

The Future of the EU beyond Rome: Views from the Visegrad Countries

Time: 23 May (Tuesday) 2017

Venue: Central European University, Budapest, Nádor utca 15, 103 Tiered Room

Against the backdrop of the emergence of unprecedentedly many cleavages across the EU as the result of the refugee and migration crisis, increasing populism across the continent as well as the looming Brexit, member states decided to rethink where the EU is headed and present their new ideas by the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Rome Treaty in March 2017. This is the declared culmination of the so-called Bratislava Process, which also stands witness to the rising ambition of the Visegrad states who now also seek to shape the future of the EU.

The discussion seeks to evaluate the outcome of the Bratislava Process from the individual Visegrad countries' point of view and will seek to highlight how they see the future of Europe in the world, what role they seek for themselves and for their bigger counterparts (esp. Germany and France) and specifically, how they see the future of European security and defense cooperation as an area of increasing prominence.

- 09:30 – 10:00** **Registration**
- 10:00 – 10:15** **Opening remarks**
Michael Ignatieff, President and Rector, Central European University
Jan Niklas Engels, Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Budapest
- 10:15 – 10:45** **First Keynote Speech**
Pat Cox, Former President of the European Parliament
- 10:45 – 12:00** **Roundtable discussion**
Chair: Péter Balázs, Director, CEU Center for European Neighborhood Studies (CENS)
Géza Jeszenszky, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary
Vladimír Bartovic, Director, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy
Vladimír Bilčík, Head of EU Program, Slovak Foreign Policy Association
Łukasz Janulewicz, CEU Center for European Neighborhood Studies (CENS)
- 12:00** **Refreshments**