



Conference

**Integrating Bulgaria in EU Politics and Policy:
Focus on the Citizens and the Neighbours**

29-30 May 2008, Brussels

Fondation Universitaire - hall "Francqui"
Rue d'Egmont 11, 1000 Brussels

29 May 2008

Theme 1 - The Neighbours of the Enlarged Union and Bulgaria's Contribution

14:00-14:30 Opening

Address on behalf of TEPSA by Graham Avery, *TEPSA Secretary General, Senior Member of St. Antony's College, University of Oxford*

Address on behalf of BECSA by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dinko Dinkov, *BECSA President, Jean Monnet lecturer at the University of National and World Economy, Sofia*

About the PHARE project

"Networking for Citizens and Neighbours – Networking for Europe"

Krassimir Y. Nikolov, *BECSA Secretary General, Jean Monnet chair holder at the Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar", Bulgaria*

14:30-15:30 Introduction

Moderator: Graham Avery, *TEPSA Secretary General, Senior Member of St. Antony's College, University of Oxford*

"Bulgaria's potential contribution in the Union's Policies towards the Neighbours: Further Enlargement, the ENP-East, the Black Sea Synergy"

Nickolay Mladenov, *Member of the European Parliament (EPP group)*

"The potential involvement of new EU members in the Union's Policies towards the Neighbours – a view from Brussels"

Andreas Herdina, *Head of Unit "European Neighbourhood Policy Sectoral Coordination" in Directorate-General "External Relations" of the European Commission*

Questions and answers

15:30-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-18:00 The ENP and the Strengthening of the CFSP/ESDP: Bulgaria's Approach

Ambassador Vesselin Valkanov, *Ambassador, Bulgarian Representative in the EU Political and Security Committee*

Integrating the South East of Europe and Bulgaria's Potential and Performance

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dinko Dinkov, *BECSA President, Jean Monnet lecturer at the University of National and World Economy – Sofia*

Modeling EU Member States' Role in the Black Sea Region: The Synergy, Bulgaria, Romania and Greece

Krassimir Y. Nikolov, *BECSA Secretary General, Jean Monnet chair holder at the Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar", Bulgaria*

Discussion

18:00-18:15 Presentation of BECSA Publications

30 May 2008

Theme 2 - Europe and the Citizens: Bulgarian Perspectives

09:30-10:30 Session 1

Moderator: Prof. Sieglinde Gstöhl, *College of Europe, Bruges*

Introductory speeches:

“The European Citizens of Bulgaria: “Europeanising” Priorities and Identities”

Kristian Vigenin, *Member of the European Parliament (PES group)*

“The Increased Post-Lisbon Role of National Parliaments in EU Decision Making: Potential and Capacities of the Bulgarian National Assembly”

Dr. Dencho Georgiev, *Permanent Representative of the Bulgarian National Assembly to the European Parliament; BECSA founding member*

“European Citizens and the European Commission: What Future Relationships?”

Pavel Tychtl, *“Europe for Citizens” programme manager in Directorate-General “Education and Culture” of the European Commission*

Questions and answers

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-13:00 Session 2

Moderator: Prof. Jean-Victor Louis, *Member of TEPSA Board*

Bulgaria’s Involvement in the EU Reform Process and Beyond: How Do We Contribute to a more Democratic and Efficient Union?

Svetlozara Kabakchieva, *Counsellor for Legal and Institutional Issues at the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Bulgaria to the EU*

The Evolution of EU-Level Democratic Political Processes: Where do Bulgarian Citizens Fit In?

Dr. Rumyana Kolarova, *BECSA member, Jean Monnet lecturer at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”*

Bulgarian Citizens in National and European Politics: Agendas and Forms of Participation

Katia Hristova-Valtcheva, *Member of BECSA Board, Jean Monnet lecturer at the New Bulgarian University – Sofia*

Distance and Invisibilities between the European Union and the Citizens

Vladimir Shopov, *BECSA Member, Founder and Partner of “Sofia Analytica”*

Discussion

13:00-13:15 Closure

Graham Avery, *TEPSA Secretary General, Senior Member of St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford*

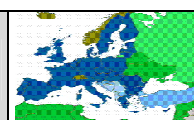
13:15-13:30

Opportunity for purchasing BECSA publications outside the conference hall
Followed by a buffet lunch

Working language of the conference: English

The conference is organised within the project

**Networking for Citizens and Neighbours:
Networking for Europe**



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