

## Interparliamentary Conference

### **UPHOLDING THE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, INCLUDING MEDIA FREEDOM, IN THE EU AND BEYOND** with Members of the European Parliament and the Pre-Accession Countries' Parliaments

Organised by the **European Parliament**

*(Democracy Support and Election Co-ordination Group in cooperation with the Committees on Culture and Education, on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and on Foreign Affairs)*

and the **Chamber of Deputies in the Parliament of the Czech Republic**

**Prague, 14-15 June 2018**

*Venue : Chamber of Deputies in the Parliament of the Czech Republic (Room 205, Sněmovní 1)*

*Prague (Czech Republic)*

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## **PROGRAMME**

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## Thursday, 14 June

*Arrival and registration of the participants*

**20:00 – 22:00**      **Welcome reception and dinner offered by the Czech Parliament**  
(Venue: Grand Reception Hall of the Czech Parliament, Sněmovní 4)

## Friday, 15 June

**09:00**              **Opening of the inter-parliamentary conference**

**In the Chair:**      **Mr/Ms...**, MP, Chamber of Deputies  
of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (*tbd*)  
*and*  
**Ms Barbara Spinelli**, MEP, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs,  
Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

**09:00 – 09:10**      **Opening words by the Chair**

**09:10 – 9:25**        **Welcome addresses**

**Mr Radek Vondráček** MP, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies  
of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

**09:25 – 9:40**      **Keynote speech**

**Mr Harlem Désir**, Representative on Freedom of the Media,  
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

**09:40 – 10:30**      **The role of the media in the political debate**

**Ms Eleni Theocharous**, MEP, Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

**Mr Jaroslav Bžoch**, MP, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

**Mr Jan Macháček**, Chairman of the Board of Trustees,  
Institute for Politics and Society, Prague

Questions and debate

**10:30 – 10:50**      **Coffee break**

10:50 – 11:50

### Media ownership, transparency and regulation

**Ms Michaela Šojdrová**, MEP, Member of the Committee on Culture and Education and of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

**Mr Ondřej Benešík** MP, Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (*tbc*)

**Ms Silvia Grundmann**, Head of the Media and Internet Division, Council of Europe

**Mr Oldřich Kužilek**, (*NGO ...*), Czech Republic

Questions and debate

11:50 – 12:40

### Dealing with fake news and disinformation

**Ms Barbara Spinelli**, MEP, Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, Rapporteur on Media pluralism and media freedom in the European Union

**Mr Jan Lipavský**, MP, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (*tbc*)

**Ms Marijana Bojanić**, CEO, Vijesti, Montenegro (*tbc*)

Questions and debate

12:45 – 14:15

### Working lunch

(Venue: Meeting room foyer)

In the Chair:

**Mr Tomáš Zdechovský**, MEP, Member of the Committees on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and on Budgetary Control

and **Mr/Ms...**, MP, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (*tbd*)

14:20 – 15:10

### Civil society as a source of information and a support for political reform

**Mr Tomáš Zdechovský**, MEP, Member of the Committees on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and on Budgetary Control

**Mr Leo Luzar**, MP, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Freedom of Expression and Media Freedom, Member of the Committee on Petitions, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

**Ms Jeta Xharra**, Executive Director, BIRN (Balkan Investigative Reporting Network)

**Mr Martin Svárovský**, Policy Planning Department, Security and Multilateral Affairs Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic (*tbc*)

Questions and debate

**15:10 – 16:00**      **Individual freedoms, privacy, encryption, social media tracking, defamation law**

**Mr Jiří Payne**, MEP, Substitute Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and of the Subcommittee on Human Rights

**Mr František Kopřiva**, MP, Member of the Committee on European Affairs, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

**Pr Pier Luigi Parcu**, Director of the Centre for media pluralism and media freedom, European University Institute

Questions and debate

**16:00 – 16:20**      ***Coffee break***

**16:20 – 17:20**      **Ensuring the protection of journalists and whistle-blowers**

**Mr/Ms...**, MP, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (*tbd*)

**Ms Milica Andrijasević**, Online communication expert, Association of Journalists, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Ms Pauline Adès-Mével**, Head of EU-Balkans desk, Reporters sans Frontières

Questions and debate

**17:20 – 17:30**      **Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs**

**17:30**                ***End of the conference***