

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)

PROGRAMME

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 (<i>tbd</i>) <i>and</i> Mr/Ms ... , MEP, ... (<i>tbd</i>)
----------------------	---

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

09:10 – 9:30 **Welcome addresses**

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

Mr Fabio Massimo Castaldo, Vice-President of the European Parliament

09:30 – 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 Theoharous, 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, Czech Republic

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

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

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

Questions and debate

11:50 – 12:50 **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

Mr Branko Čečen, Editor in Chief, Center for Investigative Journalism, Belgrade (*tbc*)

Questions and debate

13:00 – 14:20 **Working lunch**

(Venue: Meeting room foyer)

In the Chair: **Mr/Ms ...**, MEP, ... (*tbd*)
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, Member of the Committee on Petitions, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Freedom of Expression and Media Freedom, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (*tbc*)

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

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

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 (*tbc*)

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

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**

Ms Ana Gomes, MEP, Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

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

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**