

The European Union at a Crossroads – Aftermath of the 2019 European elections and other key issues of the European integration to be discussed at the 5th annual Prague European Summit.

On 27th, 28th and 29th of May European politicians, members of academia, delegates of top European think-tanks and institutes together with business and media representatives will give one of the first reflections on the European elections in Prague. Furthermore, they will discuss Europe's competitiveness in the fast-evolving field of Artificial Intelligence and its impact on the European industrial sector with possible effects and repercussions on European Societies. Further, the panellists will deal with the question of technological advance vis-à-vis the governmental policies that go hand in hand with cybersecurity and smart yet secure use of data for more intelligent governance. Among the internal issues to be discussed are the challenges to the fundamental values of the EU and how the rule of law within the EU can be maintained and protected, future path of Euro and the future relationship of countries inside and outside of the eurozone. Crucial will be also the Brexit process where with the extension of the UK's official date of exit to October 31st 2019, there is clearly much work ahead for both the EU and UK. External matters to be discussed include the question of European sovereignty and EU's strategic autonomy that brings implications for the EU's neighbourhood policy, transatlantic relations and beyond. Amongst the confirmed speakers for the 2019 edition are *Žiga Turk*, former Slovenian Minister for Growth and Minister for Education & Science, *Vita Anda Terauda*, chairperson of European Affairs Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Latvia, or *Gabriella Cseh*, Facebook's Head of Public Policy for Central and Eastern Europe.

On the first day, a Welcome Word will be given by Czech Minister of Foreign Affairs *Tomáš Petříček*, the second day will greet Czech Prime Minister *Andrej Babiš* with a Key-Note Address, and highlight of the third day will be a Ministerial Panel with the Czech MFA *Tomáš Petříček*, Slovak MFA *Milan Lajčák*, Head of the State Chancellery and Minister for Federal and European Affairs of Bavaria *Florian Hermann* and Head of the State Chancellery and Minister for Federal and European Affairs of Saxony *Oliver Schenk*.

The Prague European Summit has been facilitating high-level strategic and open debates on the actual challenges that Europe, and the European Union in particular, are facing since the year 2015 and the fifth anniversary will keep this legacy in motion. As European Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly, the recipient of the 2018 "Vision for Europe" Award has stated: *"It's not Brussels, it's not Strasbourg, it's not Luxembourg. It is outside of the usual venues in which we discuss the future of Europe and I think when people come, particularly here, they get a different perspective, they hear different voices and I think that is very important."*

As it became a tradition, we are happy that the main automotive partner of the conference for smooth logistics will be again the BMW STRATOS AUTO. BMW Stratos Auto company will provide the brand new BMW X5 together with exceptional 5 Series Limousine. The premium BMW fleet will be completed with a luxurious BMW 6 Series Gran Turismo. The annual "Vision for Europe" Award will be again designed and delivered by Preciosa – leading international glass manufacturer. For the first time the cultural programme during the Prague European Summit will be ensured by HAMU – The Music and Dance Faculty of The Academy of Performing Arts in Prague.

The main program of the conference will take place in Czernin Palace, headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. Alongside the main programme, three public debates will be held during the Summit, two in Prague, one in Brno. For more up-to-date info check www.praguesummit.eu or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) (#PragueSummit19).

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