

THE COURAGE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY 20TH ANNUAL FORUM 2000 CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 16-19, 2016, PRAGUE AND OTHER CENTRAL EUROPEAN CITIES

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Introduction

Dear Friends,

When Václav Havel convened the first Forum 2000 Conference, he thought of it as a one-off event for elder statesmen, religious leaders, outstanding thinkers, and global opinion makers. He invited them to discuss the challenges humankind was facing on the threshold of the new millennium, and to think of possible ways forward. Despite his original intention, Forum 2000 continued after that first meeting and has gradually become a permanent global platform for discussions on the perspectives and challenges of democracy, the protection of human rights, and the development of civil society. It has become an active space where global leaders, thinkers, and courageous individuals from all walks of life can freely debate in an environment of tolerance and mutual respect.

This October brings two remarkable milestones - the 20th Forum 2000 Conference and the 80th anniversary of President Havel's birth. Our meeting is an opportunity to remember these two anniversaries and contemplate their symbolism. For two decades, Forum 2000 has been fulfilling the vision of Václav Havel and Elie Wiesel, bringing together people of different cultures, religions and professions to discuss ways to preserve and enhance democracy, respect for human rights, tolerance, and freedom. The

world has changed over these twenty years. Has it been for the better? That is difficult to say, but the main objective of the Forum 2000 meetings remains the same. And it seems more pertinent and urgent than ever.

We would like to thank the Forum 2000 team, members of the Board of Directors, the Program Council, and a number of other collaborators from around the world who have, over the past twenty years, voluntarily dedicated their time and energy to preparing the programs of the Forum 2000 Conferences. They have also helped with fundraising, and provided all kinds of other invaluable support to the foundation's activities and projects. Equally, we have a huge debt of thanks to our distinguished donors. The team spirit within the Forum 2000 family is truly wonderful, and we are looking forward to at least twenty more years together!



Tomáš Vrba Chairman of the Board of Directors



Jakub Klepal Executive Director

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THEMATIC AREAS

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1. Democratic Leadership Deficit

A Crisis of Democratic Leadership?

"The natural weakness of democracy is that it ties the hands of those who have good intentions, whereas those who do not have good intentions have the freedom to do almost whatever they want."

Václav Havel, Conspirators, 1971

The life and work of Václav Havel, an intellectual, author, political prisoner, human rights defender, and president of a country, is an amazing example of taking personal responsibility for the state of public affairs and the world as a whole. Today's democratic leadership, however, seems to be in crisis, contending with a lack of vision, responsibility, and perhaps even the courage to lead.

- Are the current democratic systems unable to generate true leaders?
- Is the growing authoritarianism we see in the world a result of the weakness of democratic leadership?
- Where are the Havels, Churchills or Mandelas of today?

A Leaderless Europe: Heading for Disaster?

Strong leaders and visionaries stood at the foundation and at key milestones of the unique undertaking of European integration. Their clearly communicated vision, together with bold but responsible leadership, allowed the realization and development of the common European project. Unfortunately, Europe now lacks such leadership. This is particularly striking in the light of the unprecedented challenges faced today - such as refugee waves or Brexit – which are further upsetting a continent already shaken by a series of crises over the past years. It seems that European nations' elites are failing to empower the institutions of the European Union and their representatives to effectively address the current challenges. There is even a growing number of politicians at nation state level who offer populist 'solutions' that threaten the very existence of the European Union itself.

- What are the roots of the current European crisis of responsible leadership and the absence of a common vision?
- Why does the EU representation lack the necessary authority and mandate for decision making in crises like the current refugee one?
- How can the inclination towards irresponsible political populism in European countries be prevented?

The Responsibility of Intellectuals and the Crisis of Global Leadership

Václav Havel described the intellectual as a person who "should constantly disturb, should bear witness to the misery of the world, should be provocative by being independent, should rebel against all hidden and open pressures and manipulations, should be the chief doubter of systems, of power and its incantations, should be a witness to their mendacity." However, the political, social and economic developments in the first two decades of the 21st century pose a new challenge to public intellectuals in terms of their role in relation to the threats of the contemporary world.

- Do they have more to offer than political opinions or a contract with power?
- What role can they play as global civic actors in preparing a new political leadership around the world?
- Could they be the moral voices of their societies and their decade, as was the case with Havel and Sakharov?

The Increased Use of Referendums: Avoiding Political Responsibility?

A referendum is, seemingly, the most democratic of decision-making processes. It is the key tool of direct democracy, giving citizens the opportunity to decide on vital matters for their communities. In Switzerland, for example, the political culture is partly - and quite successfully - based on referendums. However, since Brexit and the Dutch referendum on the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement, the perils of referendums have also become evident.

- What are the limits to the use of referendums?
- Can referendum campaigns be taken over by populists?
- Are referendums more than just a way for politicians to avoid assuming responsibility for difficult decisions?

The West: Still Able to Lead the World Towards Democracy?

Western countries used to be the beacons of democracy, often being the role models for pro-democratic movements and revolutions. Nowadays, however, the West is often viewed with hostility and/or contempt, and its appeals towards democracy as hypocritical. Moreover, the Western democracies themselves are now endangered, as extremist parties and movements with often strong authoritarian views continue to gain popularity.

- Has the West been overcome by the recent turmoil, or will it be able to continue its role of democratic world leader?
- Is there any alternative to the global leadership of the West?

Women as Agents of Social Change

"Each and every one of us can come to realise that he or she - no matter how insignificant or helpless they may feel - is in a position to change the world." Václav Havel, Erasmus Prize, 1986

The positions of women in the family, the economy, religion and the political domain are relevant to evaluating social change. Gender roles and norms ascribed through custom or law, cultural conceptions of feminine and masculine, and access to education and employment, *inter alia* are characteristic of the challenges facing women in society.

- Are regional variations in political, economic, and socio-cultural norms, expectations, and structural constraints critical in assessing the effectiveness of women in social transformation?
- Do education and access to technology give women greater options in seeking to impact societies?
- Are women succeeding in restructuring traditional institutions and processes? Do women in democratic societies have a greater or lesser opportunity to contribute to and direct social change than those in authoritarian political systems?

Youth Leadership and Its Role in Changing Our Societies

In cooperation with British Embassy in Prague and The Global Shapers Community

Throughout history, younger generations have always stood at the frontlines of revolutions and socio-political transformations. The often "radical" views of younger people have been mitigated by the more "conservative" or "traditionalist" opinions of the older generations, and together these have formed the socio-political systems in which we live today. Yet even these systems and the policies our governments pursue are not perfect, and need continuous scrutiny and amelioration.

- Are there enough young leaders today who are motivated to improve the world around us?
- What are the crucial spheres of life that young people would like to see transformed?
- Do young people have enough say on how the world functions today?

Student Panel: Young People and Democratic Leadership

"The only lost cause is the one we give up on before we enter the struggle."

Václav Havel, Summer Meditation, 1991

The challenges that democracy faces today – the rise of populism, extremism, declining trust in public institutions, or the deficit of courageous and visionary leadership – impact all generations. Younger people, however, should perhaps be even more concerned, as the worrying trends today may negatively affect their future.

- Are the younger generations concerned with the current state of democracy?
- What are their recipes for change?
- Are they ready to assume public responsibility?

The panel will be streamed in real time, giving high school and university students a unique opportunity to participate in the event via social media. The panel is prepared in cooperation with several schools from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Denmark, Germany, and India.

Personal Story as an Argument?

In cooperation with Shoah Memorial Bubny and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Labour peer and former MP Alfred Dubs, who came to Britain as a child refugee from Czechoslovakia on one of the pre-war Kindertransports, proposed to Parliament an amendment to the Immigration Act that would allow any unaccompanied child refugee in Europe to come and live in the UK. This unique initiative has raised a whole spectrum of questions - *inter alia*, the importance of adequate communication of the Holocaust's legacy to the younger generations and the possibility of putting it in the context of present developments in Europe.

- Are we approaching the refugee crisis with the empathy we would expect for ourselves as asylum seekers?
- Do the younger generations sufficiently understand and appreciate the horrors of the Holocaust?
- How can more efficient communication systems be set up between Holocaust survivors and the younger generations?

Dynasties, Democracy and Power

Dynasties continue to dominate the political landscape around the world, from Asia to the Americas. A number of leaders have emerged in the recent past to carry the baton of their family fortunes, from Park Geun-Hye in South Korea and Aung San Suu Kyi in Burma, to Sonia Gandhi in India, Cristina Kirchner in Argentina, and even Hillary Clinton in the USA. As the liberal democratic world order faces increasing scrutiny, some may say that citizens have returned to the tried and tested, at times choosing familiarity over freedom and imperilling democracy, as the recent events in Thailand, Kenya and Sri Lanka have shown.

- Have women dynastic leaders facilitated increased female political participation and greater economic empowerment for women?
- What are the benefits/drawbacks to having dynastic leaders in positions of power?
- Do dynasties inevitably lead to a consolidation of power and non-democracy?

Latin America: Two Generations, One Vision?

In cooperation with CASLA Institute

The young Latin American generation is facing new social and political challenges. Today's multipolar world is cluttered with information and communication technologies, opening new avenues to the perception and functioning of democracy. On the other hand, their continent still faces some of the same old problems.

- What kind of countries do the young Latin Americans want to live in?
- What do they see as the main problems of/with democracy in the region?
- Which can be done to make things right?

Ukraine: Is the New Generation Willing to Assume Responsibility?

In cooperation with Friedrich Naumann Foundation

Almost three years after the Maidan revolution, Ukraine is going through turbulent times. It is now clear that some parts of the old system have survived, as the influence of oligarchs and the networks of corruption have remained largely intact. Although the new generation of Ukrainians that grew up in an independent state was the driving force behind the Maidan, only a few have remained active in politics or in government.

- Why do young Ukrainians hesitate to enter politics?
- Would they be able to change the system, or is corruption and the rule of oligarchs too deeply entrenched in Ukraine?

2. Challenges to Democracy

The Fragile State of Democratic Institutions

In cooperation with European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic and the Center on Global Economic Governance, Columbia University

"Societies, nations and citizens do not create the state only to protect them from an external enemy, from criminality or injustice - the state also exists to protect society from itself in some other matters"

Václav Havel, Talks from Lány, Czech Radio, February 28, 1993

Democratic states are based on a system of checks and balances, where powers are separated and various institutions play complementary roles. They cooperate yet also prevent each other from abusing power. Recently, however, the delicate balance between democratic institutions has come under stress in some countries, including Poland, Brazil, and Turkey. Elsewhere, democratic institutions have been "hijacked" and abused for non-democratic purposes.

- Are democratic institutions threatend by populists or extremists?
- What are the major risks?
- How can they be addressed?

A New Era of Authoritarianism?

"The borderline between power and powerlessness passes through every person. Every person is both a prisoner and a prison guard."

Václav Havel, On the Meaning of Charter 77, essay, 1986

Freedom and democracy were on the rise after the dramatic changes of 1989 and the early 1990s. The democratic transformation of the former communist countries in Eastern Europe, post-Soviet Russia, authoritarian regimes in Latin America, Asia, and Africa appeared to be the inevitable path to the future. Today, systematic ideological competition is back in full force, and the authoritarian form of government is entrenching itself in direct opposition to the liberal democratic one. Increasingly, some authoritarian regimes are also projecting power – soft, as well as hard – beyond their borders, and cooperating with each other.

- How do these new or "renewed" authoritarian regimes maintain domestic political support, and what are their objectives at international level?
- How and through what means should the liberal democracies deal with them?

Cuba: What Are the Results of the US and EU Policies?

The topic of human rights was addressed during the processes of normalization of relations with Cuba recently initiated by both the US and the EU. Both received the same reaction from the Cuban side: dialogue on human rights

Thematic Areas

is possible only under the condition of full respect for Cuban sovereignty and non-intervention in Cuba's internal affairs. Nevertheless, the premise that state sovereignty is always secondary and contingent to the sovereignty of the people should not be forgotten.

- Will the agreements on the normalization of international relations serve to improve the state of human rights and democratic values on the island?
- Is there any space for coordination between the US and EU approaches?

Populism, Caudillism, and Other Challenges to Democracy in Latin America

In Cooperation with Fundación para el Progreso

A series of significant political changes have recently taken place on the Latin American political scene and the balance of power has shifted. This is seen by some as an improvement in comparison with the previous wave of – mostly left-leaning – populist regimes. The situation, however, remains fragile and populist tendencies are still very visible across the region.

- Is there a specific Latin American kind of populism?
- What are the current prospects for the Latin American populist political forces?
- What are the potential regional implications of the rise of populism in other parts of the world, namely the US and Western Europe?

Turkey: Democracy Hijacked?

The failed coup attempt in Turkey has bolstered the authoritarian tendencies of President Erdoğan. In an effort to consolidate power, he has curbed the judiciary, purged the army, repressed the media, and unleashed unprecedented crackdowns against educational and social institutions. Against the backdrop of these domestic events, Turkey still plays a key role in the Middle East. Ankara is a member of a US-led coalition against ISIS, and has an agreement with the EU concerning refugees. This panel will discuss the changing character of the Turkish state and its implications for a destabilized Middle East and for Turkish relations with the US and the EU.

The Future of North Korea: Democracy and Respect for Human Rights in Sight?

In cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea

Under the rule of the communist leader Kim Jong-Un, North Korea remains one of the most repressive countries in the world. The regime continues to intensify oppression, to increase control on its borders to prevent its citizens from escaping, and to tighten restrictions on freedom of movement inside the country. Decades of state control have led to stagnation and international isolation. Obtaining relevant information about the condition of the country is difficult, with defectors being one possible source.

- What is the situation and future of North Korea?
- How should the international community respond? What is the role of Korea within it?
- What are the prospects for democracy in North Korea?

Putin's Russia: Dealing with the Politics of Disruption

Although formally the Cold War is long gone, signs of conflict are still visible. Putin's Russia is putting a lot of effort into spreading its influence, mainly through sophisticated use of overt and covert propaganda, but also through economic activity, corruption, hard power, and other means. Its aim is to disrupt citizens' trust in their own governments, and to damage traditional coalitions.

- Is this the new method of foreign interference?
- How can we deal with such a form of influence?
- What is Russia seeking by attempting to weaken its western neighbours?

V4 and Germany: Public Trust in Democratic Institutions

In the framework of the Czech-German Discussion Forum

All Central European countries are to some extent facing the consequences of Brexit and the migration crisis, security threats, the influence of Russian propaganda, and other issues that were not present in the past quarter century. Both populists and extremists offer seemingly simple solutions to these problems. In comparison, governments and democratic institutions may look helpless.

- How has the migration crisis affected the public's trust in democratic institutions?
- What sort of new leaders will the current social climate deliver?
- Is democracy in the region under threat?

The Danger of Extremism and Populism in Central Europe

In cooperation with the Embassy of Austria

As Europe goes through challenging crises, traditional institutions are being weakened and various extremist or populist parties have recently gained significance in some democratic countries. In Austria, the upcoming presidential elections demonstrate that the populist and anti-immigration narrative is becoming increasingly prevalent in public discourse; in Germany, the AfD is gaining power; and the situation is no better in Visegrad 4 countries.

- How can countries deal with populist movements?
- Is there any way to tackle the support for extremist parties?
- What are the risks of governing together with populist parties?

Where is Europe Heading?

In cooperation with Friedrich Naumann Foundation

"The demons that so fatally affected European history – most disastrously in the twentieth century! – are biding their time. It would be a tragic error to forget about them because of some technicalities over funds, quotas or tariffs." Václav Havel, "Europe as Task", Charlemagne Plenary, Aachen, May 15, 1996

In recent years, Europe has been struck by a series of crises causing open discussion concerning its future and direction. The refugee crisis is not only an example of the disarray and indecisiveness of European leadership; it has also contributed to the rise of radicalism and populism that is spreading through the European political scene.

- How has the situation in Europe changed, and what is the outlook?
- How will individual states act, and what roles will they take?

Venezuela: Country on the Brink

In cooperation with People in Need

In spite of the success of the opposition in the parliamentary elections after of 17 years authoritarian rule, the current developments in Venezuela represent the feared outcome. The Presidency of the Republic and the Supreme Court of Justice fail to recognize the unquestionable legitimacy of the new National Assembly. The hardline position of the Government is joined by a profound humanitarian crisis that threatens to turn into a catastrophe in the very short term. At the moment there are 93 political prisoners in the country and the legitimately elected mayor of Caracas is under house arrest.

- What is the current situation in Venezuela?
- What are the perspectives?
- What steps should the international community take in order to help Venezuela?

"Leading by Example": Can Indian Democracy Trump Chinese Authoritarianism?

In cooperation with Robert Bosch Stiftung

In the last decade, India has experienced high GDP growth and an impressive decline in poverty rates. Yet its development is still perceived to be trailing behind China's. The Indian democratic system is thereby being implicitly compared to China's authoritarian model, which some observers praise for bringing stability and sustainable growth. Given the economic and political clout both countries have in the region, it is important to ask how these two disparate models resonate in other Asian societies, and to what extent they serve as examples to be emulated.

- How can Indian democracy serve as an example for the countries in the region?
- Does China's socio-political model maintain a more effective "soft power" than India's?

• Can (and should) India "promote democracy" while staying loyal to its declared doctrine of non-interventionism?

Media: Still Setting the Agenda?

In cooperation with Czech Television

"If everything is left to the invisible hand of the market, a lot of very visible nonsense may be expected." Václav Havel, Originality Versus Banality, Lidové noviny, October 19, 2007

The media landscape is constantly changing – today probably much faster than a decade or two ago – through technological changes, new information channels, uncertain revenue models, and dramatic shifts in ownership of major media outlets. Nonetheless, the traditional media still exercise a significant level of influence and power. Or do they?

Communication Security Workshop

In cooperation with Avast Foundation

The rate of technological progress today is producing a wide range of communication tools, which meet the needs of society on one hand, but are a serious security threat on the other. The danger of misuse of data is especially pronounced when it comes to dissidents, opposition leaders or activists in non-democratic states, as well as democracy assistance providers and NGOs working in such risk areas. This workshop led by Filip Chytrý of Avast will suggest ways to steer clear of current data security traps. Case studies and useful tools will be presented.

3. Havel

In cooperation with Václav Havel Library

Havel and the Future of Europe

"The European Union is an enormous historical opportunity for a continent whose political order was always based on the large and powerful making the decisions that the smaller had to obey. This opportunity to become a politically integrated body based on close, peaceful cooperation should not be missed. This is the task for the whole of Europe." Václav Havel, Globe and Mail, 1996

Václav Havel was an avid supporter of European integration for almost 60 years. At the same time, he was openly critical of what he saw as the dearth of identity and spiritual ethos in the European project. He would probably see the materialization of some of those concerns in the current European crisis.

- What would have been Havel's reaction to the difficulties faced by the EU today?
- What recipe would he propose for finding a way out of the crisis?

Václav Havel and Mahatma Gandhi

"If there is to be any chance at all of success, there is only one way to strive for decency, reason, responsibility, sincerity, civility, and tolerance, and that is decently, reasonably, responsibly, sincerely, civilly, and tolerantly. I'm aware that, in everyday politics, this is not seen as the most practical way of going about it."

Václav Havel, Summer Meditations, 1991

Václav Havel was awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize in 2003 for his contribution to world peace and for his contribution to social, economic, and political transformation through non-violence and other Gandhian methods. He acknowledged on the occasion that he was an admirer of Gandhi, and that his life had influenced him in creating non-violent opposition to the totalitarian regime in his country.

- What is Gandhi's relevance today?
- What does 'living in truth' which Havel took over from Gandhi involve?
- How can politics and society be re-humanized today following Gandhi and Havel?

The Influence of Václav Havel in Latin America

"The idea of human rights and freedoms must be an integral part of any meaningful world order. Yet I think it must be anchored in a different place, and in a different way, than has been the case so far. If it is to be more than just a slogan mocked by half the world, it cannot be expressed in the language of a departing era."

Václav Havel, The Philadelphia Liberty Medal, July 4, 1994

The legacy of Václav Havel and the impact of his ideas can be seen among dissidents in a closed society like Cuba, or in the ranks of civil society activists challenging the authoritarian regime in Venezuela. Havel's approach to international democratic solidarity, as well as to an active human rights foreign policy, is perceptible and represents a rich source of inspiration for Latin American countries with the experience of dictatorship.

- Is Havel's legacy still alive on the continent?
- In what ways is it still a source of inspiration today?

Truth and Love at 80

"Truth and love must prevail over lies and hatred!" Václav Havel, December 10, 1989

The entire generation of 1989 freedom fighters and human rights activists is almost gone. Many heroes like Václav Havel have passed away, while others have tended to lose their place as leading figures in current intellectual discourse. We are currently living in a world mostly dominated either by a renewal of realpolitik, or by populism. Freedom and the whole concept of a liberal democratic order is under attack from many directions.

- What can the remaining freedom fighters of that generation do to attract the hearts and minds of others? Or should they retire and leave this never-ending mission to the younger generations?
- And more generally: how can the freedom agenda be brought back into the centre of our attention?

Closing Cultural and Social Event "Afterparty"

In cooperation with Archa Theatre

The fascinating life of Václav Havel is the subject of the play "Afterparty" by Flemish writer Pieter De Buysser. The closing event is composed of a reading and discussion about the basic ideas on responsibility, citizenship and Havel with authors and political scientist Jacques Rupnik. The evening will conclude the 20th annual Forum 2000 conference.

4. 20 Years of Forum 2000: The World and Its Current Challenges

20 Years of Forum 2000: The World and Its Current Challenges

For 20 years, Forum 2000 has addressed the most important challenges our civilization faces and has provided an essential platform for open dialogue about them. Dilemmas of global co-existence, questions of the dignity and rights of every human being, principles of democracy, and responsible governance have been among the most frequently discussed themes.

- How has the world changed over the past two decades?
- Has the change been for the better?
- What are the main challenges today?

Global Environment: Who Will Take the Lead in Facing the Mounting Problems?

In cooperation with the Embassy of France

The Paris Climate Conference ended with pompous celebrations, and the world seemed committed to take action. Yet as time passes, the process of ratification is slow and the enthusiasm is wearing off. Climate change represents by far the most urgent environmental danger, and is already entailing costs measured in human lives and billions of euros. The results of very recent research data show that global climate change itself is accelerating. There is common agreement that the solution of the core problem of greenhouse gas emissions requires immediate and genuinely drastic reductions of them and extremely rapid progress towards a zero-carbon economy after 2050. However, we are seeing no such thing.

- What are the prospects for the Paris Agreement?
- Will it be fulfilled? Will it solve the climate change problem?
- As the current international system is in disarray, who should take the lead in global environmental issues?

China's Rise: The Global Implications for Democracy

In cooperation with the Information Center for Democracy and Human Rights in China

Since Deng Xiaoping started to turn China's economy of China around by essentially opening it to capitalism, the country has gradually become more self-confident on the international stage. Despite the fact that Beijing employs market liberalism to acquire wealth, it still strongly opposes liberalism in the political sphere. If anything, Communist party control and its rejection of pro-democracy tendencies have become stronger over the past years. Internationally, China is increasingly assertive and has been attempting to promote its interests with enhanced vigour.

- What are the vital interests of China? What are its ambitions?
- Does the rise of Chinese international influence represent a threat to democracy?
- Is China attempting to undermine democratic regimes around the world?

5. Interfaith Dialogue

The Role of Islamic Leaders in Europe

In cooperation with Norwegian Embassy

Since Islam has become an emotionally loaded topic, it has also become more vulnerable to generalizations and susceptible to misinformation. In order to prevent xenophobia and populism, Islamic leaders in Europe need to be a source of objective information, and true opinion leaders. The only way to combat negative tendencies in public discourse is with an open and honest approach to the topic of interreligious dialogue.

- Who are the true leaders of the religion?
- Are the negative tendencies in terms of attitude in society a result of a lack of understanding between Islam and other religions, or is it the Western world that needs to become more informed?

The Paradox of Religion

"Hope is not a conviction that something will turn out well but a certainty that something has a meaning regardless of how it turns out."

Václav Havel, Disturbing the Peace, 1986

Humanity's experience with religion has been paradoxical: While religion unites, it can also divide; while religion promises salvation, it can also enslave; while religion resists oppression, it also often becomes an instrument of oppression.

- How can we mobilize the positive force of religion not for one tribe or another but for a purpose common to all of humanity?
- Universalist vs. particularist religions: what are the comparative positive and negative aspects of each?
- Who can best fight the hegemonistic and illiberal forces within each religion?

Forum 2000 Film Screenings

The Unfinished Dialogue between Václav Havel and Oswaldo Payá

This documentary begins with the friendship between two eminent personalities, Václav Havel and Oswaldo Payá, who devoted their lives to the struggle against totalitarianism, and strived to bring freedom to their countries. What can the experience with democratic transition in one country mean to those who are still waiting for their democratic revolution in another? The main person reflecting on the dialogue between Havel and Payá – still unfinished despite the fact that both protagonists passed away some years ago – is Rosa María Payá, Oswaldo's daughter. She is an active member of the Cuban democratic opposition, whose political aim is to reopen and re-unify Cuban society.

The Bleeding Edge

In the early 2000s the increasing spread of information technologies was fast becoming a perceived threat to the Chinese communist regime. Western technology companies were paid large sums to develop a high-profile project dubbed "The Golden Shield Project" aimed at censoring and restricting internet access, as well as monitoring the activities of Chinese citizens.

When a young Western tech executive based in China suffers from heart failure on the job, he receives a heart transplant from an unknown donor. Once he discovers the horrific truth behind his operation, he must risk his life to help save future victims and find redemption.

Solidarity According to Women

Solidarity according to women is a story about some of the brave Polish women whose wisdom and determination helped bring about a change of the political reality in Poland.

On a Saturday in August 1980, when workers – happy after having been given a raise – ended their strike and wanted to leave the Gdańsk Shipyard, they closed the gates and thus began the Solidarity strike.

A Quiet Inquisition

At a public hospital in Nicaragua, OBGYN Dr. Carla Cerrato must choose between obeying a law that bans all abortions and endangers her patients, or taking a risk and providing the care that can save a woman's life. The newly elected government of Daniel Ortega overturned a 130-year-old law protecting therapeutic abortion. The new law entirely prohibits abortion, even in cases of rape, incest, or when a woman's life is at stake.

#chicagoGirl

From her childhood bedroom in the Chicago suburbs, an American teenage girl uses social media to coordinate the revolution in Syria. Armed with Facebook, Twitter, Skype and cameraphones, she helps her social network "on the ground" in Syria brave snipers and shelling in the streets to show the world the human rights atrocities of a dictator. As the revolution rages on, everyone in the network must decide: social media or AK-47s.

Amazing Azerbaijan!

"Amazing Azerbaijan!" is a tale of two countries: one, a shiny democratic republic the Government proudly puts on display for visiting journalists and dignitaries; the other, a repressive and corrupt land with no respect for freedom of expression or assembly, in which bloggers are arrested on trumped-up charges, peaceful protesters are violently beaten, and journalists are threatened and even killed. This creative documentary combines a fast-paced tour of Baku with perspectives from Azeri exiles and activists, using a pop-sensibility and engaging characters.

Hooligan Sparrow

The danger is palpable as intrepid young filmmaker Nanfu Wang follows activist Ye Haiyan (a.k.a. Hooligan Sparrow) to Hainan Province in southern China to protest the case of six elementary school girls who were sexually abused by their principal. Marked as enemies of the state, the activists are under constant government surveillance and face interrogation, harassment, and imprisonment. Sparrow, who gained notoriety with her advocacy work for sex workers' rights, arms herself with the power and reach of social media.

Thieves by Law

Thieves by Law, or Ganavim Ba Hok, is a documentary film charting the rise of Russian organised crime in the wake of the fall of the Soviet Union. In the film, several noted crime figures are interviewed, a number of whom are currently wanted by Interpol. The term "thieves by law", which refers to the uppermost echelon of the Russian criminal world, first appeared in the 1930s. Some people say it might have something to do with "Chekists", or the early Soviet secret service (what later became the KGB).

Leaving

This movie, written and directed by Václav Havel, is a bittersweet comedy that follows a highly appointed Chancellor due to step down from his position after years of service to his country. With just two last days left to enjoy his palatial villa before he is finally evicted, his situation gradually goes from bad to worse.

Forum 2000 Film Screenings

FESTIVAL OF DEMOCRACY Associated program of the Forum 2000 Conference

All associated program is held as part of the Festival of Democracy. More information and the full program is available at www.forum2000.cz.

Festival of Democracy

The Festival of Democracy is the associated program of the Forum 2000 Conference. It includes lectures, discussions, exhibitions and other activities connected to the conference itself. The Festival is created in cooperation with various NGOs, universities and other institutions.

"These structures (of the civil society) should naturally arise from below as a consequence of authentic social self-organization; they should derive vital energy from a living dialogue with the genuine needs from which they arise, and when these needs are gone, the structures should also disappear. The principles of their internal organization should be very diverse, with a minimum of external regulation. The decisive criterion of this self-constitution should be the structure's actual significance, and not just a mere abstract norm."

Václav Havel, Power of the Powerless, 1979

Speaker Profiles



Sohrab Ahmari Editorial Writer, The Wall Street Journal UK/USA/Iran

An Editorial Writer for The Wall Street Journal, based in London, Mr. Ahmari joined the Journal in New York as an assistant books editor in 2012. Prior to that, he earned a law degree from Northeastern University in Boston. His latest book, titled The New Philistines, is about how identity politics are corrupting the arts. In addition to the Journal, his writing has appeared in the Chronicle of Higher Education, the Weekly Standard and Commentary and Dissent, among many others. He appears regularly on broadcast media on both sides of the Atlantic, including BBC News, Sky News, Al Jazeera, France 24, WSJ Live and HuffPost Live.



Mauricio Alarcón Salvador

Executive Director, Fundación Ciudadanía y Desarrollo Ecuador

A democracy activist and human rights defender. Programs Director at Fundamedios, an organization that works to promote and defend freedom of expression and freedom of the press in Ecuador. Founder and Executive Director of Fundación Ciudadanía y Desarrollo, an organization that promotes democracy and transparency in the country. He has been constitutional adviser at the Council of Citizen Participation (2009) and Alternate Member of the National Constituent Assembly (2008). He has a B.Sc. and a law degree from Universidad San Francisco de Quito and is currently studying for a M.Sc. in public administration and management.



Oscar Arias Sánchez

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Former President of Costa Rica Costa Rica

A Costa Rican politician and intellectual, a Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1987 in recognition of his ceaseless efforts for peace in Central America, he created the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress, whose mission is to promote just, peaceful and fair societies in the Central American region. Arias graduated in law and economics at the University of Costa Rica, and is Doctor in Political Science at the University of Essex, England. He has been awarded the Principe Asturias, Albert Schweitzer and Martin Luther King prizes, and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom of Philadelphia, amongst others. He is also the recipient of no fewer than 90 doctorates honoris causa from universities all over the world.



Jesús Armas Activist, Primero Justicia and President of Ciudadania sin Limites Venezuela

President of Ciudadanía sin Límites, Executive Member of the Fundación Juan Germán Roscio, active member at Primero Justicia and opponent of governmental abuses in Venezuela. In 2013, Mr. Armas won elections for the Councillor of Libertador Municipality, being backed by la Mesa de la Unidad Democrática (MUD). Furthermore, he worked in various think-tanks and political organizations. He obtained his degree in engineering at Universidad Catótilca Andrés Bello and, during his studies, was focused on leadership of political movements, political philosophy, government management and public policy. One of his main interests are technologies used in public politics for democratic purposes.

Speaker Profiles



Diego Arria President, Rescatando Venezuela Foundation Venezuela

President of the Rescatando Venezuela Foundation, Mr. Arria previously worked as President of the United Nations Security Council and Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations. He was also special advisor to Kofi Annan and Minister of Information and Tourism. During his professional career, Mr. Arria worked as an economist at the Inter-American Development Bank, served as Congressman and Governor in Caracas and was an independent presidential candidate. He has a degree in economics and political science from the University of Michigan. He is one of the founders of Diario de Caracas.



Shlomo Avineri

Professor of Political Science, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Israel

Professor of Political Science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities and of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council, Mr. Avineri previously served as Director-General of Israel's Foreign Ministry (1975–1977). He is also a distinguished author, whose widely translated books include The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx (1968), Israel and the Palestinians (1971), and Hegel's Theory of the Modern State (1974). Mr. Avineri is a recipient of the Israel Prize, the country's highest civilian decoration. He graduated from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the London School of Economics.



Laila Bokhari State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Norway

Serving as Secretary of State, Mrs. Bokhari was formerly and independent writer and as a researcher for the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs and the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment. Mrs. Bokhari also held the position of adviser for the Norwegian Refugee Council and OSCE. Aside from a number of Professional courses, Mrs. Bokhari studied Arabic and Middle East Politics at the Birzeit University.



Martin Bútora

Sociologist, Institute for Public Affairs, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Slovakia

Honorary President of the Institute for Public Affairs (IVO), an independent public policy think-tank established in Bratislava in 1997, Adviser to the President of Slovakia and Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council. A sociologist by training, Mr. Bútora was one of the founders of the Public Against Violence movement in Slovakia in November 1989 and served as a Human Rights Advisor to Czechoslovak President Václav Havel. He served as Slovak Ambassador to the USA (1999–2003) and has written and edited a number of books and studies on social transformation, foreign policy, and civil society, including IVO's annual series, Global Report on the State of Society.



Jerzy Buzek

Former Prime Minister, Former President of the European Parliament Poland

Polish politician and university professor, Mr. Buzek is a former Prime Minister of Poland and former President of the European Parliament. A member of the European Parliament since 2004, he currently chairs the EP's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) and the Conference of Committee Chairs. He is the chairman of the European Energy Forum, a platform for discussion between European energy stakeholders and policymakers. Presently, he lead's EP's work on the Security of Gas Supply legislation, being formerly responsible for, inter alia, the EU Internal Energy Market, European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) and the EU's 7th Framework Programme for Research. In 2010, together with Jacques Delors, he proposed the creation of a "European Energy Community", a strategy to strengthen energy legislation and cooperation within and outside the EU which laid foundations for EU's Energy Union. He has received honorary doctorates from numerous universities and is an honorary citizen of more than a dozen cities in Poland.



Juan Pablo Cardenal Journalist, Writer, Lecturer Switzerland/Spain

Journalist and writer specialized in following China's global strategy. He has researched in 40 countries on 4 continents following China's footprints, having co-authored three books on the topic. He also contributes to several international media outlets. He is a former China correspondent for Spanish Economic Daily, El Economista and El Mundo. Previously, he worked as a journalist in

Spain, covering economic and social events. He holds a degree in Journalism from Institución Universitaria Mississippi, Madrid, and an Executive Master in International Relations from the Geneva School of Diplomacy, Geneva, Switzerland.



Irwin Cotler

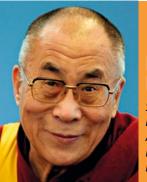
Chairman, Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights Canada

Former Minister of Justice, Mr. Cotler has been named an Officer of the Order of Canada, Canada's highest civilian award and is the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. He has recently been awarded the Canadian Bar Association's President's Award; was the first Canadian recipient of the International Raoul Wallenberg Foundation's Centennial Medal; the first recipient of the Romeo Dallaire Award for Human Rights Leadership; the recipient of the Sir Zafrullah Khan Award for Distinguished Public Service; the recipient of the Dalhousie University 2015 Ethical Leadership Award; and one of the recipients of the 2015 Sergei Magnitsky Human Rights Award.



Manuel Silvestre Cuesta Morúa Activist, Founder, Progressive Arch Cuba

Mr. Cuesta Morúa has been a member of the Cuban opposition for over 20 years. He is head of the Arco Progresista political group, which includes Cuban social-democratic organizations. He was one of two Cuban dissidents who met with Barack Obama at the Summit of the Americas in Panama. He also heads the Citizen's Committee for Racial Integration (CIR) and is an active member of the Open Space (Espacio Abierto) opposition civic forum. In 1998, he co-founded the Reflection Roundtable of the Moderate Opposition (Mesa de Reflexión de la Oposición Moderada). He studied history at the University of Havana.



His Holiness the Dalai Lama

Spiritual Leader, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Member, International Advisory Board, Forum 2000 Foundation India/Tibet

The 14th Dalai Lama has been the Head of State and spiritual leader of the Tibetan people since 1940. He accepted full political power in 1950. In 1959, in reaction to China's aggression, he escaped to India and established the Tibetan Government-in-Exile in Dharamsala. In 2011, he formally resigned as political leader of Tibetans-in-exile, delegating his administrative and political authorities to the democratically elected leaders of the Central Tibetan Administration. He has also been involved in human rights issues, multi-religious dialogues, and issues concerning religious freedom. Despite China's resistance, the Dalai Lama is recognized as a moral and religious authority throughout the world.



Pieter De Buysser

Writer, Playwright Belgium

Currently working on a play inspired by the persona of Václav Havel, Mr. De Buysser's previous work has received critical acclaim in several European countries. Besides writing for performance, theatre and film, he directs internationally acclaimed theatre productions. He studied philosophy at the universities of Antwerp and Paris-Vincennes Saint-Denis. While being highly alert to current social, political and human issues, he constantly reflects and questions our day-to-day presence. He has received the Émile Zola Prize, the Dwarse Denker Trophy and the Kleine Marie Hartman-pen.



Neelam Deo Director, Gateway House India

Mrs. Deo is Director and Co-founder of Gateway House, a Mumbai-based think tank that focuses on the intersections between foreign policy and business. A former diplomat with a specialization in South Asia, Mrs. Deo has served as Joint Secretary for Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma and the Maldives. She was the Indian Ambassador to Denmark and Ivory Coast with concurrent accreditation to several West African countries. She has served in Indian embassies in Washington D.C., Bangkok and Rome, and also as Consul General in New York. Mrs. Deo writes for several mainstream publications, and is an occasional commentator for mainstream television news channels.



Oleksandra Drik Head of the Board, Civic Lustration Committee Ukraine

Chairs the Board of the Civic Lustration Committee – an NGO created during Euromaidan in 2014 with the aim to purify the government from elites of the previous non-democratic regime and individuals engaged in large-scale corruption. The NGO has drafted the Law on Government Cleansing, ensured its adoption by the Parliament, and has been monitoring its execution by state agencies since October 2014. The NGO has also engaged in a constructive dialogue with the Venice Commission that gave its final opinion on the Law June 19th, defended the Law from numerous attacks and cancellation attempts, ensured public control over the execution of the Law and created the largest in Ukraine open database of the individuals subject to lustration prohibitions.



Alfred Dubs Politician, a Winton's Child United Kingdom

Lord Dubs was born in Prague, arriving in the UK in 1939 on a Kindertransport train at the age of six. He was an elected Member of Parliament from 1979. During his time in the House of Commons he was a frontbencher on Home Affairs covering police, prisons and criminal justice and, later, immigration and race relations. After losing his parliamentary seat in 1987, he became CEO of the Refugee Council. In 1994 he was appointed to the House of Lords as a Labour Peer. In May 1997, he became Minister for Northern Ireland until December 1999. He has served on a number of parliamentary committees, including the Joint Committee on Human Rights and, currently, the EU External Affairs Sub-Committee. He has successfully campaigned to allow unaccompanied child refugees to enter the UK.



Petr Dvořák Director General, Czech Television Czech Republic

Since his appointment in 2011 as Director General of Czech Television, the public service broadcaster in the Czech Republic, Petr Dvořák has restructured the organization and launched two new channels. He is currently a member of European Broadcasting Union (EBU) Executive Board, responsible for the implementation of the EBU's strategy and policies. Prior to joining Czech Television, Mr. Dvořák served as Senior Vice President for Central European Media Enterprises (CME) with responsibility for all CME broadcasting activities in six European countries. From 2002 to 2011, Mr. Dvořák was Director General at TV Nova. From 1999 he also served for two years as a member of the Executive Board of PPF, the largest privately owned investment group in the Czech Republic. Mr. Dvořák graduated from the Czech Technical University in Prague and received his MBA from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business.



Uffe Ellemann-Jensen Former Minister for Foreign Affairs Denmark

A former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ellemann-Jensen is a strong supporter of NATO and the EU. He was leader of the Danish Liberal Party Venstre and President of European Liberals (ALDE) until 2000. After he left active political life, he became a contributor to the Danish Berlingske Tidende daily. He is a successful author, including of books about his political career as Foreign Minister during the Cold War. He received his master's degree in economics from Copenhagen University.



Pavel Fischer

Director, STEM, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Director of STEM, former Political Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador to France, Mr. Fischer worked in the Office of the President Václav Havel as Director of the Political Department. He served as a Chairman of the Administrative Board of the Forum 2000 Foundation and as a member of Board of Jacques Delors Institute Paris and of Siriri Prague. Mr. Fischer was awarded the Ordre de Saint Charles, Monaco and Legion d'honneur, France.



Paul Flather Secretary General, Europaeum United Kingdom

Dr. Paul Flather is Secretary General of the Europaeum, an association of leading European Universities, and Fellow of Mansfield College, Oxford. He was the founding Secretary General of the Central European University (CEU) and Director of International and External Affairs at Oxford University. He has worked at the BBC, Times Newspapers, and served as Deputy Editor of the New Statesman. He worked with dissident movements in Central Europe in the 1980s, and with race equality groups in the UK. He was an elected member of the London Council in the 1980s. His BA and DPhil (Phd) are both from Balliol College, Oxford.



Julius von Freytag-Loringhoven Head, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom Germany/Russia

The deputy chairman of the board of trustees of the Boris Nemtsov Foundation for Freedom, Mr. von Freytag-Loringhoven works on improving the dialogue with Russia, while advocating individual dignity, freedom and responsibility. Since 2012 he has launched new programmes on bilateral dialogue (Moscow-Talks), market economy (Gaidar-Naumann-Forum), civic and human rights (Gerhart-Baum-lectures), promoting entrepreneurship (FuckUp Nights Moscow) and a summer-school to support the projects of young change agents. From 2010 to 2012 he co-founded and coordinated a dialogue forum in Brussels within the German Free Democratic Party (FDP), while working as political consultant in PA consultancy g+ Europe. Mr. von Freytag-Loringhoven holds an MA in Political Strategy and Communications from the University of Kent and is an officer of the reserve of German tank reconnaissance.



Ralf Fücks President, Heinrich Böll Foundation Germany

President of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, where he has been a member of the executive board since 1996. He is the author of the book "Intelligent Growth – The Green Revolution", which came out in 2013. This year, Mr. Fücks published a book titled "Green Growth, Smart Growth. A New Approach to Economics, Innovation and the Environment". As a member of the German Green Party's Program Commission, he co-authored the new party program in 2002 and edited a book "Is There a Future for the Green Party?" in 1991. Mr. Fücks also worked as Co-President for the national Green Party in 1989/90 and served in the Bremen state parliament. He focuses on sustainable development, reshaping the welfare state, the European integration, and on foreign policy.



Pedro Fuentes Attorney, Coordinator of International Affairs of ENC Cuba

Coordinator of International Affairs of Encuentro Nacional Cubano, a platform composed of 70 Cuban dissident organizations residing in both Cuba and in exile. In 2012, he was elected to serve as Vice President under President Martin Palous of the International Platform for Human Rights in Cuba. Furthermore, Mr. Fuentes is spokesman for the Consejo Presidio Politico Cubano. His professional

Speaker Profiles

area is advocacy. Mr. Fuentes received, among other honors, Orden Maestranza de Caballeria de Castilla and Presidential Medal of Honor Bucharest Romania.



Štefan Füle

Former European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighborhood Policy, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, Czech Republic

Mr. Füle is the former Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighborhood Policy, former Minister for European Affairs and former Deputy Defense Minister. Mr. Füle served as the Czech Permanent Representative to NATO, Czech Ambassador to the United Kingdom and to Lithuania. He was Director of the Security Policy Department and the United Nations Department at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Füle studied at the Faculty of Philosophy of Charles University and at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations.



Erkin Gadirli

Co-founder, Member of the Board, Republican Alternative (ReAl) Azerbaijan

From 1994 to 2006 he was lecturing at the Faculty of Law of the Baku State University. In 1998 he served as member of the Azerbaijani Delegation to the UN Diplomatic Conference on the Establishment of the International Criminal Court. Co-author of the *"Commentary of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court"* first published in 1999 in Germany. From 1998 to 2007 Mr. Gadirli worked in or collaborated with various international projects by ICRC, UNHCR, OSCE, CoE. EU, USAID.



Wolfgang Gerhardt Chairman, Board of Directors, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

Germany

A politician and member of the German Free Democratic Party, which he led between 1995 and 2001, Wolfgang Gerhardt is Chairman of the Board of Directors, FriedrichNaumannFoundation for Freedom, a German foundation for liberal politics. During his political career he was Minister of Science and Culture of Hesse. He studied education, German studies and political science at the University of Marburg.



Carl Gershman President, National Endowment for Democracy USA

Carl Gershman is President of the National Endowment for Democracy based in Washington, DC, an institution dedicated to strengthening democratic institutions around the world through non-governmental efforts. Prior to joining the Endowment, Mr. Gershman was Senior Counsellor to the United States Representative to the United Nations. Mr. Gershman lectures and writes articles on foreign policy issues. He has accepted awards from many governments and from numerous NGOs all over the world. He received his undergraduate degree from Yale University and his M.Ed. from Harvard University.



René Gómez Manzano President, Association of Cuban Independent Lawyers Corriente Agramontista Cuba

President of the Corriente Agramontista, the oldest group of Cuban independent lawyers, Mr. Gómez has headed different unitary efforts of Cuban pro-democracy groups. Former prisoner of conscience for years, Mr. Gómez is the recipient of different international awards. He is at present one of the eleven residents in Cuba democratically elected to head the widest pro-democracy Cuban coalition (Encuentro Nacional Cubano). Previously, Mr. Gómez acted as diplomat representing Cuba in COMECOM.



Javier El-Hage Chief Legal Officer at The Human Rights Foundation Bolivia/USA

Javier El-Hage is an attorney admitted to practice in the State of New York. He holds Masters degrees in International Law from Columbia University School of Law, and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. From 2006-2008, El-Hage was constitutional law professor at the Universidad Privada de Santa Cruz-Bolivia, in which period he was invited by the Bolivian Constituent Assembly to provide expert testimony on international investment law and international human rights law. Upon conclusion of his LLM at Columbia Law School ('09), and as chief legal officer of the New York-based Human Rights Foundation, El-Hage has taught legal courses and seminars as adjunct faculty at the Universidad Andina Simon Bolivar (based in Ecuador) and the Universidad Francisco Marroquín (in Guatemala). His research topics and areas of expertise include International Human Rights Law, International Criminal Law, International Democracy Law, Comparative Constitutional Law, and International Investment Law & Arbitration



Barbara Haig

Deputy to the President for Policy and Strategy, National Endowment for Democracy USA

Barbara Haig, Deputy to the President for Policy and Strategy at the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), advises the NED President and Board on the strategic and policy direction of the NED and crafts broader strategies for the grants programs and other priorities. She joined the Endowment in the spring of 1985 and, in her last position as Vice President for Program Planning and Evaluation, led the dramatic growth of the worldwide Grants Program including its substantive direction and expansion. A graduate of Georgetown University, she is a widely recognized expert in the field of democracy support.



Tomáš Halík

Sociologist, President, Czech Christian Academy, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Professor of Philosophy at Charles University in Prague, Pastor of the Academic Parish in Prague, President of the Czech Christian Academy and Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council. Mr. Halík is also a writer and a member of the European Academy of Science and Art. In 1992, Pope John Paul II appointed him Advisor to the Pontifical Council for Dialogue with Non-Believers and in 2008, Pope Benedict XVI granted him the title of Monsignor – Honorary Prelate of His Holiness. In 2009, he received the "Truth and Justice" prize for his defense of human rights and justice, in 2010, the Romano Guardini Prize, and in 2014, the Templeton Prize



Eva Hanáková Co-founder, Tablet Media Czech Republic

Co-founder of the publishing house Tablet Media, where she also serves as the editor-in-chief of magazine Dotyk and director of Tablet Media editorial staff. Previously Mrs. Hanáková founded her own publishing house, she worked as editor-in-chief of magazine Ekonom that is part of Economia publisher.



Jan Hartl Sociologist Czech Republic

During the seventies and eighties he worked at the Institute for Philosophy and Sociology, Czechoslovak Academy of Science. Soon after the breakdown of communism in 1990 he founded STEM – Centre for Empirical Research, the first fully independent institution of public opinion study in Czechoslovakia, focusing specifically on political analysis and analysis of social problems. Since then he carried out hundreds of surveys including large comparative international projects. In 1993 STEM started regular series of monthly surveys offered to the general public. In 1994 Jan Hartl founded STEM/MARK, the company devoted to media analysis and market research.



Ivan M. Havel Scientist, Member, International Advisory Board, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Scientist and former Director of the Center for Theoretical Study, an international cross-disciplinary institution affiliated with Charles University and the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation International Advisory Board. Mr. Havel is also Editor in Chief of the Czechoslovak scientific journal Vesmír (Universe) and a member of Academia Europea. His fields of interest are theoretical computer science, artificial intelligence, cognitive science, and related philosophical issues. Mr. Havel earned his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley.



Daniel Herman *Minister of Culture Czech Republic*

Minister of Culture and Member of Parliament for the Christian and Democratic Union – Czechoslovak People's Party. Mr. Herman served as the Director of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, was the Spokesman of the Czech Bishop's Conference (1996–2005), Secretary to Cardinal Miloslav Vlk and Director of the Office of Professor Švejnar. Although he is now laicized, Mr. Herman studied Theology in Litoměřice, was ordained and served as a priest beginning in 1989.



Yevhen Hlibovytsky Founder, pro.mova Ukraine

Founder of pro.mova, an independent think tank dedicated to values research and focused on modernization issues in the former Soviet countries, Mr. Hlibovytsky is also a member of the Nestor Group, which seeks to develop a long-term vision for Ukraine. He also lectures at Kyiv-Mohyla Business School and Lviv Business School at the Catholic University. Mr. Hlibovytsky was previously a journalist in Ukraine, and in 2002 he co-founded 5 Kanal, a TV station that played a vital role during the Ukrainian Orange Revolution. Mr. Hlibovytsky graduated from the Faculty of Political Studies at Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.



Jan Hornát

Assistant Professor, Department of North American Studies, Charles University Czech Republic

Mr. Hornát is currently Assistant Professor at Charles University, specializing in US foreign policy, democracy promotion and the geopolitics of the Asia-Pacific region. He is also an Associate Research Fellow at the Institute of International Relations in Prague. Before joining academia in 2015, Mr. Hornát served as Head of Unit at the Department of European Programmes of the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic. His articles have recently appeared in journals such as the Cambridge Review of International Affairs, The National Interest and Global Affairs. He is also a frequent contributor to openDemocracy.



Tan-Sun Chen Former Minister of Foreign Affairs Taiwan

Serving as a chairman of The Prospect Foundation, Mr. Chen spent most of his life in active politics and dedicated his work to spread the international profile of Taiwan. Before returning to Taiwan after the martial law was lifted, he was Chairman of the World Federation of Taiwanese Associations and Chairman of the Formosan Association for Public Affairs (FAPA). In Taiwan, he served as legislator of the Legislative Yuan (Parliament) and the Magistrate of Tainan County; in 2004 he was appointed as foreign minister, after which he held the position of Secretary General in the Presidential Office and National Security Council. He holds B.A. from National Taiwan University and double Ph.D. from Purdue University.



Helena Illnerová Professor Emeritus at the Institute of Physiology, The Czech Academy of Sciences Czech Republic

Previously served as the head of the Czech Commission for UNESCO and from 2001 to 2005, Mrs. Illnerová was the president of the CAS. She is the author of more than 120 scientific articles and received many awards for her work that mainly focuses on the research of biorhythms in living organisms. In 2008 she took part in senate elections. She studied at Faculty of Science of Charles University and earned her title of professor in the year 2004.



Beata Jaczewska Executive Director, International Visegrad Fund Poland

Mrs. Jaczewska is the Executive Director of the International Visegrad Fund. In the past, she held several positions in the Polish state sector, including Ministerial Advisor in European Policy Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministerial Advisor in Energy Department in the Ministry of Economy and Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Environment. Besides being an expert in legal issues and European affairs, she was also the Deputy Director and then the Director of the Economy Department at the Ministry of Economics. She studied at the University of Cambridge and earned her PhD at the Warsaw School of Economics.



Ramin Jahanbegloo Political Philosopher, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Canada/Iran

Iranian-Canadian philosopher, Mr. Jahanbegloo was also a Noor Chair in Islamic Studies at York University; Professor and Vice-Dean of the School of Law and Director of Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Peace Studies at Jindal Global University in Delhi-India; an Advisory Board Member of PEN Canada; a researcher at the French Institute for Iranian Studies; and a Fellow at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University. He previously served as the head of the Department of Contemporary Studies at the Cultural Research Centre in Tehran and was the Rajni Kothari Professor in Democracy at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies in New Delhi, India. Mr. Jahanbegloo received his Ph.D. in Philosophy from the Sorbonne University.



Jang Jin-sung Poet, Spy, Escapee North Korea

Jang Jin-sung, author of the book "Dear Leader: Poet, Spy, Escapee – A Look Inside North Korea", is founder and Editor-in-chief of New Focus, an authoritative news outlet reporting on North Korea. Before defecting to South Korea in 2004, he had worked as a reporter for the Korean Central Broadcasting Committee, a state-owned broadcaster in North Korea, and as an officer of Office 101 in the United Front Department of the Worker's Party. After arriving in South Korea, he worked at the Institute for National Security Strategy in Seoul.



Axel Kaiser Barents von Hohenhagen Co-founder and Executive Director, Fundación para el Progreso, Chile

Axel Kaiser is a Chilean-German best selling author, opinion columnist and public intellectual. He is a lawyer with two master's degrees and a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Heidelberg, Germany. He is currently the executive director of the Fundación para el Progreso one of the most influential free market think tanks in Latin America. Since 2016 he holds the Friedrich von Hayek chair at the Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez in Santiago de Chile.



Irena Kalhousová

Chief Analyst, Forum 2000 Foundation, London School of Economics Czech Republic

Chief Analyst at the Forum 2000 Foundation, Mrs. Kalhousová is currently a PhD student at the London School of Economics. She was a Fellow at the Institute for the National Security Studies in Tel Aviv and previously worked as a Chief Analyst at the Prague Security Studies Institute. An expert in Middle-Eastern issues, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the EU, Mrs. Kalhousová lectured at the Anglo-American University and Metropolitan University Prague and contributes to international and Czech media, including Czech TV and radio. She holds degrees from University of Cambridge and Hebrew University in Jerusalem.



Vladimir V. Kara-Murza

National Coordinator, Open Russia Russia

National Coordinator of Open Russia, a platform for democracy activists founded by Mikhail Khodorkovsky. He has been an advisor to opposition leader Boris Nemtsov and is the deputy leader of the People's Freedom Party. Kara-Murza was a candidate to the Russian parliament in 2003. He is a senior advisor at the Institute of Modern Russia. and was previously an editor-in-chief of the Russian Investment Review. Kara-Murza has testified on Russian affairs before several parliaments and has published op-eds in The Financial Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal and others. He is the author of Reform or Revolution. He produced They Chose Freedom, a documentary film on Soviet dissidents. Vladimir Kara-Murza holds an M.A. (Cantab.) in History from Cambridge.



Garry Kasparov

Chairman, Human Rights Foundation, Former World Chess Champion Russia

Garry Kasparov came to international fame as one of the greatest chess players of all time. After retiring, he rapidly became an important voice in the Russian pro-democracy movement. He has been a contributing editor to The Wall Street Journal since 1991 and is a frequent commentator on politics and human rights. In 2012 he became Chairman of the NY-based Human Rights Foundation, which is dedicated to protecting dissidents and individual freedom around the world.



Thomas Kent President, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty USA

Thomas Kent has been appointed the President of RFE/ RL in June 2016. A longtime Associated Press journalist, he has filled roles such as Moscow Bureau Chief, International Editor, Deputy Managing Editor and, most recently, Standards Editor. In these positions, he played a leading role in the editorial and technical transformation of AP into a fully digital news organization. Mr. Kent has served as a member of the advisory board of the Ethical Journalism Network, leader of the Online News Association's Build Your Own Ethics Code project, advisor for the Society of Professional Journalists and international reporting juror for the Pulitzer Prizes. He has written and spoken extensively on journalism ethics and has a particular interest in Russian news media. Kent has taught at the Harriman Institute at Columbia University and has guest lectured at Yale University, Moscow State University, St. Petersburg University of Trade Unions, Columbia Law School, and New York University, among others. He is a graduate of Yale University.



Zoltán Kész Member of Parliament, Honorary President, Free Market Foundation Hungary

Zoltan Kész is one of the founders of the Free Market Foundation in Hungary. The mission of the Free Market Foundation is to represent, defend, and advance free market values, ideas and policies in Hungary and among speakers of the Hungarian language. The foundation stands for personal liberty and responsibility, the rule of law and tolerance, the strengthening of liberty rights, transparency, and constitutionalism. In 2015, he won a by-election in Hungary at a crucial moment. His historic victory ended the two-thirds majority and absolute power of the governing party. He is now a Member of Parliament as an independent. He has published many articles in both English and Hungarian. Kész has a weekly column in one of the country's popular online papers.



Suat Kınıklıoğlu Executive Director, Center for Strategic Communication, STRATIM Turkey

The Executive Director of the Ankara-based Center for Strategic Communication (STRATIM), Mr. Kınıklıoğlu served in the Turkish Parliament from 2007 to 2011. Former deputy member of the Executive Board of the AK Party, Mr. Kınıklıoğlu is also former Chairman of the Turkey – U.S. Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group and spokesman of the Parliament's foreign affairs committee. He also served as a deputy chairman of external affairs of the Justice and Development Party (AKP). In 2012 he parted ways with the AKP and two years later managed the election campaign of the Republican People's Party Ankara mayoral candidate Mr. Mansur Yavaş. The following year Mr. Kınıklıoğlu was a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress in Washington D.C. and the Institute of Politics of the University of Chicago.



Andrej Kiska President Slovakia

In 2014, Andrej Kiska won the presidential election as independent and non-partisan candidate. Prior to his political career, he held various management positions and conducted business activities. In 2005 he decided to devote himself to charity work. A year later, he co-founded Good Angel, a non-profit company which is helping families with children that have found themselves in financial distress because of a serious, life-threatening illness. Good Angel has become the most successful non-corporate charity in Slovakia. In 2011 he co-founded a Good Angel foundation in the Czech Republic. He was awarded the Crystal Wing for philanthropy in the same year.



Miriam Kornblith

Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, National Endowment for Democracy Venezuela/USA

Since 2016, Miriam Kornblith is the Director for Latin America and Caribbean at the National Endowment for Democracy in Washington, D.C. A Venezuelan sociologist and political scientist, Kornblith's study of the contemporary Venezuelan political system encompasses constitutional reform, political institutions, political parties, and electoral processes. She developed most of her academic career as a professor and researcher at the Central University of Venezuela. From 1998 to 1999, Kornblith was vice president and member of the board of directors of the National Electoral Council (CNE) of Venezuela, where she oversaw five electoral processes.



Miriam Kosmehl Project Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom Germany

Mrs. Kosmehl has been head of the Kiev office of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom since June 2012. A lawyer with a Master of Laws degree in Public International and International Economic Law, she has worked for GIZ – German Development Cooperation – on large-scale international development cooperation projects and in the field of legal and judicial reform. She gained her specific professional experience with transition countries with Deutsche Bank Moscow, Russia, as Executive Assistant to the Chairman of the Board, and with the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Warsaw, Poland, as Rule of Law Officer.



Sai Felicia Krishna-Hensel Director, Global Cooperation Initiative USA

Professor Sai Felicia Krishna-Hensel, is presently Director of GCI (Global Cooperation Initiative) a discussion, research, and policy development group of scholars, policy makers, and scientists. She is an anthropologist and geographer trained in India and the United States. She has taught at the faculties of the University of Delhi, the University of Virginia, and Auburn, Montgomery, USA. She is the author of several volumes and is widely published in the fields of urbanization and globalization. She previously served as Director of IGSI (Interdisciplinary Global Studies Research Initiative), Center for Business and Economic Development, Auburn Montgomery. Professor Hensel has been actively engaged with the International Studies Association for over a quarter century and has been President and Program Chair of the Comparative Interdisciplinary Studies Section of the International Studies Association during this time. In recognition of her long and continuous service she was awarded the title of President Emeritus for Life. She has been a Fulbright fellow and was elected a Life Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society for her contributions to the study of colonial urbanization. She was honored with the Millennium Distinguished Service and Scholar Award in 2007.



Lee So-yeon

President, New Korea Women's Union North Korea

A former sergeant of the North Korean army, Mrs. Lee defected to South Korea in 2008 on her second attempt. When her first attempt failed in 2006, she was forcibly returned to North Korea and imprisoned for a year for labour training. Today, Mrs. Lee is the head of the New Korea Women's Union, an association of female North Korean defectors engaged in human rights advocacy.



Anastasia Lin

Human Rights Activist, Miss Canada China/Canada

Lin won the title of Miss World Canada in 2015 and was supposed to represent Canada at Miss World 2015 contest held in China. Chinese authorities however, refused to issue her a visa after declaring her a persona non grata. It is suspected, that the refusal of visa follows her human rights activities. She graduated from University of Toronto and bases her acting career on movies concerning the human rights situation in China. She won Best Leading Actress in Leo Award 2016 for her performance in the Bleeding Edge.



Geun-wook Lee Professor, Department of Political Science, Sogang University Korea

As a security specialist, Dr. Lee has advised the Ministry of National Defense and the ROK Army and has been a professor of political science at Sogang University (Seoul, Republic of Korea) since March 2004. Mr. Lee received his doctoral degree at Harvard University in June 2002. He has published three books about international relations theory, the American War in Iraq, and the Cuban Missile Crisis. In addition, he has published articles in English journals such as Security Studies, (the Cambridge) Review of International Studies, Korean Journal of Defense Analysis, and The Korean Journal of International Studies.



Olga Lomová Head, The Far East Studies Department, Charles University Czech Republic

Professor of Chinese literature at Charles University in Prague and Director of the International Sinological Center, Mrs. Lomová also publishes articles in the media on Chinese politics and ideology, including human rights issues. She is author and co-author of several research monographs and translations from Chinese. Mrs. Lomová has done research on medieval Chinese poetry and the history of Chinese literature, and the intellectual transformation of China under Western influence in the early 20th century. She was Secretary General to the European Association for Chinese Studies.

Speaker Profiles



Annette Lu

Former Vice President of Taiwan Taiwan

Former Vice President of Taiwan, Anette Lu's political ascension took place against the background of the struggle for Taiwanese independence. She was an active member of the Tangwai movement that called for democracy and an end to authoritarian rule. Following the famous rally, where she gave a pro-democracy speech in 1979, she and basically the whole democratic movement was sentenced to 12 years of prison. Anette Lu is also a prominent feminist advocate who often addresses the lack of women in Taiwanese politics. She wrote the book New Feminism and was awarded the World Peace Corps Mission's World Peace Prize in 2001.



Edward Lucas Journalist, The Economist United Kingdom

Journalist and International Editor for The Economist. Mr. Lucas covered the Central and East European region for more than 20 years, with postings in Prague, Berlin, Vienna and Moscow, and still specializes in energy security and Russian foreign and security policy. Mr. Lucas is the author of "Deception", a book on East-West espionage published in 2012, and "The New Cold War" (2008). He was Managing Editor of The Baltic Independent, a weekly newspaper published in Tallinn (1992–1994). He holds a BSc. from the London School of Economics, and studied Polish at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow.



Arun Maira Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh India

Presently Chairman at HelpAge International UK, and Chancellor at the Central University of Himachal Pradesh in India, Arun Maira has held leadership positions in the corporate sector, in international consulting, and in government in a career spanning over 50 years. He is a thought-leader and author on the subjects of transformational change and leadership. His books include: "Redesigning the Aeroplane While Flying: Reforming Institutions"; "Transforming Capitalism"; and "Discordant Democrats". He was a member of India's Planning Commission from 2009 to 2014.



Anar Mammadli Founder, Election Monitoring, Democracy Studies Center Azerbaijan

He was arrested in December 2013 and sentenced to five and a half years on politically motivated charges. Following the international outrage, he was released on 17 March 2016. In September 2014. In 2014 Mr. Mammadli was awarded the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE).



Alejandro Medinaceli Activist and Leader, National Unity Front (U.N.) Bolivia

Mr. Medinaceli has served as the Departmental Vice President of the La Paz Front of National Unity (UN) since October 2015. He was Campaign Coordinator in the city of La Paz in the municipal elections of 2015, and Campaign Manager for National Unity in La Paz in the 2014 presidential elections. He actively participated in the "NO" public campaign in the 2009 referendum over the approval of a new constitution. Mr. Medinaceli holds a law degree from the Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo".



Adam Michnik

Editor-in-Chief, Gazeta Wyborcza, Member, International Advisory Board, Forum 2000 Foundation Poland

Editor-in-Chief of the Gazeta Wyborcza daily, he is a historian and co-founder of the Committee for the Defence of Workers. A former Member of Parliament (1989–1991) and former member of the Round Table Talks (1989), he was one of the leaders of the pre-1989 democratic opposition in Poland. Mr. Michnik is the author of several books, including "In Search of Lost Meaning: the New Eastern Europe" (2011) and "The Lord of the Manor and the Vicar" (1995). He has won the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award, the Erasmus Prize, and was the first non-Spanish winner of the Francisco Cerecedo Journalism Prize. He is currently a member of the Association of Polish Writers and the Council on Foreign Relations.



Georg Milbradt Professor, Dresden Technical University, Faculty of Economics Germany

A German politician for the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), Georg Milbradt was Second Minister President of Saxony for six years. He commenced his political career in 1973, and was Minister of Finance of Saxony for eleven years. In 2013 he was elected Chairman of the Board of the Forum of Federations. Milbradt is a professor at Dresden Technical University, Faculty of Economics, Germany. He obtained his doctoral degree at the University of Münster.



Bedřich Moldan

Founder and Former Director, Environment Center, Charles University, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Founder and Former Director of the Charles University Environment Center, Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council. Mr. Moldan has played a major role in the introduction of environmental legislation in the Czech Republic after 1989. He served as the first Czech Minister of Environment (1990–1991), and has since served in many national and international public policy positions, such as Member of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (2004–2010). He has also authored hundreds of publications and articles, including *Geology and Environment (1974), Ecology, Democracy, Market (1992), (Un) Sustainable Development – Ecology, Threat and Hope (2001) and Subdued Planet (2009).*



Fidel Moreira Flores Executive Director, Study Center for Governance and Democracy Nicaragua

Executive Director of the Study Center for Governance and Democracy (CEGODEM), a non-governmental organization promoting and encouraging proactive citizen participation. In 2013, he was elected Representative for South Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean at the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) international platform for the period 2013 to 2015. He is currently on the board of the platform. Mr. Moreira is an anthropologist at the Autonomous University of Nicaragua, holds a law degree from the Universidad del Valle in Nicaragua and a Masters in Political Anthropology from the Autonomous University of Nicaragua. He is pursuing a master's degree in anthropology and leadership at the Autonomous University of Nicaragua.



Surendra Munshi

Sociologist, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation India

Professor of Sociology at the Indian Institute of Management in Calcutta, member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council, Mr. Munshi has published and spoken on various subjects in India and abroad, and was the academic leader of an international project on good governance involving European and Indian institutions of higher education and research, supported by the European Commission. He earned his doctoral degree in Sociology from Bielefeld University, Germany.



Polina Nemirovskaya

Human Rights Program Manager, Open Russia Human Rights Project Russia

A human rights program manager at the Open Russia Human Rights project, Mrs. Nemirovskaya has participated in the election campaigns of the Russian opposition – including those of Alexei Navalny, Boris Nemtsov, and the Democratic Coalition, in Kostroma – and has been repeatedly detained by the Russian police. Nemirovskaya specialises in protecting prisoners' rights; she has organised rallies in support of prisoners – both political and ordinary – and has also organised charity auctions in support of the "Bolotnaya case" prisoners. As part of her research into the criminal justice system in Russia she worked in a district court and several human rights NGO's in Russia.



Per Nyholm Writer, Commentator, Columnist, Jyllands-Posten

Denmark/Austria

Danish commentator and writer, Mr. Nyholm, maintains a weekly column in the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten. He has been a journalist since 1960. He joined Jyllands-Posten as a foreign correspondent in 1980, working from London, Vienna and Rome. He covered Eastern Europe and the Balkans from 1986 to 2013. He was a member of the EU Commission's cultural committee in 2013-14. His books include: Danmark, (Denmark), 2005, Europæerne (The Europeans, Reports from a Journey in the Memory of a Continent), 2008, and Havet, Byen, Bjergene (The Sea, the City, the Mountains, on the road in the 21st Century), 2011. His upcoming book Ensomhedens blindgyde (Alley of Loneliness, Notes from a Winter Journey to Cuba) will appear in August.



Jorge Olivera Castillo Author, Journalist, Former Political Pr.

Author, Journalist, Former Political Prisoner Cuba

A well-known Cuban dissident, author of numerous novels, poet and political commentator, Mr. Olivera's work was banned in his home country. It was however widely disseminated abroad, and also appears on blogs such as the Miami-based Cubanet. In 1993, he joined the dissident movement as Press Secretary to the independent Federation of Democratic Cuban Workers until 1995. Between 1999 and 2003 he was Director of the Habana Press agency. Imprisoned from March 2003 to December 2004 "for claiming free expression" (his words), he was only released from his eighteen-year sentence on health grounds. He now lives and writes at home.



Tarek Osman Author, Broadcaster, and the EBRD's Senior Political Counsellor for the Southern & Eastern Mediterranean Eqypt

Tarek is the author of "Islamism: What It Means for the Middle East and the World" (Yale, 2016); "Egypt on the Brink" (Yale, 2010); and the writer and presenter of the BBC documentary series: "The Making of the Modern Arab World" (2013), "Sands of Time: A History of Saudi Arabia" (2015), and "Islam Divided: Sunni-Shia" (2016). He is Senior Political Counsellor for the Arab World and Turkey at the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development (EBRD).



Martin Palouš *President, Václav Havel Library Foundation USA/Czech Republic*

President of the Václav Havel Library Foundation and Senior Fellow at the School of International and Public Affairs at Florida International University in Miami. Mr. Palouš was the Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States (2001–2005) and to the United Nations (2006–2011), held the position of Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs (1998–2001) and served as a Member of Parliament (1990–1992). He is one of the original signatories of Charter 77 and served as its spokesperson in 1986. He also participated at the creation of the Civic Forum in 1989. Mr. Palouš studied Natural Sciences, Philosophy and International Law.

Speaker Profiles



Jagannath Panda Head, East Asia Centre, Institute of Studies and Analyses India

Jagannath P. Panda is a Research Fellow and heads the East Asia Centre of IDSA. He is in charge of the East Asia Centre's academic and administrative activities. He is the author of India-China Relations: Politics of Resources, Identity and Authority in a Multipolar World Order (Routledge: 2016). Dr. Panda is a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Asian Public Policy (Routledge) and is the first South Asian scholar to receive the prestigious East Asia Institute (EAI) fellowship for 2016. He is a recipient of the V. K. Krishna Menon Memorial Gold Medal (2000) from the Indian Society of International Law & Diplomacy in New Delhi.



Šimon Pánek

Co-Founder and Director, People in Need, Member, International Advisory Board, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Co-Founder and Director of People in Need, one of the biggest NGOs in Central Europe and Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation International Advisory Board. Mr. Pánek has previously worked in various positions related to development aid, chaired the Czech Forum for Development Cooperation and served as foreign policy specialist on the Balkan region and human rights issues in the presidential administration of Václav Havel. Mr. Pánek was one of the student leaders during the Velvet Revolution. President Havel singled him out as the future potential president of the Czech Republic.



Rosa María Payá

President, Latin American Youth Network For Democracy, Coordinator, Cuba Decide Campaign Cuba

President of the Latin American Network of Youth for Democracy, Mrs. Payá works to promote international solidarity with Cuba, and seeks justice for the murder of her father Oswaldo Payá, Sakharov Prize laureate and nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. She coordinates the international and internal campaign Cuba Decide and every year participates at numerous international forums. Rosa María graduated in Leadership and Constitutional Studies at the Georgetown University. She is a part of the Liberation Christian Movement Coordinating Committee.



Petr Pithart Former Prime Minister Czech Republic

A dissident during the Communist era, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic (1990 to 1992), former member of the Czech National Council, and Senator and Chairman of the Senate of the Czech Republic. Currently, Mr. Pithart is Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council and teaches in Charles University's Law Faculty. Mr. Pithart was imprisoned for his dissident activities and was one of the first signatories of the Charter 77 agreement. In 1989, he was one of the leaders of the Civic Forum, which helped negotiate the end to Communist rule. Mr. Pithart studied at the Law Faculty of Charles University and at St. Anthony's College in Oxford.



Thomas Pogge Founding Director, Global Justice Program Germany/UK

Pogge is a member of the Norwegian Academy of Science as well as President of Academics Stand Against Poverty (ASAP), an international network aiming to enhance the impact of scholars, teachers and students on global poverty, and of Incentives for Global Health, a team effort toward developing a complement to the pharmaceutical patent regime that would improve access to advanced medicines for the poor worldwide. Having received his PhD in philosophy from Harvard, Thomas Pogge is Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs and founding Director of the Global Justice Program at Yale. He holds part-time positions at King's College London and the Universities of Oslo and Central Lancashire.



Jerzy Pomianowski

Executive Director, European Endowment for Democracy Belgium/Poland

Executive Director at the European Endowment for Democracy, Mr. Pomianowski has been Under Secretary of State at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Director of the Partnership for Democratic Governance at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD; 2008–2011). He has also been Director of the Department of Development Cooperation and Coordinator of the Polish Development Aid Program. He has served as Director General of the Polish Foreign Service and Polish Ambassador to Japan. He holds an M.A. in sociology from the University of Warsaw.



Franz Karl Prüller Senior Advisor, Board of ERSTE Foundation Austria

Currently Senior Advisor to the Board of the ERSTE Foundatioon, Mr. Prüller previously held positions as CEO and Chairman of the Management Board of ERSTE Foundation which he joined in 2005 as Programme Director for Social Development. Prior to 2005 he held various positions in Caritas Austria (1988-2005), where he last served as Secretary General in charge of International Programmes from 1996 to 2005. Mr. Prüller currently represents ERSTE Foundation in the Governing Council of the European Foundation Centre and serves on the Supervisory Boards of Zweite Sparkasse in Austria and good.bee Credit, a microfinance institute in Romania. He is Chairman of the European Fund for the Balkans and Deputy Chairman of the Network of European Foundations (NEF).



Iveta Radičová Sociologist, Former Prime Minister, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Slovakia

Professor of Sociology at Comenius University in Bratislava, Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council, Mrs. Radičová previously served as Slovakia's Prime Minister and Minister of Defense. Prior to these positions, she was a member of the Slovak National Parliament and served as Minister of Labor, Social Affairs, and Family. In 1992, she founded the non-profit Social Policy Analysis Centre, which she led until being appointed Director of the Slovak Academy of Science's Institute of Sociology in 2005. Mrs. Radičová received her Ph.D. in Sociology from Comenius University in Bratislava.



Feliciano Reyna

President of CIVILIS Human Rights, Executive President of Accion Solidaria, and Advisor to the Venezuelan Observatory on Prisons, Venezuela

President of CIVILIS Human Rights and Executive President of Accion Solidaria. Mr. Reyna served as President of Sinergia (2005-2013), board member of the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (2009-2015), and was a fellow of Ashoka, a global network of social entrepreneurs (2001). He graduated from Cornell University. Mr. Reyna received the Human Rights Award from the Center for Peace and Human Rights of Venezuela's Central University and the Canadian Embassy.



Rafael Rincón Director of Strategy & Innovation, Fundación para el Progreso Chile

Rafael Rincón - Urdaneta Zerpa is a Venezuelan opinion columnist and consultant. He is currently Director of Strategy & Innovation at the Fundación para el Progreso, one of the most influential free market think tanks in Chile and Latin America. He is also Professor at the Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (Chile). In recent years, Rafael Rincón - Urdaneta Zerpa has been working with the Czech community, promoting Czech culture. He is one of the founders of the future Václav Havel Project at Fundación para el Progreso. He is a business manager with a master's degree in International Relations and a Ph.D. in American studies.



Libor Rouček

Co-Chairman, Czech-German Discussion Forum, Former Vice-President, European Parliament Czech Republic

A Czech politician, Mr. Rouček has served as a Member of the European Parliament and as Vice Chairman of the Socialists & Democrats Group. In 2002, he was elected to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, where he was Vice Chairman of the European Integration Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee, and the Czech Social Democratic Party Deputies Club. Mr. Rouček was Government Spokesman from 1998 to 2002. He lived in exile prior to the Velvet Revolution. He studied political science and sociology at the University of Vienna and has a Ph.D. in Foreign Relations.



Jacques Rupnik

Political Scientist, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation France

Director of Research at the Centre for International Studies and at Sciences Po, Paris, Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges and Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council. Mr. Rupnik has been visiting professor at several European universities and at Harvard, and was Executive Director of the International Commission on the Balkans. He has been a consultant to the European Commission, has focused on the democratization and European integration of East and Central European countries, nationalism, and post-conflict reconciliation in the Balkans, and has published several books on these topics. Among his recent publications: 1989 as a Political World Event (with an introduction by V. Havel), London, Routledge, 2013 and Géopolitique de la démocratisation (Paris, 2014).



Gabriel Salvia Director, Center for the Opening and Development of Latin America Argentina

Chairman and General Director at the Center for the Opening and Development of Latin America (CADAL). In 2012, he created the Václav Havel Institute, an initiative under the Democratic International Solidarity Program of CADAL. Mr. Salvia is the author of more than two hundred publications, including research, interviews, analyses, op-eds and context articles. He also compiled the books Diplomacy and Human Rights in Cuba, Un balance político a 30 años del retorno a la democracia en la Argentina, and Desafíos para el fortalecimiento democrático en la Argentina. As a journalist, Mr. Salvia has worked in print, radio and TV.



Hrishabh Sandilya Political Analyst India

Hrishabh Sandilya lectures on India and South Asia at Charles University and Anglo-American University (AAU) in Prague. Formerly Vice President at AAU, he graduated from the University of Mumbai, before moving to Prague for his post-graduate and doctoral work. Widely published, his commentary has been carried by outlets such as Project Syndicate and The Indian Express.



Chaiwat Satha-Anand Professor of Politics and Government Thailand

Chaiwat Anand is Professor of Politics and Government at Thammasat University, Bangkok. His expertise mainly lies in non-violence – not only as a theory, but also in activism, while his other major field is Islam. Chaiwat Anand is Director of Thai Peace Information Centre that focuses on Thai military and social issues. He is the author of many publications concerning the military, defence, religion and peace. He also directed the International Peace Research Association's commission on non-violence and he serves on the Scientific Committee of the International University of People's Institutions for Peace in Italy.



Tomáš Sedláček

Chief Macroeconomic Strategist, ČSOB Bank, Lecturer at Charles University in Prague, Member, Corporate Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Tomáš Sedláček became well known through his book Economics of Good and Evil (OUP 2009) that has been translated into 17 languages and won many prestigious prices for its original philosophical contribution to economics. He is a former advisor to Czech president Vaclav Havel. He is a member of the Programme Council for New Economic Thinking of World Economic Forum and advised Barroso on New Narrative for Europe. He is a sought after speaker, debater and frequent international commentator. He works for the largest Czech bank as a chief macroeconomic strategist. He lectures at Charles University and sits on boards of many non-profit organizations.



Manal al Sharif

Writer, Blogger, Women's Rights Activist Saudi Arabia

Mrs. al-Sharif was recognized by Time Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World, and by Arabian Business as the most inspiring Arab woman. She had quit her professional career in 2012 to work full-time as a social activist creating awareness for women's rights in her home country, Saudi Arabia, and as a weekly columnist in the prominent Arab newspaper, Al-Hayat. She founded the #Women2Drive movement in 2011, which led to her arrest with charges of civil disobedience. Currently, she is writing her memoir titled Daring to Drive that will be published by Simon & Schuster in 2017. She was the first Saudi female IT security consultant working for the oil company Saudi Aramco for 10 years. She received the Václav Havel Prize for Creative Dissent.



Andrew Schapiro Ambassador to the Czech Republic USA

Andrew H. Schapiro was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to the Czech Republic in 2014. The son of a Czech immigrant to the United States, Ambassador Schapiro was born in Chicago, Illinois. He worked as a public-interest lawyer in the office of the Federal Public Defender in New York City and in private practice. Ambassador Schapiro has served on the Board of Directors of the Chicago Low-Income Housing Trust Fund, the Board of Directors of the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, and the Advisory Board of the Institute on the Supreme Court of the United States. He was also a member of the Democratic National Committee's National Finance Committee and its 2012 Platform Committee



Jiří Schneider Executive Director, Aspen Institute Prague Czech Republic

Currently Director of the Aspen Institute in Prague, Mr. Schneider served as First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic from 2010 to 2014. He recently became Senior Fellow at the Prague Security Studies Institute, where he previously worked as Program Director. Before 2005, he held various positions at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Director General – Political Director, Head of the Policy Planning Department, and Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Israel. Prior to his diplomatic career, Mr. Schneider was a member of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly. He graduated from the Czech Technical University in Prague (ČVUT) and obtained a Diploma in Religious Studies from the University of Cambridge.



Karel Schwarzenberg Former Minister of Foreign Affairs Czech Republic

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs (2007–2009, 2010–2013) and former First Deputy Prime Minister (2010–2013), Mr. Schwarzenberg was also a Member of the Senate of the Czech Parliament (2004–2010). During the first half of 2009, he served as the President of the Council of the European Union. He was President of the International Helsinki Committee for Human Rights (1984–1991) and Chancellor to President Václav Havel. In 1991, he was awarded, together with Lech Wałęsa, the Council of Europe's Human Rights Award.



Scott Snyder

Director of the program for U.S.-Korea Policy, Council on Foreign Relations USA

A senior fellow for Korea studies and director of the program on U.S.-Korea policy at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), Mr. Snyder served as an adjunct fellow from 2008 to 2011. Prior to joining CFR, Snyder was a senior associate at The Asia Foundation, a senior associate at Pacific Forum CSIS, an Asia specialist at the U.S. Institute of Peace, and acting director of Asia Society's contemporary affairs program. He was a Pantech visiting fellow at Stanford University's Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center during 2005-06. Snyder received a BA from Rice University and an MA from the East Asia program at Harvard University.

Speaker Profiles



Jan Sokol Politician and Philosopher Czech Republic

Philosopher, former dissident, politician and translator. After Velvet Revolution he was elected Vice-Chairman of the Chamber of Nations and spokesman of the strongest fraction Civic Forum (OF). Member of Czechoslovak Parliament (1990-1992), Minister of Education (1998) and coalition candidate to the office of President of the Czech Republic (2003). He obtained his MA in Anthropology in 1993 and Ph.D. in Philosophy in 1996 and has been full Professor of Philosophy since 2000. He also served as Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Charles University in Prague (2000-2007).



Michael Staack

Co-Director, Institute of International Politics, Helmut Schmidt University Germany

Co-Director of the Institute of International Politics and professor of political science and International relations at the Helmut Schmidt University, Mr. Staack was previously Dean of the Department of Economics and Social Sciences and later dean of the Studies of the Political Science Program at Helmut Schmidt University. He is the author of a number of various publications on German Foreign Policy, European Security, CSCE, World Order Policy, Transatlantic Relations and East Asia.



Tamara Sujú Human Rights Lawyer Venezuela

Lawyer and President of New National Awareness Foundation, which promotes human rights and democratic principles and provides legal support to political prisoners, Ms. Sujú is also International Director of Foro Penal Venezolano, Director of Human Rights Department of CASLA Institute and Founder of Fundapres O.S., a foundation that provides aid to prisons throughout Venezuela. She is also Director of the Ladies in White, a group of wives, mothers, and daughters of political prisoners. Mrs. Sujú has a law degree from Catholic University Andrés Bello in Caracas.



Kateřina Šafaříková Journalist Czech Republic

Currently working at Respekt weekly, Mrs. Šafaříková has previously worked as a correspondent from Brussels for Lidové noviny and in the New Media Section of the Czech Television. She has also been part of the team launching the Czech version of Newsweek. She was voted among the ten best foreign correspondents from Brussels in the 2004-2009 period.



Jan Šnaidauf

Head of the Political and Economic Section, EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Head of the Political and Economic Section of the EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina since September 2014. Previously he worked on Middle Eastern issues at the Brussels Headquarters of the European External Action Service, and at the Policy Unit of EU High Representatives Javier Solana and Catherine Ashton. Earlier he worked as Project Coordinator at Forum 2000 Foundation, as well as Senior Fellow and Vice-Chairman at the Prague-based Association for International Affairs. He used to be frequently featured as a commentator in Czech media and remains a member of the diplomatic service of the Czech Republic.



Jan Švejnar

Director, Center on Global Economic Governance, Columbia University, IDEA/ CERGE-El, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation USA/Czech Republic

Mr. Švejnar is a Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council and served as Economic Advisor to President Václav Havel. He is also the founder and Chairman of the Executive and Supervisory Committee of the Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education-Economics Institute (CERGE-EI) in Prague and Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance at Columbia University. He is the Former Director of the William Davidson Institute at the University of Michigan, where he was also Professor of Business, Economics, and Public Policy. He received his PhD in economics at Princeton University. In 2015, Mr. Švejnar received the IZA Prize in Labor Economics.



Jan Techau

Director, Richard C. Holbrooke Forum, American Academy in Berlin Germany

Jan Techau is Director of the American Academy in Berlin's Richard C. Holbrooke Forum. He works on EU integration and foreign policy, transatlantic affairs, and German foreign and security policy. From March 2011 to August 2016, Techau was Director of Carnegie Europe, the European think tank of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. From February 2010 until February 2011, Techau served in the NATO Defense College's Research Division. He was Director of the Alfred von Oppenheim Center for European Policy Studies at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) in Berlin between 2006 and 2010.



Pavel Telička

Member of the European Parliament, 2nd Vice-President of ALDE Czech Republic

Member of the European Parliament for the Czech Republic. Mr. Telička has worked for the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where he held several senior posts including that of 1st Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and State Secretary for European Affairs. In this position, Mr. Telička served as chief negotiator for the Czech Republic's accession to the European Union. In recognition of his efforts he received a memorial medal from then Czech president Václav Havel. Pavel Telička later became Czech ambassador to the EU and his country's first European Commissioner. Between 2004 and 2013, he was a managing partner at BXL Consulting, an EU-affairs consultancy he co-founded. He serves as a 2nd Vice-President of ALDE and member of the Committee on Transport and Tourism and of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy of the European Parliament.



Enrique ter Horst

Diplomat, Former UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Venezuela

Former United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights and Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council, Mr. ter Horst is a lawyer and political analyst. Previously, he was the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Haiti. Mr. ter Horst has also worked as Special Representative of the Secretary-General for El Salvador and Chief of the UN Observer Mission in El Salvador. Mr. ter Horst has been an Ambassador in the foreign service of Venezuela since 1986, serving as a Deputy Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the UN and as a Representative to the Commission on Human Rights.



Jan Urban

Dissident and Journalist, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Former dissident and editor of the then illegal newspaper Lidové noviny. He was active within the Civic Forum (OF) and led this political movement to win the first free parliamentary elections in June 1990. Shortly after the results were announced, he left politics for good. Mr. Urban made several trips to Central America to study the problems of post-conflict societies and the media. During the Bosnian war, he worked as a war correspondent, and later made a documentary about the war. He was also a member of the Independent International Commission on Kosovo. Jan Urban worked as an editor and commentator for the Czech Radio. He teaches at New York University in Prague.



Mario Lionnet Valenti Politician Nicaragua

President of the opposition Citizen Action Party, President of the Foundation for Democratic Studies in Panama, member of Solidarity Democratic, and businessman. In 2009, Mr. Valenti served as President of the National Youth Union. He

Speaker Profiles

worked with the opposition in a lot of presidential campaigns in Nicaragua. Mr. Valenti served as Youth Coordinator in the presidential campaign of the Liberal Independent Party in 2011. He graduated in international relations and completed a postgraduate course in international development cooperation at the American University.



Konstantin von Eggert Journalist, Political Commentator Russia

Mr. von Eggert currently hosts his own program on TV Dozhd/ Rain TV, Russia's only television that remains free of state censorship. Previously, Mr. von Eggert worked as Editor-in-Chief of Kommersant, Russia's premier 24 hour news radio station. Mr. von Eggert also served as Vice-President for Public and Government Affairs for ExxonMobil Russia Inc. in charge of relations with the Russian Government, communications, political and economic analysis and charity projects. In 1998-2009 Mr. von Eggert was Senior Correspondent, then Editor-in-Chief of the BBC Russian Service Moscow bureau. Konstantin von Eggert is a member of Chatham House - Royal Institute of International Affairs (London). In 2008 Queen Elizabeth II has created Konstantin Honorary Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. Mr. von Eggert is an honors graduate of the Moscow University Institute of Asian and African Studies.



Alexandr Vondra

Director, Prague Centre for Transatlantic Relations (PCTR), Member, Board of Directors, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Alexandr Vondra is the Director of the PCTR at the CEVRO Institute in Prague. He is also the Honorary President of the Czech Atlantic Commission, member of the Advisory Council of the CEPA and Program Council of the Forum 2000. Mr. Vondra served as a Foreign Policy Advisor to President Havel, First Deputy Foreign Minister, Czech Ambassador to the U.S., the Czech Government Commissioner for 2002 Prague NATO Summit, Czech Foreign Minister, Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs, senator and Minister of Defense. In 1989, he was the spokesman for Charter 77 and co-founder of the Civic Forum in Czechoslovakia.



Tomáš Vrba

Chairman, Board of Directors, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Chairman of the Board of Forum 2000 Foundation and President of the Board of Directors at Theater Archa.

Professor at New York University in Prague. Founder and former President of the Czech section of the Association of European Journalists. He was the Editor-in-Chief of the monthly magazine Nová Přítomnost (1997–2000) and of the Czech and Slovak edition of Lettre Internationale Quarterly (1990–1995), International Vice President of the Association of European Journalists (2002–2004) and Chair of the Czech News Agency Council (ČTK, 2004– 2007). Mr. Vrba was a member of the Civic Forum and a signatory of Charter 77. He holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from Charles University.



Christopher Walker

Executive Director, International Forum for Democratic Studies, National Endowment for Democracy, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation, USA

Executive Director of the National Endowment for Democracy's International Forum for Democratic Studies, Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council, Mr. Walker previously served in Freedom House's New York office as Vice President for Strategy and Analysis, overseeing a team of analysts and senior scholars in devising an overall strategy for the organization's analytical projects. His articles on media freedom and democracy have appeared in a wide range of publications, including the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and Foreign Policy. He has served as Adjunct Professor of Global Affairs at New York University. Mr. Walker graduated from Columbia University.



Werner Weidenfeld Founder, Center for Applied Policy Research Germany

Professor Werner Weidenfeld is the Director and founder of the Center for Applied Policy Research at Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich. Previously, Mr. Weidenfeld was the coordinator for the German Federal Government for German-American cooperation. He is also Rector of Alma Mater Europaea (European Academy of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, Salzburg, Austria). He attended the University of Bonn for his BA, where he studied political sciences, history and philosophy. In 1975, he earned his habilitation in political sciences from the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz. Following his habilitation, he was a professor of political sciences at the University of Mainz for twenty years.



Grigory Yavlinsky Economist, Politician Russia

Professor of Economics at the State University – Higher School of Economics in Moscow, and Chairman of the Board of the Centre for Economic and Political Research, Mr. Yavlinsky was co-founder and former Chairman of the Russian Democratic Party Yabloko. In 1996 and 2000, Mr. Yavlinsky ran as Yabloko's official candidate for the Russian presidency. He also served as a Member of the Russian State Duma. Since the mid-1990s, he has focused his efforts on tax and budget reforms. He studied at the Plekhanov Institute of National Economy, Moscow.



Philip Zimbardo Psychologists

Professor Emeritus, Stanford University

Dr. Zimbardo has spent 50 years teaching and studying psychology. He has served as President of the American Psychological Association, and designed and narrated the award-winning 26-part PBS series Discovering Psychology. He has published more than 50 books and 400 professional and popular articles and chapters, among them Shyness, The Lucifer Effect, The Time Cure, The Time Paradox and, most recently, Man, Interrupted. Dr. Zimbardo currently lectures worldwide and is actively working to promote his non-profit the Heroic Imagination Project. His current research looks at the psychology of heroism. He asks: "What pushes some people to become perpetrators of evil, while others act heroically on behalf of those in need?"



Andrey Zubov Historian Russia

A historian and political scientist, Mr. Zubov has been a professor at the Moscow State Institute of International Affairs, and has previously taught at the Institute of Oriental Studies. He is editor and co-author of a two-volume history of Russia in the 20th century. Known for his criticism of the Soviet regime and contemporary Russian politics, Mr. Zubov often faces controversies and has recently received much press attention for his dismissal from his professorship for his article condemning Putin's actions in Crimea. He graduated from the Moscow State Institute in 1973.



Michael Žantovský

Executive Director, Václav Havel Library, Member, Program Council, Forum 2000 Foundation Czech Republic

Executive Director of the Václav Havel Library, former president of the Aspen Institute Prague, former Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States, Israel and United Kingdom and Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council. Mr. Žantovský previously served as Chairman of the Civic Democratic Alliance, and Senator of the Civic Democratic Alliance in the Parliament of the Czech Republic. He was also and Spokesman and Political Director at the Office of the President of the Czech Republic. Mr. Žantovský is a graduate of Charles University in Prague and of McGill University in Canada.



Practical Information

Please, kindly note the following information related to various organizational matters associated with the conference.

Language

English is the working language of the conference.

Accessibility of Venues and Events

Panels and discussions held at Žofín Palace, Mánes Gallery and the Goethe Institute are accessible to the public only with pre-registration. Discussions and events held at other venues and Festival of Democracy's events are open to the general public without the need to pre-register

Food and Beverages

Small meals and snacks will be sold at the Žofín Palace restaurant and café throughout the conference. Coffee, tea and nonalcoholic beverages will be available for no charge during coffee breaks at the Žofín Palace and the Goethe Institut.

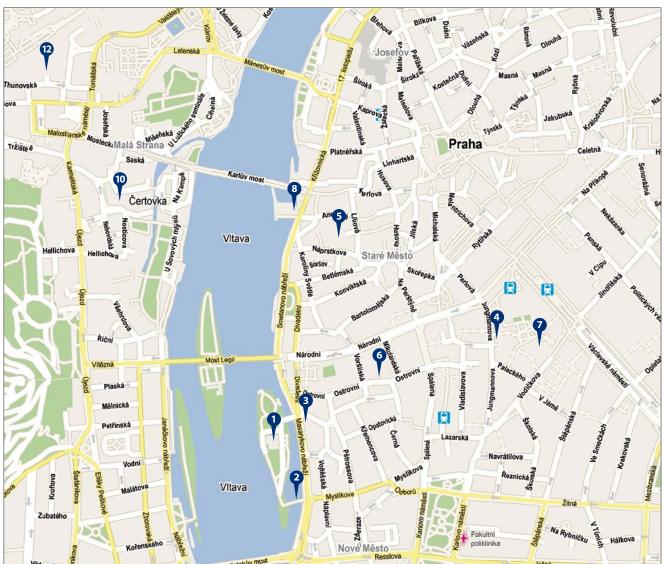
Smokers

Žofín Palace, Mánes Gallery, and the Goethe Institute are no-smoking zones. Smoking is only permitted outside conference venues.

Photography and Video Recording

All conference participants are permitted to take pictures and record video. We ask guests not to use flash.

Conference Venue Map





- Letná
- **Žofín Palace** Slovanský ostrov, Prague 1 1.
- **Mánes Gallery** Masarykovo nábřeží, Prague 1 2.
- Goethe-Institut 3. Masarykovo nábřeží, Prague 1
- **European House** 4. Jungmannova, Prague 1
- Prague Crossroads Zlatá, Prague 1 5.

- Václav Havel Library Ostrovní, Prague 1 6.
- Langhans, People in Need Center 7. Vodičkova, Prague 1
- Mlýnec 8. Novotného lávka, Prague 1
- **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** 9. Loretánské náměstí, Prague 1
- **Embassy of France** Velkopřevorské náměstí, Prague 1 10.

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- Austrian Residence Kanovnická, Prague 1 11.
- Embassy of Great Britain Thunovská, Prague 1 12.
- Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany 13. Vlašská, Prague 1
- Norwegian Residence Na Zátorce, Praha 6 14.
- **Archa Theatre** Na Poříčí, Prague 1 15.



Conference Outcomes

Should you wish to review the conference speeches and discussions, visit our website at www.forum2000.cz. All the outcomes are available in the section Forum 2000 Conferences under the respective year.

Social Media

You can track Forum 2000's activities both during the conference and all year long by engaging with us on social media. Follow us on Twitter at @Forum_2000 or via #Forum2000 or Friend us on Facebook and visit www.facebook.com/forum.2000.

Tweet your conference experience using the #Forum2000 hashtag.

Online Live Video Broadcast

Panels in the Forum Hall will be broadcast live on our Youtube channel. The Video section of our website will later contain video or audio recordings from all these sessions and from our past events.

Photo Gallery

We do our best to capture the significant moments of the conference. A selection of photographs taken during the conference will be available soon after its close. Please visit the Photo Gallery in the Conference 2016 section of our website.

Panel Summaries

All conference panels are briefly summarized and available on the Forum 2000 website during the course of

the conference. They provide a general overview of the speeches and remarks made by the delegates.

Press Releases

Press Releases highlight the most interesting and most important moments of the individual conference days offering statements, quotations and ideas and summarizing the course of the conference for media.



Get Involved

The Forum 2000 Foundation is committed to supporting the values of democracy and respect for human rights. All of our activities would not be possible without the help of a thriving community of supporters and the generosity of our donors.

Join the Forum 2000 Community

Join us on Facebook and Twitter, be informed of the latest news, discuss and share your opinions. Use your voice to help us to take the mission of Forum 2000 further.

Volunteers are the cornerstone of Forum 2000, and we are grateful to those who have devoted their time to support us. Increase your impact on our mission by volunteering, becoming a fundraiser, or just spreading the word.

Support Our Mission by Making a Donation

Become a Friend of Forum 2000

By donating regularly, you can help us plan our long-term strategy more effectively. If you wish to provide regular support, look for the Friends of Forum 2000 sign at the conference venues and ask our staff for assistance. More information is also available on our website.

Institutional and Corporate Support

At Forum 2000, we understand the importance of a mutually beneficial partnership. You can choose to support the entire mission, a specific project, or an event organized by the Forum 2000 Foundation – and get a special recognition within these respective activities.

In-Kind Support

One of the ways you can contribute to our mission is to provide in-kind support: equipment, products or services that are necessary for us to function. Such a donation is just as important as any other help to us.

By making a much-needed donation today, you will help the Forum 2000 Foundation support the values of democracy and respect for human rights. Find out more detailed information on our website or contact us at secretariat@ forum2000.cz.

Thank you!



Forum 2000 Foundation

Mission

The Forum 2000 Foundation pursues the legacy of Václav Havel by supporting the values of democracy and respect for human rights, assisting the development of civil society, and encouraging religious, cultural and ethnic tolerance. It provides a platform for global leaders, as well as thinkers and courageous individuals from every field of endeavor, to openly debate and share these critical issues.

Origins

Forum 2000 was founded in 1996 by Czech President Václav Havel together with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel and Japanese philanthropist Yohei Sasakawa.

Core Activities

Forum 2000 Conference

The annual Forum 2000 Conference in Prague assembles global thought leaders and offers a voice to dissidents from non-democratic countries, facilitating the development of a worldwide network of those who support the core principles of Havel's legacy. Among the speakers at our annual conference have been world-renowned personalities such as His Holiness the Dalai Lama, President Clinton, Madeleine Albright, Prince El Hassan bin Talal and numerous Nobel Laureates including Elie Wiesel, Shirin Ebadi and Joseph Stiglitz. The conference is unique in being open to the public and attracts over 3,000 attendees and more than 3,000 online followers each year, mostly from the Czech Republic and Central Europe, but with an increasingly international audience. These include representatives from politics, civil society, media, diplomacy, academia and business.

NGO Market

Our annual NGO Market has become the largest exhibition of its kind in Central and Eastern Europe and offers nonprofit organizations the opportunity to showcase their activities to potential corporate partners and the general public. During the event, NGOs share best practices and are able to draw on international experience.

Democratic Solidarity

Democratic Solidarity is a joint project of the Forum 2000 Foundation and the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress. The project was founded in September 2013 based on an agreement signed in Prague during the 17th annual Forum 2000 Conference "Societies in Transition" by Venezuelan and Cuban democrats striving for freedom, democracy and human rights.

Interfaith Dialogue

The Interfaith Dialogue is an integral element of the annual conference and facilitates a unique exchange between secular humanism and the world's spiritual traditions. Participants seek better understanding and deepening cooperation between world religions and political, scientific and economic leaders.

Shared Concern Initiative

The Shared Concern Initiative (SCI) unites political and spiritual leaders and offers them a common voice in support of political dissidents living in non-democratic regimes and in condemnation of human rights' infringements. It also sponsors research into democratic developments in non-democratic or newly-democratic regimes. The joint statements of the Initiative are regularly published by significant media outlets around the world.

SCI Membership

- Prince El Hassan bin Talal, Chairman, West Asia-North Africa Forum, Jordan
- His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Spiritual Leader, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Tibet
- Frederik Willem de Klerk, Former President, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, South Africa
- Vartan Gregorian, President, Carnegie Corporation of New York, USA
- Hans Küng, President, Foundation for Global Ethics, Germany
- Michael Novak, Theologian, Political Scientist, USA
- Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman, The Nippon Foundation, Co-Founder, Forum 2000 Foundation, Japan
- Karel Schwarzenberg, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic
- Grigory Yavlinsky, Economist, Politician, Russia

Václav Havel's Legacy

Together with our many supporters, we are determined to take forward Václav Havel's legacy and to firmly establish Forum 2000 as the primary global platform for dialogue about democracy, human rights and freedom.

"I would like to thank Forum 2000 for making this issue a really significant one in our century. With your help we shall be able to go forward in our process of democratization, with your help the world will know how important Rule of Law is." **Aung Sang Suu Kyi**, Political Leader, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Burma

Addressing the Forum 2000 Conference, October 2011

"Havel will continue to inspire all of those who believe in the rights of every citizen to dignity, self-esteem and the fundamental freedoms upon which principled societies and governments are based."

Yang Jianli, Dissident, President and Founder, Initiatives for China, USA/China

"The void left by the death of Václav Havel is enormous, but his legacy lives on, and will continue to inspire us to aim for the high peaks of freedom, equality, justice, human rights and human dignity."

Shimon Peres, President, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Israel

"Václav Havel was the moral voice of his country and his era. His humanity, humility and decency were an example for us all. In the face of the great challenges today that shall test a newer generation, let his profile in courage be our inspiration."

Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations, USA/ South Korea

"I know Forum 2000 will keep up the spirit of Havel's tireless work with renewed vigor and determination. I look forward to working in close cooperation with your foundation towards building a more peaceful, open and just world."

His Holiness the Dalai Lama, *Spiritual Leader, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Tibet*

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Special Thanks

Forum 2000 would like to cordially thank all of the volunteers, delegates' assistants and reporters who helped with preparing the conference and to the following friends, colleagues and family members for their support.

Alexander Klepal Arthur Klepal Michal Gladiš Monika Bombalová Frederika Kulfanová Karolína Hauserová **Martin Hauser** Vojtěch Kašpar Magdaléna Vošalíková Jon Osterman Martin Ondráček Kateřina Pleskotová Jana Staničová **Graeme Steele** Dagmar Staňková Michal Sedláček Hana Martišková Barbora Martišková Lucie Červenková Tamara Sujú

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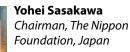


Adam Michnik Editor in Chief, Gazeta

Wyborcza, Poland



Šimon Pánek Co-Founder and Director, People in Need, Czech Republic





Aung San Suu Kyi Political Leader, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Burma

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We would also like to express our heartfelt thanks to the many people who have so generously donated to fulfill the Forum 2000 mission.

THE COURAGE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

WHO ARE THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW?

20TH ANNUAL FORUM 2000 CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 16-19, 2016, PRAGUE AND OTHER CENTRAL EUROPEAN CITIES

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