

WORKSHOP PROGRAM

THURSDAY,

March 29

American Center of the U.S. Embassy and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Černín palace

SESSION I

SUPPORTING CHANGE, DEMOCRACY PROMOTION, AND THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

Working language: English

Venue:

American Center of the U.S. Embassy

9.15–10.45

A New Survey of Fulbright Alumni in the Czech Republic and Slovak Republic.

*Presented by: Nora Hložeková, Executive Director,
J. W. Fulbright Commission, Slovak Republic*

FULBRIGHT ALUMNI

Some Fulbright alumni are prominent in politics, government, business. Others have been involved in the transformation process in their home country or abroad without being recognized. The surveys helped identify those alumni who are interested in demonstrating the positive impact of transformational diplomacy or would be open to cooperation on projects supporting transformational diplomacy.

Venue:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Černín palace, Loretánské square 5, Prague 1

11.45–12.15

Registration

12.15–14.00

The Czech and Slovak Experience in Democracy Promotion and Assistance to Transformation.

*Moderator: Pavol Demeš, Director for Central and Eastern Europe,
The German Marshall Fund of the United States*

Welcome: **Richard Graber**, U.S. Ambassador, U.S. Embassy Czech Republic

KEYNOTE SPEECHES:

Gabriela Dlouhá, Head of Transition Cooperation Unit,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic [15 min]

Topic: Governmental support of democracy assistance and democracy promotion, experiences, strategies and new areas in the future.

Paula Schriefer, Director of Advocacy, Freedom House, USA [15 min]

Topic: U.S. support of democracy assistance and democracy promotion, experiences, strategies and new areas in the future.

PRESENTATIONS OF CZECH AND SLOVAK NGOS:

Short description of the activities of the NGO in the field of democracy assistance, unique capabilities, experiences with special focus on the funding and possible opportunities for cooperation with donor organizations, strategies for the future (possible networks both among NGOs and donor organizations).

PRESENTATION BY PEOPLE IN NEED

Igor Blažević, Human Rights Department Director, Czech Republic [10 min]

PRESENTATION BY THE ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (AMO)

Václav Nekvapil, Vice Chairman, Czech Republic [10 min]

PRESENTATION BY DEMOCRACY AND CULTURE STUDIES CENTER (CDK)

Pavel Pšeja, Program Manager, Czech Republic [10 min]

PRESENTATION BY THE PONTIS FOUNDATION

Martin Pašiak, Program Coordinator, Slovak Republic [10 min]

14.00–14.20

Coffee Break

14.20–15.20

Polish and Hungarian Experience in Democracy Promotion and Assistance to Transformation and European Viewpoint.

Moderator: Hana Ripková, Executive Director, Czech Fulbright Commission

Marta Pejda, General Secretary, Grupa Zagranica, Poland [10 min]
General overview of the situation in Poland. Review of past experience with special focus on funding and opportunities for better cooperation with donor organizations, strategies for the future (possible networks both among NGOs and donor organizations).

Peter Rada, Program Officer
International Center for Democratic Transition, Hungary [10 min]
General overview of the situation in Hungary. Review of past experience with special focus on funding and opportunities for better cooperation with donor organizations, strategies for the future (possible networks both among NGOs and donor organizations).

PRESENTATION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, POLAND

Mirosław Sycz, Democracy and Transformation Support Team [10 min]
Funding democracy promotion and assistance from the viewpoint of Polish government. Strategies for the future.

PRESENTATION OF EUROPEAID COOPERATION OFFICE

Aristotelis Bouratsis, Head of Unit,
Relations with civil society and non state actors [10 min]
Funding democracy promotion and assistance from the viewpoint of the EU. Strategies for the future.

15.20–15.40

Coffee Break

15.40–16.20

Strengthening European Support Democracy Promotion and Assistance to Transformation.

The concept of a pan-European organization for funding transformational diplomacy. Is there a need for a common European platform/network that would coordinate activities related to democracy assistance and promotion conducted by European actors (governments and NGOs)?

Moderator: Igor Blažević, Human Rights Department Director, Czech Republic

Roel von Meijefeldt, Executive Director,

Institute for Multiparty Democracy, the Netherlands

[10 min]

Jeff Lovitt, Executive Director,

Policy Association for an Open Society, Czech Republic

[10 min]

Nadia Diuk, Senior Director, Central Europe & Eurasia, NED, USA

Funding transformational diplomacy – one American perspective.

[10 min]

16.20–17.00

Discussion

18.00

Reception (hosted by U.S. Ambassador) (2 hours)

FRIDAY,

March 30

CEELI Institute, Villa Gröbovka, Havlíčkovy sady 58, Prague 2

SESSION II

**THE GOALS FOR COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION
AND COMMON MEANS TO ACHIEVE THEM**

Working language: English

9.00–10.30

Plenary Session –Part I.

Welcome: **Michael Diedring**, Executive Director, CEELI Institute, Czech Republic

KEYNOTE SPEECH:

Olga Algayerová, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovak Republic

Topic: Governmental support of democracy assistance and democracy promotion, experiences, strategies and new areas in the future.

**PANEL DISCUSSION – REPRESENTATIVES OF DONOR
ORGANIZATIONS**

What are the key advantages and disadvantages of the various European approaches and the American approach? Any lessons on best practice to be learnt from American or the many European democracy promotion programs? Is it most effective to fund one major partner in the country, which then distributes the grants to subgrantees or to finance specific projects of individual democracy actors directly? How to ensure the coordination and the exchange of information of different international donors working in “difficult” countries, while avoiding endangering the security of the beneficiaries? How to verify the different (and often contradictory) information on particular local grant recipients?

Moderator: **Jiří Bárta**, Executive Director, VIA Foundation, Czech Republic

PANELISTS:

Nadia Diuk, Senior Director for Europe and Central Asia,
National Endowment for Democracy

John K. Glenn, Director of Foreign Policy,
German Marshall Fund of the United States

Jeremy Nagoda, International Coordination Officer, EuropeAid

Paula Schriefer, Director of Advocacy, Freedom House

Maria Leissner, Democracy Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden

10.30–11.00

Coffee Break

11.00–12.30

Plenary Session –Part II.

Moderator: **Jan Surotchak**, Resident Director for
Europe, International Republican Institute

PANEL DISCUSSION – NGO REPRESENTATIVES

Four short presentations of three main achievements and three main failures in the following fields: Civil Society and Governance, Civil Society and Economic Transition, Civil Society and Security Transition, Civil Society and Media Transition. These presentations should be based on experiences gained both at home and abroad. The presentations will be followed by discussion among the panelists.

PANELISTS:

Jiří Schneider, Program Director, Prague Security Studies Institute,
Czech Republic (Civil Society and Security Transition)

Jeremy Druker, Executive Director, Transitions Online, Czech
Republic (Civil Society and Media Transition)

Grigorij Mesežnikov, President, Institute for Public Affairs,
Slovak Republic (Civil Society and Economic Transition)

Katarína Vajdová, Director, Civil Society Development
Foundation, Slovak Republic (Civil Society and Governance)

12.30–14.00

Lunch Break

14.00–15.30

Break-out Groups

Divided by geographical interest (e.g.: the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia, Ukraine&Belarus&Moldova&Georgia, Middle East and Asia, Latin America)

Topic: Sharing experiences on delivering assistance in challenging environments. Ideas for better cooperation and future strategies in the relevant geographical areas.

15.30–16.00

Coffee Break

16.00–17.00

Plenary Session – Part III.

*Moderator: **John K. Glenn**, GMF*

1. PRESENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE WORKING GROUPS

2. DISCUSSION: DEFINING THE OUTCOMES OF THE WORKSHOP

CONCLUSIONS:

Jiří Schneider (PSSI) & **John K. Glenn** (GMF)

CLOSING REMARKS:

John K. Glenn (GMF)

17.00–18.00

Cocktail

Farewell toast by Tomáš Pojar, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic