



Plovdiv university "Paisii Hilendarski"

FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY AND HISTORY

**BULGARIAN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY STUDIES
ASSOCIATION**



organise

a Discussion Forum

**FROM THE TREATIES OF ROME
TO THE FUTURE OF THE ENLARGED EUROPEAN UNION:
Constitution, Citizen Participation and Identities**

Plovdiv, 13th April 2007 (Friday)

(auditorium Nr. 6 / 1st floor, the Rectorate, "Tsar Assen" Str., Nr. 24)

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The forum is organized as part of the initiative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs for commemorating the 50th anniversary of the signature of the Rome Treaties for the creation of the EC. This is the first event in a series of European debating forums, together with the conferences on economic issues at the "Dimitar Tsenov" Academy of Economics in Svishtov (22nd May 2007) and on European foreign policy and neighbourhood policy at the Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar" (8th-9th June 2007).

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PROGRAMME

09:30 – 10:00 **Registration of the participants**

Moderator

Assoc. Prof. Dr. MARIA SCHNITTER, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and History at Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”

Welcome from the host

Prof. Dr. Habil. IVAN KUTSAROV, Rector of Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”

Welcome from the co-organiser

Assoc. Prof. Dr. DINKO DINKOV, Head of the Department of International Relations and Jean Monnet lecturer at the University of National and World Economy – Sofia, BECSA President

About the forum and the initiative

Mr. KRASSIMIR NIKOLOV, Secretary General of BECSA, Jean Monnet chair holder in European Integration at Varna Free University “Chernorizets Hrabar”

10:00 – 10:30 **Speech**

Mr. IVAILO KALFIN, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria

“WHAT KIND OF EUROPEAN UNION ARE WE ENTERING AT THE BEGINNING OF ITS SECOND 50 YEAR PERIOD?”

10:30 – 11:00 **Questions and Answers**

11:00 – 11:15 **Official Address**

H. Ex. Mr. MICHAEL HUMPHREYS, Ambassador, Head of the Permanent Representation of the European Commission in Sofia

11:15 – 11:30 **Questions and Answers**

11:30 – 12:00 **Coffee Break**

Moderator:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. VALENTIN PETRUSENKO, Jean Monnet lecturer in European Integration at the Department of History / Faculty of Philosophy and History at Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”, BECSA member

12:00 – 13:00 **Panel**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. JULIA ZAHARIEVA, Associate Professor in European Law at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, BECSA member

“Is the EU Constitutional Treaty Necessary and Inevitable? Is Its Failure with the Citizens Necessary and Inevitable?”

Mr. KRASSIMIR NIKOLOV, Secretary General of BECSA, Jean Monnet chair holder in European Integration at Varna Free University “Chernorizets Hrabar”

“The New “Constitutional Round” – What Package for Debates and Negotiations?”

Mr. MIHAIL CHRISTOV, State Expert at the European Integration Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

“Positions of EU Member States on the Renewal of the Constitutional Debate”

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch Break**

Moderator:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. JULIA ZAHARIEVA, Associate Professor in European Law at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, BECSA member

14:00 – 15:00 **Panel**

Mrs. KATIA HRISTOVA-VALTCHEVA, Jean Monnet lecturer in European Integration at the New Bulgarian University – Sofia, BECSA Managing Board Member

“Citizens, Political Process and Civil Society in the EU – Overcoming the Democratic Deficit”

Assoc. Prof. Dr. KRASSIMIRA KRASTANOVA, Department of Ethnology and Philosophy / Faculty of Philosophy and History at Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”

Assoc. Prof. Dr. IRINA CHONGAROVA, Faculty of Philology at Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”

“The Construction of Europe: Identities and Inter-Cultural Communication”

Dr. SIMEON KATSAROV, Department of History / Faculty of Philosophy and History at Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”

“The European Community – the Road to Unification”

15:00 – 15:30 **Discussion**

15:30 **Toast over a glass of wine**

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**1, Avenue Rapp
75007 Paris, France**

Exhibition with selected works from the collection of the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Paris

The exhibition under the above title will be opened by **Mr. Ivailo Kalfin**, Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs in the **Art Gallery of the City of Plovdiv**.

This selection is made available by the State Institute of Culture and presents part of the rich collection of the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Paris. These paintings and graphic works have temporarily been brought back to Bulgaria for basic restoration. After several exhibitions in the country, they will proudly re-occupy their place in the interior of the stylish 19-century building in 1, Avenue Rapp in Paris, where the Bulgarian flag unfurls.

In Plovdiv, the exhibition will be open to the public by the end of April 2007.