

## EL RASTRO DE EUROPA

# ENTRE LOS POPULISMOS Y EL PUTINISMO RAMPANTE



WHILL

#### Wednesday, July 8th

#### 10:00. - Opening session

**Carmen Agoués.** Director of the summer courses at the University of the Basque Country

**Diego Carcedo.** President of the European Journalist Association **Miguel Ángel Aguilar.** Secretary - General of the European Journalist Association

#### 11:00. First session. *Is Europe dispersed?*

If the European Union came from a prolonged economic crisis which on several occasions has come to threaten its foundation, the crisis in Crimea and the lack of response of European foreign policy to this challenge has been a second attack, this time about capacity, and which may be even more dangerous- about identity. It seems that European diplomacy ends not to fit with the new realities and Brussels does not appear that the behavior of Putinism established in post-Soviet Russia is assimilated.

The lack of a European defense with significantly limits the deterrence capacity of the old continent. Furthermore, the lack of an agreed and unequivocal political response has given an image of weakness and lack of cohesion. Arguably, Europe has lost or at least has been seriously weakened in his starring role in the international order to make way for what has come to be defined as the "European disorder".

How can the EU improve its foreign policy? Is this an image or values crisis?

Speakers:

Enrique Barón. Former European Parliament President.

**José Ignacio Torreblanca.** Director of the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)

Izabela Barlinska. Sociologist. International Sociological Association (Poland)

Adam Michnik. Editor of the Gazeta Wyborcza (Poland)

Moderator:

Diego Carcedo. President of the European Journalist Association

#### Thursday, July 9th

### 10:00. - Second session. <u>Cardinal changes and other new axis of European policy?</u>

Syriza's electoral victory in Greek last general elections consolidates the rise of populist parties, going from agitator's actor from the periphery to main protagonist. Analyzing the European map it can be seen the rise of nationalism, anti-system movements and eurosceptic parties as well as a discoloration of the old founding ideals of the European Union. Some of the new players who aspire to emulate the victory obtained by Tsipras -as UKIP in the UK, Podemos in Spain or the National Front in France - agree on the methods replacing traditional references left and right by up and down axis and the will to win votes through emotion. But differ markedly in prioritizing goals: some want to leave the European Union, others the end of the austerity policies or limit the immigration policies.

Doubts arise about how will the measures decided in the European Parliament be comply in new and possibly unstable national parliaments in what could be a tectonic clash of sovereignties. But in any case it seems clear that the arrival of these populist and the changes they propose will deteriorate the foundations on which the European Union was built.

How far will these parties go? Will they maintain their momentum despite glimmers of economic recovery? What would their effect be in the situation of European institutions? Will they nationalize even more the European politics? How would it be possible to integrate decisions of national governments within the European commitments? Will they stick with the extremist speeches populist once they achieve the power? EU must show strength to ensure compliance with the covenants?

Speakers:

Joaquín Almunia. Former vicepresident of the European Comission

**Otmar Lahodynsky.** Austrian journalist specializing in EU . Asocciation international president of European Journalists

Adam Michnik. Editor of the Gazeta Wyborcza (Poland)

Enikő Győri. Former Hungarian Secretary of State for the European Union.

Ramón Pérez Maura. President of Paneuropa. Deputy Director of ABC

Moderator:

Miguel Ángel Aguilar. Secretary - General of the European Journalist Association

#### Friday, July 10th

#### 10:00. - Third session. Distance and antagonism between susceptibilities

The inability to influence the actions of Russia makes logical focusing the capacity of the EU in the new candidates from the former USSR. It's interesting to have a look to countries such as Ukraine and Moldova and evaluate how others have reacted to the integration - as the three Baltic republics or the Visegrád four. This context includes the growing presence of Poland, holding the presidency of the Council of Europe and considering their will to entry the eurozone. Hovers over them the long shadow of Moscow that can push them to become satellites of Washington.

What role do the countries of Central Europe and Eastern Europe have in the new international scene? EU is a sufficient anchor for former Soviet nations or European shortcomings will give prominence to its relations with NATO countries?, have Spain Mediterranean as an antagonistic to the sensitivity of those who share a border with Russia?

Speakers:

**Janusz Lewandowski.** Former European Commissioner for Financial Programming and the Budget (Poland)

Tomáš Klvaňa. Journalist, writer and vice president of Aspen Institute (Czech Republic)

Carmen Claudín. Senior Research Fellow Associate at CIDOB

Borja Sémper. Popular Party spokesman in the Basque Parliament.

Moderator:

**Georgina Higueras.** Journalist. Former *El País* correspondent in Asia.