

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

COMMUNICATING EUROPE SEMINAR: CZECH PERSPECTIVES ON ENLARGEMENT

Tuesday 2 – Wednesday 3 December 2008

Peter Drulák is Director of the Institute of International Relations since 2004. He was Deputy Director from 2001, and before that Director of Studies. He is one of the country's leading foreign affairs specialists. He lectures at Charles University and at the University of Public Administration and International Relations. He has written extensively on Czech foreign policy; one of his recent papers was entitled "Czech Foreign Policy between Internationalism and Atlanticism," and he has also authored a paper called: "Czech Metaphors of Europe: Havel vs Klaus." Another of his papers is called "Figuring out Europe: EU Metaphors in the Minds of Czech Civil Servants" (co-authored with Lucie Königová). He was awarded his Doctorate, MA and BA by the University of Economics, in Prague. He also studied at the University of Antwerp 1993-1994.

Linda Duffield has been HM Ambassador to Prague since 2004. She was Director of the Wider Europe Command of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office from 2002 to 2004. She served in Colombo as British High Commissioner to Sri Lanka from 1999 to 2002. Linda Duffield spent four years in Ottawa as the Deputy British High Commissioner to Canada from 1995 to 1999. She worked in London as Deputy Head of the Eastern Department from 1993 to 1994. She was posted to Moscow as First Secretary, Commercial from 1989 to 1992. After joining the FCO in 1987 she worked in the EU Department until 1988. She was educated in Paris at the Ecole Nationale d'Administration between 1985 and 1987.

Martin Ehl has been the Editor of International News at the economic daily Hospodářské Noviny (HN) since 2006. HN aims to become the Czech newspaper of record. Martin Ehl's wide expertise as a foreign affairs journalist includes the Western Balkans, Latin America, globalization, and EU-related issues. He has travelled extensively in the Western Balkans.. At HN he is in charge of a team of seven journalists in the international department. Martin Ehl has worked previously for three of the leading publications; at Týden (weekly), and the two daily papers, Lidové noviny, and Mladá Fronta Dnes from 1991. He was awarded his PhD from Charles University in 1999.

Josef Kreuter has been Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs since March 2008. He was Ambassador to Switzerland from 2002 to 2008. He has been at the heart of the Czech EU accession process since it began in 1990 after the Velvet Revolution. He was Adviser to the State Secretary for European Affairs, from 2000 to 2002, and Deputy Head of the Negotiating team for EU Accession from 1998 to 2002. He was posted in Brussels as Ambassador and Head of the Czech Mission to the EU from 1993 to 2000. He was Minister-Counsellor at the Czech Embassy in Paris from 1992 to 1993. He served as Deputy Minister at the Czechoslovak Federal Ministry for Strategic Planning and as a member of the negotiating team for EC Association, from 1990 to 1991. He was adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs in 1990. Before the Revolution, he was a Research Fellow at the Institute for Forecasting in Prague, from 1984 to 1989. He studied Economics and European Affairs in Prague and Nancy (France) from 1961 to 1965.

Jeff Lovitt is the first Executive Director of the PASOS Secretariat since its establishment in Prague in March 2005. The PASOS Secretariat which is based in Prague is an international network of NGOs working on public policy issues in transition states. Jeff Lovitt was Director of Communications at the Berlin-based international secretariat of Transparency International, the global anti-corruption NGO, from 2000 to 2005. He previously worked as an editor and media consultant in Prague and Bratislava for international companies and NGOs, including Forum 2000, the foundation of then-Czech President Vaclav Havel. He was Central Europe Correspondent for *The European* newspaper, from 1995 to 1998, and in London he worked as an editor and journalist for *The European*, the *Sunday Times*, *New Statesman*, from 1987 to 1995. He has also reported for the *Financial Times*, and written op-ed contributions for the *International Herald Tribune*. He was the Reviews Editor of the British political weekly *Tribune* from 1991 to 1993.

Tomáš Pojar has been First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (ODS) since September 2006. He is widely regarded as one of the most knowledgeable public officials on the situation in South East Europe. He was previously the Deputy Minister responsible for the Czech Republic's overall bilateral relations from 2005 to 2006. Before that, he was adviser to the previous Deputy Minister. Tomáš Pojar was Director of the People in Need – Czech Television Foundation from 1997. The Foundation carries out much of the country's increasing engagement in overseas development and democracy assistance work. Tomáš Pojar was People in Need's co-ordinator in the former Soviet Union in 1995 and 1996. He has a degree in political science from Charles University.

Alice Savovová has been a Director of (AMO), the Association for International Affairs since 2007. Previously she worked on management tasks on projects related to international relations and she also undertook research trips to China, India, South Africa and Brussels. She graduated in international relations at the University of Economics in Prague where she specialised in European economic integration and controlling. She was awarded a scholarship for one semester at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Jiří Schneider is Programme Director of the Prague Security Studies Institute (PSSI), the Communicating Europe seminar co-organisers. He was previously Political Director at the Czech Foreign Ministry, and for three separate periods, he served as the Head of Policy Planning. He has also been posted as Czech Ambassador to Israel. He has been an International Policy Fellow at the Open Society Institute in Budapest. He lectures at New York University in Prague and on the PSSI's Security Scholars programme. Jiří Schneider was a Civic Forum MP in the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly from 1990 until 1992. Among his many publications is a paper on the impact of think-tanks on policy-making in the Visegrad-4 countries.

Tomas Sedláček is the main macroeconomic strategist at the major Czech bank, ČSOB (Československá obchodní banka). Prior to that, he served for more than two years as a non-political expert advisor to the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Czech Republic. Tomas Sedláček is also a lecturer in philosophy and economics, history of economic theory and news at Charles University. He led an analytical team with the non-governmental organization, Ano pro Evropu (Yes for Europe), during the pre-referendum campaign in 2003. He has written many impact studies on EU enlargement and lectured on the subject of EU accession. He is a prolific commentator and blogger on political-economic issues.

Marek Souček is the Coreper II Co-ordinator at European Policy Co-ordination Department, at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

Jakub Szántó is Deputy Foreign Editor, and one of the programme editors of Události, the main evening news on Czech TV. He is also a well-travelled foreign correspondent – he reported from

Georgia during the crisis in August. His international experience includes working in the Middle East, USA, South America and the post-Soviet area for Czech TV and for the private channel, TV Nova. He worked at TV Nova for over eight years as International News reporter / programme editor and Head of International News. Jakub Szántó was an intern at CNN in 2007. He is also a regular contributor to Reflex weekly magazine. Jakub Szántó obtained his PhD from the Western Europe Department of Charles University in 2005. His doctoral thesis was on fascism in Czechoslovakia. He has a MA from Central Europe University in Budapest, and a BA from Charles University.

Tomáš Szunyog is the Director of the South East and East European Department of the Czech Foreign Ministry since 2005. He served previously as Czech Ambassador to Slovenia from 2001. He was Director of Security Policy Department in the Ministry in 2000 and 2001, having been promoted from Deputy Director. He first joined the Czechoslovak Foreign Service in 1992, moving to the Czech Foreign Service later that year, becoming Desk Officer for Visegrád-4 Group and Slovenia, in the Central European Department, from 1993 to 1994. He spent four years as First Secretary at the Czech Embassy in Washington, D.C from 1994 to 1998. He was educated at Moscow State Institute of International Relations from 1985-1990.

Tomáš Urubek is the Head of Unit, Department for Asylum and Migration Policy at the Czech Ministry of the Interior.