



Invitation to a Conference

The Lisbon Treaty: The European Parliament and its new powers

The Treaty of Lisbon provides the EU with modern institutions and optimized working methods. The Treaty of Lisbon confirms new principles of democratic governance in Europe — democratic equality, representative democracy and participatory democracy.

The Conference will present a variety of viewpoints *vis a vis* the role of the European Parliament, greater involvement for national parliaments and new forms of interaction between citizens and the European institutions such as the citizens' initiative.

The University of Latvia and the European Parliament Information Office in Latvia are organizing an international conference — "The Lisbon Treaty: The European Parliament and its new powers", with participation of experts, policy-makers, diplomats, students and representatives of NGOs.

The Conference aims to bring together experts and practitioners with an interest in strengthening democracy and the legitimacy of EU institutions and national parliaments, by discussing issues related to the implementation of the Lisbon Treaty.

The keynote speaker of the Conference is former Secretary General of the European Parliament and the author of the book "Six Battles that Shaped Europe's Parliament" Sir Julian Priestley. Members of the European Parliament Dr. Ivars Godmanis, Dr Krišjānis Kariņš, Dr Tatjana Ždanoka and Minister of Defence of Latvia, Dr Artis Pabriks will also participate.

The Conference will take place on 28th of October from 10:00 to 17:00, at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Latvia, Isaiah Berlin Auditorium, Lomonosova Street 1A, Riga.

The conference programme is attached. Working languages of the conference are Latvian and English.

We are looking forward to a fruitful discussion.

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