

Is There Life Outside the European Union? *Free At Last?*

International Conference Organised by the Hungarian Europe Society

2 March 2012, Friday

European Youth Centre Budapest, 1024 Zivatar utca 1-3.

Recent behaviour of the Hungarian government led by Prime Minister Viktor Orbán has raised questions whether the country is steering outside the European Union either by leaving the political and economic integration on its own decision or by provoking its expulsion by the European institutions and the other member states. There exist also mid-way potential scenarios. The consequences of the current crisis might be that Hungary remains a member state but only with marginal access to the decision-making processes on European level and with limited advantage-taking from the common financial resources.

Program

9.00-9.20 Registration

9.20-9.30 Opening Remarks

Bálint Molnár, Deputy Executive Director, European Youth Centre

9.30-9.45 Opening Speech

István Hegedűs, Chairman, Hungarian Europe Society: A European or a Hungarian Hungary?

9.45-10.15 Keynote Speech

Mark Leonard, Co-Founder and Director, European Council on Foreign Relations, London: The Political Union of Europe and its Member States

10.15-11.30 First Session: What is at Risk in Hungary?

Chair: *Zsuzsanna Szelényi, Member of the Supervisory Board, Hungarian Europe Society*

Márta Pardavi, Co-Chair, Hungarian Helsinki Committee: The Erosion of Human Rights Protection

Péter Radó, Senior Education Policy Researcher, Expanzió, Budapest: The Pre-modern Wave of Education Policy

Petra Bárd, Head of Division, National Institute of Criminology, Budapest; Member of the Supervisory Board, Hungarian Europe Society: The Europeanisation of the Criminal Law

András Bozóki, Professor, Department of Political Science, Central European University, Budapest; Hungarian Europe Society: From Transition to Transition? The Hungarian Shock

11.30-11.50 Coffee Break

11.50-13.00 Second Session: The Clash between Unorthodox Economic Policy and European Economic Governance

Chair: *Györgyi Kocsis, Vice-chairwoman, Hungarian Europe Society*

Attila Marján, Economic Analyst, Hungarian Institute of International Affairs, Brussels: Macroeconomic Dilemmas

Balázs Mosonyi, Patriotism and Progress Public Policy Foundation, Budapest: Hungarian Development Policy with and without the European Union

Andrea Elekes, Professor, Faculty of Economics at the University of Pannonia, Veszprém: Back to the Future: Can We Follow a Pre-EU Agricultural Path?

Gusztáv Bacher, Partner, Szecskey Attorneys at Law, Budapest: Competition Policy at National and European Levels

13.00 Press Conference

14.45-16.15 Third Session: What Would Hungary and the European Union Lose in Case of the Isolation of the Magyars?

Chair: *Jerzy Celichowski, Vice-chairman, Hungarian Europe Society*

Paul Gradwohl, Historian, Université de Lorraine – Nancy 2: Hungarian Political Traditions: Culture and Security

Péter Hunčík, Psychiatrist, Sahy, Slovakia: Hungarians, Hungarians Abroad, Slovaks, Europeans

Pavol Demeš, Senior Transatlantic Fellow, German Marshall Fund, Bratislava: Civil Society: Sleeping Beauty or Agent of Change?

Aleksander Smolar, President, Stefan Batory Foundation, Warsaw: New Populism in Europe

16.15-16.30 Closing Remarks

Philippe Schmitter, Emeritus Professor, Department of Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute, Florence: The Changing European Union: Common Values or Political Polarisation?

Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG

FÜR DIE FREIHEIT

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