

Transatlantic Trade in the Trump Era: New Strategies for Europe

On 20th of November 2018, the **European Liberal Forum**, the **Institute for Politics and Society** and the **Prague House** held a discussion on the topic **Transatlantic Trade in the Trump Era: New Strategies for Europe**. The speakers were **Dita Charanzová**, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO), ALDE / ANO, **Ivan Hodáč**, Founder and President of the Aspen Institute Central Europe, **Petr Zahradník**, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee, and **Bruno Lété**, Senior Fellow of the German Marshall Fund of the United States. The discussion was moderated by **Jan Macháček**, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Institute for Politics and Society.

Dita Charanzová urged the Czech people not to get caught up in one American company, as there will be others that out-do it in the future. She advised others to make choices by principle over picking and choosing companies to support. Furthermore, she spoke of China as a natural competitor. **Ivan Hodáč** opened saying that China did not have its current global stature a mere two years ago. He explained that it was not until after the United States' President Trump announced plans for the Transpacific Partnership (TPP) that the Chinese made it an initiative to openly and freely trade.

Bruno Lété discussed the belief that the United States' true intention is to strengthen relationships with European nations as a means to weaken the influence and power that China has. **Petr Zahradník** began his speech by explaining that in addition to China, Europe is competing with the U.S. The U.S. and Europe are simultaneously competitors and partners. However, although they are competing with each other, they economically need each other.