

International Conference



# DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRACY

Thinking Ahead for Sustainable  
Development

October 19, 2015

Hotel Mercure Bratislava,

Žabotova street 2, 881 04 Bratislava, Slovakia

# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

ORGANIZER:



PARTNERS:



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.



## 08:30 – 09:00 REGISTRATION

## 09:00 – 09:10 WELCOME SPEECH

- **Lenka Surotchak**, Pontis Foundation

## 09:10 – 09:40 OPENING REMARKS

- **Igor Slobodník**, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic
- **Katarína Mathernová**, Deputy Director-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (NEAR), European Commission

## 09:40 – 10:00 PLENARY LECTURE: THINKING AHEAD FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

This year, the Sustainable Development Goals (“SDGs”) have been approved by the UN as a follow-up regime to the Millennium Development Goals (“MDGs”). In comparison to the former regime, the SDGs have been discussed in a more open and participative way; they shift the focus from fighting poverty in the Global South towards an approach of joining forces to tackle global challenges in various fields. In his key note, Thomas Vogel will elaborate on potentials and challenges of this new regime.

### Speaker:

- **Thomas Vogel**, HORIZONT 3000

## 10:00 – 10:30 COFFEE BREAK

## 10:30 – 12:00 PLENARY SESSION: SOCIAL INNOVATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Developing countries are no longer viewed as just recipients, but also as sources of important innovations with a social impact. Some well-known examples are the Grameen Bank that offers microfinance also in the USA, and the Kenyan M-Pesa service by Safaricom that created a whole new and rapidly growing mobile banking industry. Mobile banking allows for many other innovations, for example M-Kopa Solar offers poor rural households off-grid solar power on a pay-as-you-go basis. Muhammad Yunus, the founder of Grameen Bank, and the French business school HEC Paris are trying to develop various social business models in Western Europe that radically differ from both the low-cost offerings and CSR initiatives. Organisations like Ashoka have supported social entrepreneurs for more than 30 years and maybe now the time is ripe for social business to become the mainstream way of doing business hereby creating social value in the process.

### Moderator:

- **Ezster Vitorino**, Global Reporting Initiative

### Speakers:

- **James Ndiga**, iHub Nairobi
- **Ivan Debnár**, the Spot
- **Masha Cheriakova**, Eto Belarus Detka
- **Aleksandr Skrabowsky**, Social Weekend

## 12:00 – 13:00 LUNCH

## 13:00 – 14:30 DISCUSSION PANELS AND ROUNDTABLES

### THE INTERNATIONAL VISEGRAD FUND DISCUSSION PANEL A: How to Build an Effective and Transparent Civil Society in Ukraine?

Ukraine, with its internal political, social, economic and ideological divisions is facing military interventions and severe security problems. On the other hand, the majority of the population live in relative calm, having to deal with the daily struggle with the consequences of the deepening economic crisis. Despite Ukrainian political developments

after the Majdan revolution, this society is facing a profound crisis, caused not only by the serious economic situation and presence of the conflict of war, but also because the government has not implemented the expected necessary reforms, in particular in the sphere of combating corruption and the facilitation of humanitarian aid. In these current circumstances, what role should the Ukrainian civil society play? What needs of its polarized constituencies should be addressed? What kind of support does civil society require from its supporters and partners in Europe? Are the “traditional projects” NGO capacity building, public participation promotion, advocacy efforts and fostering cooperation between civil society and business relevant, or is there a need of a shift in mind-set?

## **Moderator:**

- **Pavol Demeš**, German Marshall Fund of the U.S.

## **Speakers:**

- **Ivan Mikloš**, National Council of the SR
- **Rafał Antczak**, Deloitte Consulting SA
- **Veronika Movchan**, Institute for Economic Research And Policy Consulting (IER)
- **Roland Kovats**, Pact
- **Vladka Votavová**, Association for International Affairs (AMO)

## **DISCUSSION PANEL B: Impact of Global Citizenship Education Interventions**

Much effort is being put into Global Citizenship Education (and other related approaches such as global education, development education, etc., further referred as GCE for simplification). This ranges from formal education to public awareness raising and to campaigning and advocacy towards politicians. GCE provides not only facts, but aims to develop skills and challenge attitudes over a long-term period. Yet, how do we know our GCE efforts make any difference? And if we do know, how do we use this knowledge?

In Slovakia, evaluations of GCE projects have so far been limited. We need guidance to systematically evaluate the impact of GCE on a project, programme as well as national level. Such evaluations would inform active citizens what difference they have made. Further, they would demonstrate to policy makers that there is a critical mass of people who demand that issues such as unfair trade or labour practices or climate change be addressed. Evaluations could also advise GCE practitioners, donors and policy makers what does or does not work and how to shape GCE interventions and related policies differently.

Scholars and practitioners are invited to send case studies of GCE project or programme evaluations and research studies which have effectively dealt with the issues above. Contributors should present evaluation methodologies that clearly show the impact of GCE interventions and how the evaluation output was used. A more general discussion on how to make the GCE more evidence-based and influential on the policy level is further expected.

## **Moderator:**

- **Simona Šafaříková**, Palacký University in Olomouc

## **Speakers:**

- **Rilli Lappalainen**, Kehys
- **Krzysztof Stanowski**, Solidarity Fund
- **Jenny Williams**, Habitat for Humanity
- **Peter Drál**, Milan Šimečka Foundation

## **Special Guest:**

- **Helmuth Hartmeyer**, GENE

## **ROUNDTABLE C: Shaping Priorities for the Slovak Presidency: Agenda for Reforming EU Democracy Funding in the Eastern Partnership**

The worsening situation in the Eastern Partnership region, Russian aggression and signing of Association Agreements with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, has prompted the EU to start a review of the Eastern Partnership and its instruments. This panel seeks to influence the process of revision with policy recommendations from civil society experts,

and to ensure that the revised instruments include more flexible funding to support actors who exert the most influence over political change or the reform processes. It shall also develop concrete recommendations for the Slovak Presidency on better co-ordination between financial assistance and political instruments, and on ensuring greater efficiency of EU investments in its Eastern neighbourhood. The question of the V4 transition experience in the context of various EU instruments and policies aimed at the Eastern Partnership, will also be raised at the table.

**Moderator:**

- Miriam Lexmann, International Republican Institute

**Speakers:**

- Richard Youngs, Democracy and Rule of Law Program, Carnegie Europe
- Nicolas Bouchet, Center for Security Studies, ETH Zurich
- László Póti, Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Věra Řiháčková, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy in Prague
- Karla Wursterová, Permanent Representation of Slovakia to the EU

**THE SLOVAK NGDO PLATFORM ROUNDTABLE D: V4 Countries and the Eastern Partnership: How to Ensure Coherence?**

The Visegrad countries, due to their history, geopolitical location and current dynamics, share political, socioeconomic and security interests with the Eastern Partnership countries, especially given the current situation in Ukraine. Supporting the EaP region in becoming a stable and reliable partner for the EU is an important priority for the V4 governments, which has made them leaders in the EU policy, including development cooperation, towards the EaP countries. Despite the clear political objective of supporting the social and economic development of the EaP countries, not all V4 policies contribute to this goal. A study conducted by experts from all V4 countries exposes and analyses cases of incoherence between development objectives for the EaP countries and policy areas such as energy and investment. How can the economic interests of the V4 countries be reconciled with the development objectives of the EaP region?

**Moderator:**

- Peter Brezáni, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association

**Speakers:**

- Katarzyna Jarecka-Stępień, Department of European Studies, Krakow University of Economics
- Zsuzsanna Vegh, Center for EU Enlargement Studies, Central European University
- Yevhen Hlibovytsky, pro.mova expert company, Nestor Group

**14:30 – 15:00 COFFEE BREAK**

**15:00 – 15:15 KAPUSCINSKI DEVELOPMENT LECTURES OPENING REMARKS**

- Ivana Raslavská, Pontis Foundation
- Ingrid Ludviková, Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia
- Katarzyna Czaplicka, Kapuscinski Development Lectures, UNDP Europe and Central Asia

**15:15 – 16:15 BEYOND CROWDFUNDING: THE REAL POWER OF THE CROWD IN DEVELOPMENT**

- Mari Kuraishi, Global Giving

**16:15 – 16:45 DISCUSSION**

**16:45 – 17:15 MINISTER'S AWARD FOR THE FIELD WORKER IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

- Miroslav Lajčák, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic

**17:15 GLASS OF WINE**