



# THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE: TOWARDS A EUROPEAN COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACY, PROSPERITY AND A STRONGER CIVIL SOCIETY

Warsaw  
29<sup>th</sup> September 2011



The conference is an accompanying event to the Polish Presidency

## Conference organisers:



[www.osw.waw.pl](http://www.osw.waw.pl)



[www.pism.pl](http://www.pism.pl)



[www.eap-csf.eu](http://www.eap-csf.eu)

## Conference partners:



Ministerstwo Spraw Zagranicznych  
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[www.msz.gov.pl](http://www.msz.gov.pl)

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## Media partners:



## Conference registration:

[www.eap.pism.pl](http://www.eap.pism.pl)

## Venue:

"Primate's Palace" Conference and Exhibition Centre  
(Senatorska Street 13/15, Warsaw, Poland)

The conference is co-funded by the European Union

## Conference tentative agenda (as for 21 September 2011)

Registration and Welcome Coffee 7:45

Opening remarks 8:45 – 9:00

**Olaf Osica** – Director, Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), Poland

**Antonella Valmorbida** – Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of Civil Society Forum (CSF) and Director of the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA)

**Marcin Zaborowski** – Director, Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), Poland

Keynote speech 9:00-9:30

**Radostaw Sikorski** – Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

Session 1 9:30 – 11:15

### **Empowering civil society. What Partnership for citizens?**

*This session is with the participation of civil society representatives and focuses on the EU's policy aimed at the societies of the EU's Eastern partners. How can the potential of civil society be harnessed in the transformation process in the partner countries? Civil society in the partner countries and its importance in the processes of democratisation and European integration. How can the EU support the development of Civil Society?*

**Leila Alieva** – President, Center for National and International Studies, Azerbaijan

**Iris Kempe** – Head of the Tbilisi office, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

**Sorin Mereacre** – East Europe Foundation Moldova, Moldova Representative Office

**Andrei Yahorau** – Centre for European Transformation, Belarus

Moderator: **Ulad Vialichka** – Chairperson, International Consortium EUROBELARUS, and co-Chair, Steering Committee of the EaP Civil Society Forum

Break 11:15 – 11:30

Session 2 11:30 - 13:15

### **Promoting EU democratic values and standards through opening borders**

*This session is with the participation of experts and attempts to answer the question: Do unhindered people to people contacts facilitate spreading of European values and ideas? What are the prospects for visa liberalisation and, in the future, the opening up of the EU's labour markets to its Eastern partners? To what extent is migration from the Eastern neighbourhood a real problem for the EU? The nature of migration from partner countries to the EU. Differences and similarities with other migrations on EU territory. Linkages between visa liberalisation and the EU's security issues will also be discussed within the scope of this session.*

**Maxim Boroda** – Deputy Director, International Centre for Policy Studies (ICPS), Ukraine

**Ghenadie Cretu** – Migration and Development Program Coordination, International Organisation for Migration, Mission to the Republic of Moldova

**Rob Rozenburg** – Deputy Head of Unit for International Relations, DG Home, European Commission

**Florian Trauner** – Institute for European Integration Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Moderator: **Marcin Zaborowski** – Director, Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), Poland

**Break** 13:15 – 14:00

**Session 3** 14:00 – 15:45

### ***Building prosperity. Challenges to the economic integration of the EU's Eastern partners?***

*This session is with the participation of experts and intends to offer possible answers to the questions: Where should we aim in the development of economic relations? To what extent is the DCFTA attractive for the partners? What can realistically be achieved? Is economic integration with the EU the only option for the Eastern partners or is there an alternative to the EU offer (economic co-operation with third countries: Russia, Turkey, China etc.)?*

**Kakha Gogolashvili** – Director of EU Studies, Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (GFSIS), Georgia

**Alan Mayhew** – Jean Monnet Professor and Professorial Fellow, Sussex European Institute, University of Sussex

**Staffan Nilsson** – President, European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

**Olga Shumylo-Tapiola** – Visiting Scholar, Carnegie Europe, Brussels

Moderator: **Olaf Osica** – Director, Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), Poland

**Break** 15:45 – 16:00

**Session 4** 16:00 – 17:45

### ***EU – Eastern Partners: Whither integration?***

*This session aims to answer the question of what was and what was not successfully achieved during the first two years of the functioning of the Eastern Partnership. The consequences of the ongoing evolution of the European Neighbourhood Policy on the Eastern Partnership will also be defined, both as its review and in the context of the work on the new financial perspective and the events in North Africa and the Middle East. The participants of the session will be asked to outline the priority challenges faced by the EaP over the next years.*

**Štefan Füle** – European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy

**David Bakradze** – Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia

**Nick Clegg** – Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Moderator: **Neil Buckley** – Eastern Europe Editor, Financial Times

**Closing remarks** 17:45 – 18:00

**Jerzy Buzek** – President of the European Parliament