

The Lisbon Treaty: The European Parliament and its new powers

October 28, 2011

**University of Latvia, Faculty of Social Sciences,
Riga, Lomonosova Street 1A, Isaiah Berlin Auditorium**

10.00 – 10.40

Opening Plenary

- 10.00 Welcome speech by Mr Māris Graudiņš, Head of European Parliament Information Office
- 10.05 Welcome speech by Dr Daina Bāra, Associate Professor, University of Latvia, Latvian Association of Political Scientists
- 10.10 Opening of Conference by Dr Krišjānis Kariņš, Member of European Parliament (EPP)
- 10.20 Keynote speech Sir Julian Priestley, Former Secretary General of the European Parliament, Chairman of the Board of Directors of EPPA (European Public Policy Advisers), a Brussels based public affairs consultancy

10.40.– 12.10

Session 1 The practical impact of EU constitutional changes regarding the role of the European Parliament

Moderated by Dr Daunis Auers, Associate Professor, University of Latvia

Panelists:

Introduction by Dr Ivars Godmanis — Member of European Parliament (ALDE)

Mr Ojārs Kalniņš — Chairman of the 10th Saeima Foreign Affairs Committee

Dr Nils Muižnieks – Director of ASPRI “Human Right in the European Union: How the Lisbon Treaty could help”

Dr Rolands Lappuķe – Ambassador at Large, Policy Planning Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Former Adviser to the Chairperson of the Reflection group on the future of the European Union

12.10. – 13.10

Coffee break

13.10. – 14.40

Session 2 — New relationships: Interaction of EU institutions and national parliaments in European politics

Moderated by Dr Toms Rostoks, Assistant Professor, University of Latvia

Introduction: Sir Julian Priestley, A brief History of how the European Parliament has changed

Panelists:

Sir Julian Priestley, Former Secretary General of the European Parliament, Chairman of the Board of Directors of EPPA (European Public Policy Advisers), a Brussels based public affairs consultancy

Dr Artis Pabriks — Minister of Defence, “European crisis solutions: national parliamentary cooperation with the EU institutions“

Mr Kārlis Bukovskis — Interinstitutional Struggle in the EU and Role of the National Parliaments In It.

Mr Ģirts Ostrovskis — "Post Lisbon Treaty Europe: National Parliaments in search of identity."

Mr Aldis Bulis – Baltic Vision Group, “The involvement of think tanks in European policy making in Latvia”

14.40–.15.00

Coffee break

15.00. – 16.30

Session 3 — The EP and the EU Citizens’ Initiative

Moderated with Introduction by Dr.sc.pol. Valts Kalniņš

Panelists:

Dr. Tatjana Ždanoka — Member of the European Parliament (Greens/EFA)

Ms Dace Akule – Public policy center "Providus" European Policy Researcher “Challenges to European Citizens’ Initiatives”

Mrs Evija Eglīte – Ministry of Justice, Public Law Department
“European Citizen’s Initiative’s implication in Latvia”

Mr Jānis Kapustāns, Lecturer, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences

Mr Viktors Makarovs – Eurocivitas, director, "Latvians as Eurosceptics: Sceptical About What, Specifically?"

Mrs Ilze Greiškālna – University of Latvia, „Role of public administration implementing EU Citizens Initiative”

Closing plenary

