

Invitation

Mercator European Dialogue x European Forum Alpbach
24 - 27 August 2019 – Alpbach, Austria

MERCATOR
EUROPEAN
DIALOGUE



YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED

Dear Member of Parliament,

The Mercator European Dialogue (MED) is delighted to inform you that you have been selected for an exclusive Mercator European Dialogue scholarship to join this year's European Forum Alpbach as a distinguished political voice and citizen representative.

Taking a break from your daily political life, the European Forum Alpbach offers a unique space to reflect on the latest political developments in Europe and gather insights from first-class international decision-makers and high-level experts from the worlds of business, politics, culture and civil society.

This year's forum is dedicated to the complex tensions and the balance between "Liberty and Security". With the disenchantment of liberal democracy in the 21st century, it is up to policymakers to reassess this balance, to protect human rights, to work on different levels of governance, and to provide a vision for societies to live together in the future.

The European Forum Alpbach and the MED share the same goal of creating dialogue across generational, ideological and political lines of division and invite you to make use of this opportunity to connect to actors and innovators in your fields of interest, in the inspiring surroundings of the Austrian Alps.

We would be honored to further offer support in organizing bilateral side-meetings for members of our network and will have a dedicated part of the program for MED members only on "Security and liberty in Europe: Policymaking in an era of value conflicts".

We hope you will accept our scholarship to join us in this exceptional political thinking space to develop new and creative ideas.

Kind Regards,

Michael Schwarz
Stiftung Mercator

Stefan Schäfers
KBF

Thomas Kleine-Brockhoff
GMF

Chiara Rosselli
GMF

Nathalie Tocci
IAI

Thanos Dokos
ELIAMEP

Pol Morillas
CIDOB

EXCLUSIVELY FOR MED MEMBERS

Lunch Meeting - Security and liberty in Europe: Policymaking in an era of value conflicts

25 August 2018, 12:00 - 14:00

The Mercator European Dialogue brings the holders of the scholarship together for an exclusive lunch in which you will have a chance to meet your fellow Members of Parliament personally and discuss issues relevant to you with selected experts from the Forum in an intimate setting.



AGENDA OF THE POLITICAL SYMPOSIUM AT EUROPEAN FORUM ALPBACH

Below, you can find the agenda with selected sessions. Please note that the scholarship will cover the participation fee of 900 euros. This includes full access to the political and legal symposia of the European Forum Alpbach from [24 to 27 August 2019](#), as well as to the exclusive lunch meeting on [25 August 2019](#). For the full program, [click here](#).

SATURDAY, 24 AUGUST

16:00-20:00	Individual Arrival
17:00-18:30	Opening and Reception of the Political Symposium
20:00-21:00	POLITICO Happy Hour

SUNDAY, 25 AUGUST

10:00-12:00	Breakout Sessions (see detailed program) <i>MED Recommendations:</i> Demography and Democracy Digital Diplomacy vs. Digital Colonialism
12:00-14:00	Exclusive MED Lunch Meeting on "Security and Liberty in Europe: Policymaking in an Era of Value Conflicts"
14:00-15:30	Opening of the Legal Symposium
14:30-21:30	Plenary Sessions (see detailed program) <i>MED Recommendations:</i>
14:00-16:00	Liberty and Responsibility: Two Sides of the Same Coin?
19:00-20:00	What Can Be Done against the Climate Crisis?

MONDAY, 26 AUGUST

09:00-12:00	Recommended Alpbach Mindfulness Hike with Yoko Alender, MP, Estonia
10:00-12:00	Breakout Sessions (see detailed program) <i>MED Recommendations:</i> Security through Liberty: About the Will for Public Order
12:00-14:00	Networking Lunch (individual) & opportunities for bilateral side-meetings
14:00-18:00	Plenary Sessions and Working Groups (see detailed program) <i>MED Recommendations:</i>
14:00-15:30	The Struggle for the Rule of Law: Is the EU Fighting a Losing Battle?
14:00-15:30	'Soft Power' or Defense Union? Military Cooperation in the European Union
14:00-18:00	Breakout Session: Let's Talk!
20:00-23:30	Social Reception

TUESDAY, 27 AUGUST

09:30-11:00	Brexit: Departure into the Unknown
from 11:00	Individual Departure



LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Your scholarship entitles you to participate in the full program of the political and legal symposium from **24 to 27 August 2018** as well as the exclusive lunch meeting on **25 August 2018**.

Venue & Forum

The European Forum Alpbach takes place in the beautiful surroundings of the Alpbach valley in Austria and offers an interdisciplinary platform for science, politics, business and culture. Established in 1945, the annual European Forum Alpbach and events throughout the year address the relevant socio-political questions of our time.

Registration - Please Note Our Deadline

We would be grateful if you registered at your earliest convenience and no later than Monday, **15 July 2019** with Ronith Schalast at rschalast@gmfus.org. **Please do not register through the website of the Forum.**

Travel & Accommodation

Once you have registered, we will book a room for you and help you arrange your travels to Alpbach. Please note that your participation on 25 August will require your arrival on 24 August 2018. Departure is possible on 27 August 2018. **Please do not book rooms through the website of the Forum.**

Expenses

Participation fee, travel and accommodation costs are borne by the Mercator European Dialogue, unless you specifically wish to pay for yourself. Please note that we can only cover economy class flights.

Childcare

Family comes first. If you have a child or children and your participation could be facilitated by the offer of childcare for the duration of the event, we are happy to arrange a solution for you. We are flexible with regard to your preferred option, be it a family member travelling along at our cost or arranging for a professional to watch over your child(ren) for the duration of the event. Please do not hesitate to get in touch and let us know about your situation.



CONTACTS

For registration or logistical questions:

Ronith Schalast

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of the United States
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For questions about the project:

Chiara Rosselli

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For more information about the project, please visit

mercatoreuropeandialogue.org



JOINING FORCES IN THE MERCATOR EUROPEAN DIALOGUE



Stiftung Mercator is a private and independent foundation. Through its work it strives for a society characterized by openness to the world, solidarity and equal opportunities. In this context it concentrates on strengthening Europe; increasing the educational success of disadvantaged children and young people, especially those of migrant origin; driving forward climate change mitigation and promoting science and the humanities. Stiftung

Mercator symbolizes the connection between academic expertise and practical project experience. One of Germany's leading foundations, it is active both nationally and internationally. Stiftung Mercator feels a strong sense of loyalty to the Ruhr region, the home of the founding family and the foundation's headquarters.



The King Baudouin Foundation's mission is to contribute to a better society. The Foundation is an actor for change and innovation, serving the public interest and increasing social cohesion in Belgium and Europe. We seek to maximize our impact by strengthening the capacity of organizations and individuals. We also stimulate effective philanthropy by individuals and corporations. The Foundation's key values are integrity, transparency, pluralism, independence, respect for diversity, and promoting solidarity.

The Foundation's current areas of activity are poverty and social justice, philanthropy, health, civic engagement, developing talents, democracy, European integration, heritage and development cooperation.

The King Baudouin Foundation is a public benefit foundation. The Foundation was set up in 1976 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of King Baudouin's reign.



The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) strengthens transatlantic cooperation on regional, national, and global challenges and opportunities in the spirit of the Marshall Plan. GMF contributes research and analysis and convenes leaders on transatlantic issues relevant to policymakers. GMF offers rising leaders opportunities to develop their skills and networks through transatlantic exchange, and supports civil society in the Balkans and Black Sea regions by fostering democratic initiatives, rule of law, and regional cooperation.

Founded in 1972 as a non-partisan, non-profit organization through a gift from Germany as a permanent memorial to Marshall Plan assistance, GMF maintains a strong presence on both sides of the Atlantic. In addition to its headquarters in Washington, DC, GMF has offices in Berlin, Paris, Brussels, Belgrade, Ankara, Bucharest, and Warsaw. GMF also has smaller representations in Bratislava, Turin, and Stockholm.



The Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) was founded on 11 October 1965 on the initiative of Altiero Spinnelli. The Institute's main objective is to promote an understanding of the problems of international politics through studies, research, meetings and publications, with the aim of increasing the opportunities of all countries to move in the direction of supranational organization, democratic freedom and social justice (IAI Bylaws, Article 1). It's main research areas include: EU Institutions

and Politics, the EU's Global Role, Turkey and the Neighborhood, International Political Economy, Mediterranean and Middle East, Transatlantic Relations, Security and Defence, Italian Foreign Policy, Energy. A non-profit organization, the IAI is funded by individual and corporate members, public and private organizations, major international foundations, and by a standing grant from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



The Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) is an independent and plural think tank based in Barcelona, dedicated to the study, research and analysis of international affairs. Created in 1973 as an International Documentation Centre of Barcelona, it is a private foundation since 1979.

re that people possess the basic elements to live their lives free from fear and in liberty, by facilitating a dialogue that includes all diversities and which actively defends human rights and gender equality. CIDOB is a dynamic community of analytics that works to produce and offer to all political actors – from individual citizens to international organizations – information and ideas to formulate and promote policies for a more secure, free and fair world for everyone.

CIDOB promotes global governance and good practices – based on local, national and European democratic government – to ensu-



ELIAMEP is an independent, non-profit and policy-oriented research and training institute. It neither expresses, nor represents, any specific political party view. It is only devoted to the right of free and well-documented discourse.

ELIAMEP's mission is to provide a forum for public debate on issues of European integration and international relations to conduct scientific research that contributes to a better informed and documented knowledge of the European and international environment.