom and Security (tbc)

Mr. Ivan Langer, Minister of Interior of the Czech Republic (tbc)
Mr. Gérard Deprez, Chairman of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the EP (tbc)
Mr. Álvaro de Vasconcelos, Director of the European Union Institute for Security Studies (tbc)
Ms. Lucie Sládková, International Organization on Migration (tbc)

Debate

13.00

Lunch

14.30

AFTERNOON SESSION: THE ECONOMIC CRISIS AS A THREAT TO EUROPEAN SECURITY

Co-chairs:

Mr. Oldřich Vojtěch, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Affairs of The Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Libor Ambrozek, Chairman of the Committee on Environment of the Chamber of Deputies

Intervention by:

Mr. Andris Piebalgs, Energy Commissioner (tbc)
Mr. Martin Říman, Minister of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic (tbc)
Mr. Thomas Mirow, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (tbc)
Mr. Karel Dyba, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the OECD (tbc)
Mr. Jan Pretel, Head of the Department of Climate Change, Czech Hydrometeorological Institute

Debate

18.00

Conclusions of the conference:

Mr. Zuzka Bebarová-Rujbrová, Chairwoman of the Committee on Petitions of the Chamber of Deputies
Mr. František Bublan, Chairman of the Committee on Security of the Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Oldřich Vojtěch, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Affairs of The Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Libor Ambrozek, Chairman of the Committee on Environment of the Chamber of Deputies

Closing speech:

Mr. Lubomír Zaorálek, Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic