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Parliamentary Dimension  
Bulgarian Presidency of the Council  
of the European Union

**Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy  
(CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)  
15-17 February 2018, Sofia**

**Thursday, 15 Feb 2018**

	Arrival of Delegations
12:00 – 19:30	Conference Registration at the Hotels
19:30	Departure by Bus from the Hotel to the National Archaeological Institute with Museum
20:00 – 21:30	<b>Welcome Reception, National Archaeological Institute with Museum – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences</b> <i>Venue: National Archaeological Institute with Museum – BAS, Saborna Str. 2, Sofia 1000</i>

**Friday, 16 Feb 2018**

09:00 – 12:00	Conference Registration at the Hotels
9:00	Departure by Bus from the Hotels to the Troika Meeting (Estonia, Bulgaria, Austria) and European Parliament
<b>Conference Venue:</b>	<b>National Palace of Culture, Bulgaria Sq. 1, Sofia 1463</b>
9:30 – 10:00	<b>Meeting of the Presidency Troika and the European Parliament, Hall 7.1, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>
11:00	Departure by Bus from the Hotels for the Heads of Delegations Meeting
11:30 – 12:30	<b>Heads of Delegations Meeting, Hall 7, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>





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- 12:00 Departure by Bus from the Hotels to the Conference Venue
- 12:30 – 13:00 **Meetings of Political Groups**
- 13:00 – 14:00 **Buffet Lunch, Hall 3.2, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**
- 14:00 – 14:30 **Opening Session, Hall 3, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**
- Welcome speech by **Ms Tsveta Karayancheva**, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria
  - Opening Remarks by **Ms Dzhema Grozdanova**, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria
  - Opening Remarks by **Mr David McAllister**, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament
- 14:30-16:30 **Session I: Priorities and Strategies of the EU in the Area of CFSP and CSDP, Hall 3, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**
- Speaker:
- **Ms Federica Mogherini**, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice- President of the European Commission
- Moderators: **Ms Dzhema Grozdanova**, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria  
**General (ret.) Constantin Popov**, Chairperson of the Defense Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria
- Debate**
- 17:00 Return to the hotels by bus
- 18:30 Departure from the hotels by bus to the National History Museum
- 19:00 – 19:45 **Guided Tour at the Museum – Discovering the Ancient Treasures of Bulgaria**



19:45 Departure from the Museum to the Dinner Venue

20:00 – 21:30 **Dinner with traditional Bulgarian folklore**  
Venue: *Boyana Residence, Vitoshko Lale 16, Sofia 1618*

### **Saturday, 17 Feb 2018**

08:30 Departure by Bus from Hotels to the Conference Venue

**Conference Venue: National Palace of Culture, Bulgaria Sq. 1, Sofia 1463**

09:00 – 10:30 **Session II: Accelerating Reforms in View of European Perspective for the Western Balkans, Hall 3, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
Speakers:

- **Ms Ekaterina Zaharieva**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria /Inclusiveness and perspectives/
- **Mr Eduard Kukan**, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee in the European Parliament
- **Mr Thomas Mayr-Harting**, EEAS Managing Director for Europe and Central Asia
- **Mr Gerald Knaus**, Founding Chairman of the European Stability Initiative /Migration and demographic challenges/

Moderator: **Ms Vessela Tcherneva**, Director of ECFR  
Sofia

#### **Debate**

10:30 **Family Photo**

10:35 – 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 – 12:00 **Workshops (in English), Halls 7, 8 and 9, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**



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## 1. Strategic Energy and Transport Connectivity in the Western Balkans

Speakers:

- **Mr Goran Svilanović**, Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council, Foreign Minister of Serbia (2000-2004)
- **Mr Zhecho Stankov**, Deputy Minister of Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria

Moderator: **Mr Assen Agov**, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria (1997-2001)

## 2. Danube Strategy

Speakers:

- **Ms Rozália-Ibolya Biró**, Chairperson of the Committee for Foreign Policy Chamber of Deputies, Romania
- **Ms Denitsa Nikolova**, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works of the Republic of Bulgaria

Moderator: **Mr Gábor Jenei**, National Coordinator of the EUSDR, Secretariat of the Ministerial Commissioner for Water Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

## 3. EU-China Relations

Speakers:

- **Mr Georg Georgiev**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic Bulgaria
- **Dr Solomon Passy**, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria (2001-2005), President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria
- **Mr Victor Bostinaru**, MEP, EP Delegation for Relations with China

Moderator: **Ms Bisserka Benisheva**, Director for EU Affairs at PanEuropa Bulgaria



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12:00 – 13:00

**Buffet Lunch, Restaurant Sky Plaza, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor**

13:15 – 13:30

**Summary of the discussions of the workshops, Hall 3, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**

13:30 – 15:00

**Session III: CSDP- Implementation of the EU Global Strategy, Hall 3, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**

- **Strengthening EU-NATO cooperation within the implementation of the Warsaw Declaration**
- **Development of the EU military capabilities**
- **Cyber-defense and strategic communications**

Speakers:

- **Mr Gabor Iklody**, EEAS Director for Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD)
- **Mr Mihnea Motoc**, Deputy Head of EPSC, Minister of Defense of Romania (2015-2017)
- **Mr Boyko Noev**, Minister of Defense of the Republic of Bulgaria (1994-1995 and 1999-2001) and Ambassador to NATO (1996-1999)
- **Prof. Todor Tagarev**, Minister of Defense of the Republic of Bulgaria (2013)

Moderator: **General (ret.) Constantin Popov**,  
Chairperson of the Defense Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria

**Debate**

15:00-15:15

Coffee Break

15:15 – 16:45

**Session IV: State of Play of the Black Sea Region, Hall 3, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**

Speakers:

- **Mr Asaf Hajiyevev**, PABSEC Secretary General
- **Mr Ivailo Kalfin**, Special Advisor to EU Commissioner Oettinger, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria (2005-2009)
- **Mr Thomas Mayr-Harting**, EEAS Managing Director for Europe and Central Asia



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Moderator: **Mr Ioan Mircea Pascu**, Vice-President of the European Parliament

### **Debate**

16:45 -17:00

### **Presentation of Conference Documents**

**Ms Dzhema Grozdanova**, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria

17:00 – 17:15

### **Closing Remarks**

**General (ret.) Constantin Popov**, Chairperson of the Defense Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria