



Long Report

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| MO responsible for the project | Institute for Politics and Society |
| Title of the project | Multiple Challenges for Transatlantic Partnerships |
| Dates, place and titles of events (if applicable) | September 19th, 2019 Kaiserstein Palace, Malostranské náměstí 23/37, Prague Czech Republic International Conference “Multiple Challenges for Transatlantic Partnerships” |
| Targeted audience | Politicians, state officials, representatives of embassies, ambassadors, analysts and researchers, journalists, representatives of public and private sector, representatives of ministries, university teachers and students, representatives of NGO’s |
| Number of participants | 150 |
| VIPs present | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Andrej Babiš, Prime Minister, Government of the Czech Republic• Timmy Dooley, Vice President, ALDE Party• Jacques Rupnik, Research Professor, Center for International Studies at Sciences Po in Paris• Olle Schmidt, Vice President, European Liberal Forum• Karel Havlíček, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic• Tomáš Petříček, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic• H.E. Roland Galharague, Ambassador, Embassy of the French Republic in the Czech Republic• Tomáš Szunyog, Permanent Representative, Political and Security Committee; European Commission, Ambassador• Tinatin Khidasheli, Former Minister of Defense, Ministry of Defense of Georgia• Chris Boyer, Vice President of Strategic Research and Communications, AT&T• Weston Stacey, Executive Director, American Chamber of Commerce in the Czech Republic• John Lloyd, Journalist, Financial Times• Miroslav Zámečník, Economic Consultant, Government of the Czech Republic• Josef Janning, Head, Berlin office of the European Council on |

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| | <p>Foreign Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie Fly, President and CEO, Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty's • Vladimir Socor, Senior Fellow, Jamestown Foundation • Nada Kovalčíková, Program Manager, Alliance for Securing Democracy, The German Marshall Fund of the United States in Brussels • Sebastian Vagt, Analyst, Friedrich Naumann Foundation |
| <p>Media presence and media response (add links if applicable)</p> | <p>Lidové noviny, Lidové noviny: https://media.monitora.cz/pdf-preview/2273/67570474-2827aa9a777526eb6b3e/, Lidovky.cz http://ceskapozice.lidovky.cz/forum/andrej-babis-s-usa-tvorime-jednu-rodinu-cina-je-nemuze-nahradit.A190920_123459_pozice-forum_lube, Hospodářské noviny https://domaci.ihned.cz/c1-66644380-kdo-by-kupoval-ty-americke-kary-a-ja-mam-reseni-syrie-babis-prerusil-konferenci-a-mluvil-o-tom-ze-chape-trumpa?utm_source=mediafed&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=mediafed</p> |
| <p>Applied media strategy. Please give examples.</p> | <p>cooperation with czech media group MAFRA - paid articles in newspapers and internet web sites, FB page, journalists invited, web pages - www.politikaspolecnost.cz, www.multiple-challenges-for-europe.eu, twitter, instagram</p> |
| <p>Short summary for social media (150 words max.)</p> | <p>In September 2019, the International Conference for Multiple Challenges for Transatlantic Partnerships was held in the Kaiserstein Palace in Prague. The 4th annual International and European conference was organized by European Liberal Forum, Institute for Politics and Society and Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom.</p> <p>Its aim was to address new and existing Economic, Political and Security challenges faced by Europe and the Transatlantic Partnership. It included distinguished guests from both sides of the Atlantic. The Czech Republic's Prime Minister, Andrej Babis was a Keynote Speaker among the many distinguished and honorary guests.</p> <p>The event covered challenges from the Economic, Political and the Security Dimensions by addressing underlying correlations that links Europe and North America, as well as those that divide.</p> |



Narrative report of the project (1,500 words max.– also used for publication on website), including:

- relevant quotes,
- conclusions;
- policy recommendations.

The conference began with **Keynote Speakers:**

Andrej Babis

Prime Minister Andrej Babis opened the annual conference. Among many topics, he addressed the historical ties dating back to 1918 with the United States and what was then Czechoslovakia and currently the Czech Republic. Addressing that Europe and US are facing important challenges but the situation is not so dramatic, yet serious to be addressed. Prelude was made over the strengthening of economic, political and security cooperation already in place.

Timmy Dooley

Timmy Dooley, Vice President of the ALDE party from Ireland agreed with Prime Minister Babiš. However, stated that the EU is faced today with the rise of populist nationalism, terrorism, migrants, and the fluxuating economy which are also important factors to consider when allocating resources. While the specific GDP requirements for some countries have not been met, an improvement in the climate can be seen.

While neither Brexit nor President Trump will be the demise of Europe, they must take more responsibility for their own protection as President Trump favors his relationship with China over his relationship with Europe. Europe must use their power to impress upon President Trump the importance of a strong European relationship and to promote democracy and liberalism throughout Europe.

Panels:

I. Economic Dimension

Karel Havlíček believed that the world is changing. It is not divided between military powers anymore, but the main role is played by economic powers. The three most important players and “economic regions” in current international affairs are the European Union, China, and the US. These regions are expected to account for 75% of GDP in the coming years.

The US is a very important partner to the EU regarding the amount of goods exported, which makes the EU economically profitable. The Czech economy needs to focus on innovations to be competitive with regions such as Bangladesh which focuses on quantity, not quality. The US as an excellent destination where the EU can potentially profit economically.

John Lloyd hinted at the fear of China, as it had grown in the economic sector over the last 20 years. Stating that one of the EU 's main weaknesses is the increase of anti-EU parties throughout the Union, which can result in



events like Brexit. The EU should be finding ways of communicating economically with China.

Weston Stacey stressed that only talking about the economic dimension of Transatlantic partnerships is not right – we need to look at every aspect of this complicated partnership. The US and the EU are economically, the strongest in the world. The already massive quantity of goods imported and exported continues to grow, further integrating the economies.

Economically, there is no crisis between the EU and the US. The driving fear surrounds automatization and digitalization that may replace the human workforce. The economic relations between the US and the EU are stable, but the political matters could have deep impact on business between each party.

Miroslav Zámečník claimed that the main trading partner for the Czech Republic is Germany. What boosts an economy, and what is boosting the Czech economy is creating value added and exporting goods to another country. The Czech Republic needs to adopt a policy to create value added barriers to other countries with larger economies to protect themselves in the future. The best way for the Czech Republic to get around this would be a “0- tariff” barrier so they can export directly to the US.

Chris Boyer of AT&T begins stating that 5G technology will power the technology of the future and be a cornerstone of massive GDP growth and job opportunities surrounding the advancements and infrastructure that will come with it.

2. Political Dimension

H.E. Roland Galharague stated that a new Transatlantic agenda called for increased US and EU agendas with four major goals. These goals should be: to promote peace, stability, democracy and development around the world, to respond to global challenges, to contribute to the expansion of world trade and closer economic relations, and to build bridges across the Atlantic. However, today there is disagreement on how to promote stability also disagreements on how to respond to global challenges. Both the US and the EU are busy stemming global trade and threats to their respective economies.

The underlying differences between the EU and US are strictly political. The economic cooperation between France and the US, with the US as the first recipient of outbound investment from France and vice versa, should be praised.



The Ambassador's three recommendations for Transatlantic prosperity were that: one, both sides of the Atlantic need to stay engaged so they have more effective communication; two, the EU needs to increase its unity and ability to act; and three, the US needs to realize that withdrawing from multilateralism will cause more problems than it would relatively solve. The current Transatlantic alliance has begun to break and has become less of a functioning alliance in guiding the constituent members. The US and the EU are drifting apart in many essential fields such as political, economic, and security.

The US believes that the sovereign state principle has returned to be the fundamental principle, mentioned Josef Janning. This has promoted hostility towards EU integration as well as the differences in views about the legitimacy of the political order for Europe. The current US rhetoric is extremely decisive, this long-term positioning would lead to a different world. National interests and status of power would proliferate into the first and second row of other countries being affected by the US and the EU, leading to receding international orders and processes.

There is ample ground for partnership, and it should be emphasized that if Europe shifts away, it creates a greater liability than an asset. A partnership has to be built on a new basis, with the ability, readiness, and willingness of the Europeans to defend and protect their interests, to foster their interests, economically, politically and defensively. The divergence of these areas would be beneficial for the partnership.

Jamie Fly believes that one of the key challenges being faced is the deterioration of the truth. Broadly, he does not feel the Transatlantic partnership has ruptured, though there are underlying concerns such as the broader divisions between societies and the tribalism that have engulfed present day politics that need to be addressed. The declining respect for the media has also created openings for challengers that would exploit the deterioration of the media environment, which was created by the lack of trust.

Providing a point of view from Brussels, Tomáš Szunyog described the Transatlantic partners having much closer ties that go back nearly 300 years with a common history of, economic cooperation, independence, and cultural ties. This relationship is much more solid than it looks.

The four structural issues coming from the US are firstly, states competing with each other and being the fundamental block of international relations and competing with the results being a zero-sum game. With this context comes deep suspicion of all international organizations, multilateralism, and international agreements. Second, there is no feeling of value in these

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relationships; third, are the problems surrounding fusing national security and trade; fourth, is the issue with the US's national strategy, highlighting China and Russia as main competitors.

To combat this, the EU needs to stay engaged with the US on a positive agenda, on various geopolitical matters across Europe, as well as the shift in development and addressing matters in Africa, and internationally. Second, the EU must be more realistic and deal with practical matter when dealing with partners, friends and allies, as well as adversaries.

3. Security Division

Nad'a Kovalčíková stressed that there cannot be a success in the Transatlantic partnerships unless all the involved countries can cooperate. There is no better alternative to protecting democracy and freedom than a stronger Transatlantic partnership. The threats and challenges we are currently facing are common and that there is constantly a need to cooperate and coordinate joint efforts to protect and defend democracy and freedom. Europe needs to engage more with the Transatlantic alliance with greater contributions to science, start-ups, and other businesses.

The US should not be, and is not surprised by Europe's and NATO's increased investments into their military defence abilities. Europe and NATO should be developing ways to better protect themselves on their own. However, it is not in Europe's best interest to move completely away from American protection because Europe and NATO still do not have the armies necessary to protect themselves fully in the event of an invasion. There is a specific importance in building resilience to new challenges such as cyberattacks coming from state and non-state actors, artificial intelligence, through using blockchain or developing new technologies.

Tinatin Khidasheli addressed the issue of the future of the Transatlantic partnership from the perspective of Georgia, which is currently trying to join NATO together with Ukraine. There is hope that despite critical statement from President Trump, the threat of Brexit and many other challenges being faced, the current Transatlantic partnership will endure.

The only hope of Georgia being accepted into NATO, is through building stronger ties in the Transatlantic relationship. They are ready to be accepted into NATO without article 5 being enforced to engage with its regions that are occupied. Georgia is asking who is actually in charge of the word with the closed door meetings that are taking place between Russia, Iran, and other Middle Eastern countries and they are concerned about what is being talked about in these meetings.



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| | <p>Vladimir Socor believes that the Trump administration is deeply committed to the security and defence of Europe and is engaged in NATO and the Transatlantic relations in regard to the security dimension. Evidence of this can be seen in the US investments into defence of the Eastern border of NATO, since the region from Baltics to the Black Sea is considered as a new centre of gravity of NATO, as well as a new centre of gravity of the US national interest. The Alliance's main aim is to protect states in that region. The Baltic States, Poland, and Romania rely more on bilateral commitments made by the United States rather than on NATO and its collective response.</p> <p>The US troops deployed in Europe are not situated in the locations of ongoing crises and this is why the main challenge not only for NATO, but also for the EU, is to ensure US military mobility within Europe. Germany should invest in a dual highway system that civilians would be able to use, but its primary purpose would be to support American military mobility if a threat were to arise on the Eastern front.</p> <p>The American presence in Poland is a war presence, though it is low enough that it is not a real deterrent. There is a similar issue with NATO in the Baltic states, NATO has not made it known to the public what their response would be to an invasion on the eastern front. There is concern that any NATO involvement would have to involve the North Atlantic Council and that this could slow down the American response.</p> |
| <p>Present the output and outcomes of the project. Please connect this to the expected outputs and outcomes that were submitted in your project proposal</p> | <p>The outcomes of this conference are documented in the report which is published on our website. The general public's understanding of this topic and reception of this information is highly important, especially in regards to how they will be impacted. It was highly important for stakeholders and the general public to have access to the discussion. All the important information about this event are published on our FB, Twitter and Instagram. The outcomes of the conference will be incorporated into a comprehensive brochure, which will be published together with the outcomes of the debate Building 5G Networks in EU. Video and photo gallery was also published on our web page and other social media.</p> |
| <p>Were further goals reached?</p> | <p>Yes</p> |
| <p>Additional comments/difficulties experienced/ lessons learned</p> | <p>None</p> |

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