



**Austro-French Centre
for
Rapprochement in Europe**



**French Institute
for
International Relations**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**THE ENLARGED EUROPEAN UNION
AND ITS NEW NEIGHBOURS
Economic, Social and Political Challenges**

Vilnius, 14th and 15th October 2004

**With the support of the Lithuanian Government
and of the Delegation of the European Commission in Vilnius**

DRAFT PROGRAMME

1st Session (9.00 - 13.00):

Introduction and Current Situation of the EU New Neighbours

8.30 – 9.00: Check-in

Opening (9.00 - 10.15)

Thierry de MONTBRIAL, Director,
French Institute for International Relations (IFRI), Paris:
« *Geopolitical Perspectives for the Enlarged Union and its New Neighbours* »

Valdas ADAMKUS, President of the Republic of Lithuania (TBC)

1st Panel (10.15 - 11.30):

**Disparities in Economic, Political and Social Situations
in the New Neighbours**

- *Diversity of Economic Situations*
- *Institutions' working*
- *Social Situation*

Andrei SANNIKOV, Ambassador, international Coordinator, Civil Initiative „Charter'97“,
Minsk: « *Belarus as a New Neighbour of the European Union* »

Discussion : 11.15 – 11.30

Coffee Break : 11.30 – 11.45

2nd Panel (11.45 - 13.00):

Relations of the New Neighbours with the Enlarged Union

- *Economic Relations: Cooperation Programs, Circulation of Goods, Persons, Merchandises, Services and Direct Investments*
- *Political Relations in the Police, Justice and External Security*
- *Cultural Relations*

Anne de TINGUY, Researcher, CNRS, Paris :

« *Towards a Common Political Area Europe, Russia, Ukraine* »

Ramūnas VILPIŠAUSKAS, Senior Policy Analyst, Lithuanian Free Market Institute,
Vilnius : « *Economic Relations with the Enlarged Union: Circulation of Goods, Persons, Merchandises, Services and Direct Investments* »

Mart LAANEMÄE, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia

Georges SOKOLOFF, Scientific Councillor, Center for International Prospective Studies (CEPII), Paris

Alexandre IKSANOV, Director of the Bolchoï (tbc)

Discussion : 12.45 – 13.00

Lunch Break : 13.00 – 14.30

Second Session (14.30 – 17.30):
The New Neighbours and their Geopolitical Environment

3rd Panel (14.30 – 15.45):
Regional Strategic Problems

- *Normalization of the Balkans' region*
- *Forms of Inter-Regional Cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Western Balkans*
- *Specific Relations with Bielorussia and Ukraine*
- *Common Strategies to Fight against Terrorism*

Jenö KALTENBACH, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Rights of National and Ethnic Minorities, Hongrie :

« *The Situation of Minorities in Europe and the EU Enlargement* »

Isabelle FACON, Researcher, Foundation for Strategic Research, Paris

Christine von KOHL, Editor in Chief, « Other Balkans », Austria

Alexandre NIKITINE, Director, Centre for Political and International Studies, Moscow (tbc)

Discussion : 15.30 – 15.45

Coffee Break : 15.45 – 16.00

4th Panel (16.00 – 17.30):
'European Neighbourhood Policy' (ENP)

- *Which types of "privileged relations"...*
- *Elaboration of the Common Foreign Policy*

Johannes SWOBODA, European Deputy, Foreign Affairs Commission, Austria :

«*The New Neighbourhood Initiative of May 2004 and its Consequences*»

Gilles LEPESANT, Researcher, CNRS, Bordeaux

Discussion : 17.15 – 17.30

3rd Session (9.00 - 12.45) :
Which Perspectives for the Enlarged Union ?

5th Panel (9.00 - 10.30):
Two Points of View : EU / Russia

Vladimir POZNER, President, Russian Press Accademy, Moscow :

“What Future Opportunities for the Relation between the Enlarged Union and Russia ? “

Thomas GOMART, Reaseacher, Security Studies Department, IFRI :

“The Enlargement : Factor of Tensions for the Partnership EU/Russia ? “

Irina KOBRINSKAYA , Executive Director, Foundation for Prospective Studies and Initiatives, Moscow : *« Russia and the EU New Neighbourhood Policy “*

Pierre LEVY, Chief of the Common Foreign Policy and Security Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paris (tbc)

Discussion : 10.15 – 10.30

Coffe Break : 10.30 – 10.45

6th Panel (10.45 - 12.15):
Europe... and what's next ?

- *What Dissolution Risks for Europe with the Extension of its Sphere of Activities ?*
- *What Opportunities of Realisation of “Common Values” ?*

Dominique DAVID, Responsible for Security Studies, Editor in Chief of « Politique étrangère », IFRI, Paris:

« Eu/Russia : Which Culture of Crisis Management ? »

Henriette RIEGLER, Senior Research, Austrian Institute for International Politics, Vienna : *“Future Enlargement or cordon sanitaire – Scenarios for the Balkans and the European Union”*

Discussion : 12.00 – 12.15

CONCLUSIONS (12.15 - 12.45)

Peter JANKOWITSCH, Secretary general, Austro-French Centre