

COMPREHENDING EUROSCEPTICISM

International Conference

BRATISLAVA, 15. December 2017

Austria Trend Hotel, Vysoká 2A, Bratislava

Friday, 15th December 2017

Venue: Austria Trend Hotel, Bratislava

8:30 – 9:00 Registration

9:00 – 9:15 Welcoming remarks

Klára RUNDOVÁ, Deputy Head of Representation of the European Commission in the Slovak Republic

Aneta VILÁGI, CODES project leader, Comenius University in Bratislava

9:15 – 9:45 Keynote speech: *Eurosceptic Voices: Beyond Party Systems, Across Civil Societies*,
Simona GUERRA, University of Leicester, United Kingdom.

9:45 – 10:00 Discussion

10:00 – 11:30 Panel I: Blaming Europe?

The first panel address the sources of Euroscepticism and the criticism of the EU from the EU level, level of the EU institutions. Speakers will reflect upon what EU citizens criticized on the EU institutional set-up and power sharing arrangements and what had been already done, how the EU institutions have already reacted to diminish the deficiencies. Panel discussion will also focused on questions as: What has the EP and the EC already undertook to improve the knowledge and understanding of the EU by citizens? Do people understand the EU better nowadays? What do people expect from the EU? What are the challenges the EU institutions are facing in order to maintain the popular support for the EU integration project? What can be address till 2019 EP elections? Is it enough or do we need to look at national level as well?

Speakers:

Eduard KUKAN, Member of the European Parliament

Meglana KUNEVA, European Party's governing body and former Commissioner, Bulgaria

Cornelius Adebahr, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, Germany (CODES)

Lubomir VASSILEV LUBOMIROV, Capital foundation, Bulgaria (CODES)

Moderator: **Zuzana GABRIŽOVÁ**, EURACTIV Slovakia

Discussant: **ERIK LÁŠTIC**, Head of Department of Political Science, Comenius University in Bratislava



Partner of the conference:

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STIFTUNG**

12:00 – 13:30 Panel II: Blaming Politicians?

The second panel will refocused the attention from the EU institutions towards the level of member states. Speakers will deal with the popular perceptions of the EU shaping via national discourse and actions. Panel discussion will also focused on questions as: Do actors at national level still play the role of gatekeeper on the EU communication? What is the role of the actors within the member state in building social trust towards the EU? What is the perspective of member states in communicating Europe, are they aware of necessity? How do people perceive the role of domestic actors vis a vis EU?

Speakers:

Ambassador **Miroslav WLACHOVSKÝ**, Head of Strategic Communication Unit, MFEA Slovakia

Antoaneta DIMITROVA, Leiden University, Netherlands

Christiana WEIDEL, The World of NGOs, Austria (CODES)

Pavol BABOŠ, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia (CODES)

Moderator: **Radovan GEIST**, EURACTIV Slovakia

Discussant: **Darina MALOVÁ**, Department of Political Science, Comenius University in Bratislava

Buffet lunch