

CENTER FOR EU ENLARGEMENT STUDIES



Located at Central European University in Budapest, the Center for EU Enlargement Studies is dedicated to making recent and upcoming enlargements work, by contributing to the debate on the future of the EU and by exploring the results and lessons of previous EU enlargements. Research activities, however, are not limited only to the analysis of previous enlargements, but also to the potential effects that a wider extension of the EU's sphere of influence may have on bordering regions.

Fields of research include the impacts of the EU's eastern enlargement on the new member states and the Union itself; the newly-acceded EU states and their relation to the core of Europe, to their immediate neighbors, and to each other; and the inclusion of the direct neighbors into the territorially bound integration functions of the EU.

FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG



The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), founded in 1925 by Germany's first democratically elected president, is committed to the principles of social democracy. The FES is engaged in international development cooperation, international dialogue between developed countries, political education and political and social research and consulting. It promotes peace and understanding between peoples, supports the democratisation of the state and the society, and fosters the improvement of general political, economic and social conditions. The FES Budapest is committed to the full integration of Hungary into the European structures, to the active democratic participation of all social groups and to a democratic, socially balanced and environment-friendly policy making.

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CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR EU ENLARGEMENT STUDIES AND FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG

PRESENTS

EU ENLARGEMENT AND GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE BALKAN PROBLEM

FEBRUARY 22-23, 2008 ◆ BUDAPEST

CEU, NÁDOR U. 9

The events of the next six months in the Western-Balkans will be decisive for the future of the EU. Preservation of the stability in the region will put the cohesion of the integration to the test as well. The challenges facing the EU today in the region are numerous, and most importantly include a resolution of Kosovo's status; accelerating the signing of Stabilisation and Association Agreements where scheduled; and strengthening the commitment to reforms in all candidate and potential candidate countries. All the while, in the face of such challenges, the EU needs to stand firm and united.

PROGRAM

February 22

9:30 a.m. Welcome (Auditorium)

Péter BALÁZS • CENS, Director

Michael EHRKE • Director, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Budapest

Opening Address

Kinga GÖNCZ • Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hungary

Keynote addresses

Angelika SCHWALL-DÜREN • Deputy Faction Leader, SPD, Germany

Coffee break

10:30 a.m. Section I (Popper Room)

EU Accession Perspectives of the Western-Balkan Countries – Enlargement as seen from outside the EU

Chair: **István SZENT-IVÁNYI** • Member of the European Parliament

Ana-Maria BOROMISA • Institute for International Relations, Croatia: “The Balkan Dimension”

Haris ABASPAHIC • ACIPS Center for Policy Research, Bosnia Herzegovina: “Recent Political Developments in BiH in the Context of EU Integration”

Slobodan CHASHULE • Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Macedonia: “Macedonia and the EU: reintegration of Europe, not enlargement!”

Albert RAKIPI • Director, Albanian Institute for International Studies: “State Building and EU Integration: A View from Albania”

Lunch

1:30 p.m. Section II (Popper Room) Impacts of Potential Enlargements

Chair: **Albert RAKIPI** • Albanian Institute for International Studies

Vladimir GLIGOROV • Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies

Stefan MESSMAN • Head of Department, Central European University : “Criminality and Justice – Case of Serbia”

Sándor RICHTER • Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies: “Financial Implications of Further Enlargements”

Jiri KALASNIKOV • Stability Pact, Director of Working Table III: “Regional Cooperation in the Western-Balkans”

Leon MARC • Head of South-East European Division, MFA, Slovenia: “Western-Balkans and the Slovenian EU Presidency”

Coffee break

4:00 p.m. Section III (Popper Room) Enlargement and New Member States – The New Perspectives

Chair: **Jiri KALASNIKOV** • Stability Pact, WT III

Péter GYÖRKÖS • Ambassador of Hungary in Croatia: “Specificities and Perspectives of the Western-Balkan Enlargement”

Csaba TABAJDI • Member of the European Parliament: “Views from the European Parliament”

Vlado DIMOVSKI • University of Ljubljana: “Experiences of a New Member State”

Vessela TCHERNEVA • Center for Liberal Strategies, Bulgaria: “The Enlarged EU's New Credibility”

February 23

9:30 Section IV (Popper Room) The Future of Kosovo

Chair: **Péter Balázs**, CEU

Dusan RELJIC • German Institute for International and Security Affairs: “Kosovo's Altered Condition and the Stability of South-East Europe”

Leon MALAZOGU • Kosovo Institute for Policy Research and Analysis: “The Challenges of Implementing the Ahtisaari Package and the Nation-Building of Kosovo”

István GYARMATI • International Center for Democratic Transition: “Global and Security Aspects”

András DEÁK • Hungarian Institute of International Affairs: “Kosovo and Russia”