

**THE BIG
BANG.
25 YEARS
SINCE
ANNUS
MIRABILIS**



ASPEN ANNUAL CONFERENCE
The Senate of the Czech Republic
June 9–10, 2014

 **ASPEN INSTITUTE | PRAGUE**

MONDAY JUNE 9

13:15 Registration

14:00 **Opening of the Conference**
Radek Špicar, Executive Director, Aspen Institute Prague
Michael Žantovský, President, Aspen Institute Prague

14:10 **Opening Debate**
Madeleine K. Albright, former U.S. Secretary of State,
in conversation with **Michael Žantovský**, President,
Aspen Institute Prague

14:30–16:00
PANEL I: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF 1989
ANNUS MIRABILIS

Questions/ Topics

- » Global politics after 1989: old structures and new players, new challenges and new ideas.
- » How has the communist past determined the Central European position in the world?
- » Is the Central European experience of democratization transferable to other "color" revolutions?

Panelists

Toomas Hendrik Ilves, President of Estonia
Danuta Hübner, former EU Commissioner, Poland
Péter Balázs, former EU Commissioner for Regional Policy, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hungary
Ivan Mikloš, former Minister of Finance, Slovakia
Mykola Riabchuk, journalist, political and cultural analyst, Ukraine

Chair **Michael Žantovský**, President, Aspen Institute Prague

16:00 Coffee break

MONDAY JUNE 9

16:30–18:00
PANEL II: WHAT DID
WE FIGHT FOR?

Questions

- » What were the main drivers for change in 1989?
- » Have the goals of revolution been fulfilled?
- » Have the walls been truly broken? What comes next?

Panelists

Martin Bútora, diplomat, politician, Slovakia
Zbyněk Frolík, CEO, LINET Group SE
Agnieszka Holland, film director, Poland (TBC)
Martin Jahn, Managing Director, Group Fleet International at Volkswagen Group
Šimon Pánek, Director, People in Need

Chair **Jan Macháček**, journalist

19:30–22:00
GALA DINNER AND PRESENTATION
OF THE ASPEN PRAGUE AWARD

By special invitation only.

Welcome **Bohuslav Sobotka**, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic

Keynote **Toomas Hendrik Ilves**, President of Estonia

Presentation of the Aspen Prague Award
by **Michael Žantovský**, President, Aspen Institute Prague

TUESDAY JUNE 10

9:00 Registration and Breakfast

9:30 Opening of the second conference day

Welcome **Norman L. Eisen**, Ambassador of the United States to the Czech Republic

Keynote A Wake-up Call: Facing the New Challenges for Europeans and Americans
Joe Lieberman, former U.S. Senator and vice-presidential candidate

9:45–11:15

PANEL III: BREAKING THE TIES OF TOTALITY

Questions/ Topics

- » State of society in Central Europe – is it finally coming of age?
- » Populism, nepotism and dependency on state as the heritage of the past – how to face it?
- » One hundred years since the shots in Sarajevo – is the bug of radical nationalism extinct?
- » Fully integrated in the western political structures – what social challenges are still ahead of us?
- » Are we consciously shaping the local and regional environment?

Panelists

Jan Farský, Member of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, Mayor of Semily
Markus Meckel, politician, Germany
Cameron Munter, U.S. diplomat
Iveta Radičová, sociologist, former Prime Minister, Slovakia
František Šebej, Member of the Parliament of the Slovak Republic

Chair **Ivan Hodač**, Founder and Member of the Board, Aspen Institute Prague

TUESDAY JUNE 10

11:45–13:15

PANEL IV: CENTRAL EUROPE – NEW REALITY, NEW ENERGY?

Keynote **Tomáš Hudeček**, Mayor of Prague

Questions/ Topics

- » May you live in interesting times: 25 amazing years – is there anything special about the Central European experience? How to make the best of it?
- » What opportunities have the past 25 years brought for the young and older generations?
- » How is Central Europe keeping up with the world of new ideas and creativity?
- » How to support and educate young leaders?

Panelists

Taťána le Moigne, General Director, Google Czech Republic
Jan Hamáček, Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic
Michal Hvorecký, writer, Slovakia
Adam Somlai-Fischer, Co-Founder, Prezi
Branislav Šebo, Country General Manager, IBM Czech Republic

Chair **Emma Smetana**, news presenter, TV NOVA

13:30 Closing Buffet Lunch