

Institut Européen
d'Administration Publique

European Institute
of Public Administration

Mr Claus Larsen-Jensen
Chairman of the
European Affairs Committee
Folketinget
Christiansborg
DK - 1240 COPENHAGEN K

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Maastricht, December 2001

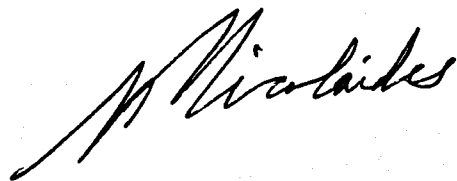
Dear Mr Larsen-Jensen,

The European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) in Maastricht (NL) is announcing a Fifth European Conference on "The Enlargement of the EU: Last lap or Last Change", to be held on 14 – 15 February 2002. The speakers at the conference will be high-level representatives of the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU, the European Commission as well as the Chief Negotiators, Ambassadors and experts of the countries that have applied for membership of the EU.

As with the four previous events, the primary objective of the conference is to review progress in the accession negotiations and the state of preparation of both the candidate countries to enter the Union and the readiness of the Union to receive them. The new conference, however, differs from the previous ones in that it also includes sessions on three special themes: the participation of the candidate countries in the forthcoming Convention and Inter-governmental Conference on the future of the EU; the EU's scoreboard for assessing the readiness of the candidates; and consideration for the arrangements and solutions that will resolve the tough negotiating problems that lie ahead.

Please find enclosed a (provisional) programme, general conference information and a registration form. Should you wish to receive any further information on the practical organisation of the conference, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Sonja van de Pol (tel: +31 43 3296 371; fax: +31 43 3296 296; e-mail: s.vandepol@eipa-nl.com), who will provide you with any details you may require.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Phedon Nicolaides
Professor of Economics
& Project Leader

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P.O. Box 1229
NL-6201 BE Maastricht

Business Address:

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d'Administration Publique

European Institute
of Public Administration

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Fifth Conference on the Enlargement of the European Union: Last Lap or Last Change?

14 – 15 February 2002

Organised by the
European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)

Conference venue:
Green Conference Room (1.45)
European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)
O.L. Vrouweplein 22
NL - 6211 HE MAASTRICHT

For further information, please contact:
Ms Sonja van de Pol, Programme Organiser, EIPA
P.O. Box 1229, NL - 6201 BE Maastricht
Tel: +31-43-329 6382; Fax: +31-43-329 6296; E-mail: s.vandepol@eipa-nl.com
EIPA website: <http://www.eipa.nl>

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Website: <http://www.eipa.nl>

Fifth European Conference

Enlargement of the EU: Last Lap or Last Chance?

Maastricht (NL), 14-15 February 2002

PURPOSE

The impending enlargement of the European Union is probably one of the most significant developments in the process of European integration both for the Union itself and for the continent of Europe. After the Gothenburg European Council in June 2001, there is now an added urgency to the process of enlargement and the current accession negotiations. They have to be concluded by the end of next year. The question is whether that deadline will be met. For this reason the European Institute of Public Administration is announcing a Fifth European Conference on 'Enlargement of the European Union: Last Lap or Last Chance?' to be held on 14 and 15 February 2002 at Maastricht, the Netherlands.

As with the four previous events, the primary objective of the conference is to review progress in the accession negotiations and the state of preparation of both the candidate countries to enter the Union and the readiness of the Union to receive them. The new conference, however, differs from the previous ones in that it also includes sessions on three special themes: the participation of the candidate countries in the forthcoming Convention and Inter-governmental Conference on the future of the EU; the EU's scoreboard for assessing the readiness of the candidates; and consideration for the arrangements and solutions that will resolve the tough negotiating problems that lie ahead.

A MAJOR GATHERING

In the short period during which the enlargement conferences have been held they have become a sort of traditional annual gathering for those interested in the process of accession of new members to the European Union. The success of previous events was the result of both the high level of speakers but also the high-level of participants who were afforded a unique opportunity to discuss in depth the various aspects of enlargement.

SPEAKERS

Speakers will be senior officials from the three main EU institutions involved in the enlargement process – the Council, the Commission and the Parliament – the Chief Negotiators or Ambassadors of the candidate countries and prominent academics.

METHOD

The aim of the conference is to disseminate information and stimulate public debate. Each session will begin with a presentation of the main issues followed by discussion with the audience. The principal stages of the conference will be concluded with a general discussion session for the purpose of considering alternative views, identifying similarities and linkages between the various themes and drawing overall conclusions. Furthermore, informal contact between participants and speakers will be encouraged during the social events of the conference.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The conference will be of interest to public officials, diplomats, academics and journalists who follow the process and problems of enlargement. Through the conference they will gain a unique perspective on that process and the problems.

SEMINAR MATERIALS AND DISSEMINATION

Speakers' notes and other background material will be distributed to all participants. In addition, a new EIPA book on the enlargement of the EU will be available free of charge at the conference venue. The book deals with the concept of effective implementation of EU rules. The main points of the presentations and of the discussion sessions will be put on EIPA's web site afterwards so a wider audience can access them. They will also be edited and published in *Eipascope*, which is EIPA's in-house journal distributed to more than 7,000 policy-makers, academics and commentators throughout Europe.

Fifth European Conference

***Enlargement of the EU:
LAST LAP OR LAST CHANCE?***

14-15 February 2002

Organised by the
European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)
Maastricht, NL

Green Conference Room (1.45)

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Thursday, 14 February 2002

- 11:00 hrs **Welcome and introduction to the conference**
Prof. Gérard Druesne, Director-General, EIPA, Maastricht (NL)
- 11:15 hrs **The programme and aims of the Spanish Presidency in the forthcoming Accession Conferences**
Mr M. Francisco Javier Conde de Saro, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Spain to the European Union, Brussels (B)
- 12:00 hrs **Review of the progress so far, what kind of problems lie ahead and how can they be solved?**
Mr Eneko Landaburu, Director-General, Directorate-General for Enlargement, European Commission, Brussels (B)
- 13:00 hrs Lunch at EIPA's restaurant
- 14:30 hrs **Theme 1: The accession negotiations: The position of the candidates on open chapters**
Mr George Vassiliou, Chief Negotiator and Coordinator of the Harmonisation Process, Nicosia (CY)
Mr Jan Trzuscynski, Under-Secretary of State, Head of the Office of the Committee for European Integration, Warsaw (PL)
Mr Vasile Puşcaş, Minister-delegate, Chief-Negotiator for the Accession of Romania to the EU, Ministry of European Integration, Bucharest (ROM)
Mr Ján Figel', State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava (SK)
Mr Miro Prek, Member of the Negotiating Team, Core Negotiating Team of the Republic of Slovenia for Accession to the EU, Ljubljana (SLO)
- 15:30 hrs **Discussion**
- 16:00 hrs Coffee break

- 16:30 hrs **Theme 2: The future architecture of the European Union: How can the candidates participate fully in the forthcoming Convention and Inter-Governmental Conference and what do they hope to achieve?**
Mr Pavel Telicka, Chief Negotiator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Prague (CZ)
Mr Richard Cachia Caruana, Chairman, Core Negotiating Group of Malta, Valletta (M)
Mr Petras Auštrevičius, Chief Negotiator for the Accession of Lithuania to the EU, European Committee under the Government of the Republic Lithuania, Vilnius (LT)
*Mr Akin Alptuna**, Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ankara (TR)
- 17:30 hrs **Discussion**
- 18:00 hrs Reception hosted by EIPA's Director-General

Friday, 15 February 2002

- 9:00 hrs **Theme 3: The state of preparation of the candidates: What are the most serious challenges they encounter and what kind of support do they need?**
Mrs Meglena Kuneva, Chief Negotiator, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, Sofia (BG)
Mr Alar Streimann, Chief Negotiator of Estonia, Tallinn (EST)
Mr Endre Juhász, Ambassador, Chief Negotiator, Mission of Hungary to the EU, Budapest (H)
Mr Andris Kesteris, Chief Negotiator for the Accession of Latvia to the EU, Riga (LV)
- 10:15 hrs Coffee break
- 10:45 hrs **A review of the Commission's assessment of the capacity of the candidate countries**
Dr Phedon Nicolaides, Professor on EC Policies and the Internal Market, EIPA, Maastricht (NL)
- 11:00 hrs **The views and concerns of the European Parliament about EU enlargement**
Mr Elmar Brok, Chairman, Foreign Relations Committee, European Parliament, Brussels (B)
- 11:45 hrs **Discussion**
- 12:30 hrs Lunch at EIPA's restaurant
- 14:30 hrs **The state of the enlargement process: A review of the roadmap to 2003 and beyond:** Address by *Mr Günter Verheugen*, Member of the European Commission with responsibility for enlargement, Brussels (B)
- 15:30 hrs **Discussion**
- 16:00 hrs End of conference

* To be confirmed

Fifth European Conference

Enlargement of the EU: Last Lap or Last Chance?

Maastricht (NL), 14-15 February 2002

GENERAL INFORMATION

Programme

The programme will commence on Thursday 14 February at 11.00 hrs and finish on Friday 15 February 2002 at 16.00 hrs.

Conference venue

The conference will take place in the Green Conference Room (1.45) at the European Institute of Public Administration, O.L. Vrouweplein 22, NL-6211 HE Maastricht, tel.: +31.43.3296222, fax: +31.43.3296296.

Working language

The conference will be conducted in English.

Fee

The participation fee is EUR 600 and includes documentation, 2 lunches and refreshments. Accommodation and travel costs are at the expense of the participants or their administration.

Hotel reservations

EIPA has reserved a number of rooms at 2 hotels in Maastricht, (arrival 13 or 14 February, departure 15 February 2002), details of which are given below. Participants are kindly requested to book their hotel accommodation personally by contacting the hotel (**as soon as possible as the number of rooms is limited**). Please do not forget to give the reference "Workshop EIPA 0234201" (14 – 15 February 2002). Please also clearly state the exact dates of arrival and departure.

HOTEL BEAUMONT****	HOTEL MABI****
Wyckerbrugstraat 2 6221 EC MAASTRICHT Tel.: (31) (43) 3254433 Fax: (31) (43) 3253655 Web site: http://www.beaumont.nl Special EIPA rate: EUR 85 (breakfast and tax included)	Kleine Gracht 24 6211 CB MAASTRICHT Tel.: (31) (43) 3514444 Fax: (31) (43) 3214455 Special EIPA rate: EURO 85 (breakfast and tax included)

Meals

The lunches will be served at the Institute's restaurant. Should you require a special menu (e.g. vegetarian, diabetic), please inform the Programme Organiser, Ms Sonja van de Pol, so that this can be arranged.

Registration

Kindly complete the registration form and return it **before 1 February 2002** to Ms Sonja van de Pol, Programme Organiser, European Institute of Public Administration, P.O. Box 1229, NL-6201 BE Maastricht, tel.: +31.43.3296371, fax: +31.43.3296296, e-mail: s.vandepol@eipa-nl.com. You can also submit the online registration form which can be found on EIPA's website: <http://www.eipa.nl> (conferences and seminars).

Confirmation

Confirmation of registration will be forwarded to participants on receipt of the completed registration form.

Payment

Prior payment is a condition for participation. Please indicate the method of payment on the registration form. For cancellations received after the date indicated on the registration form we will have to charge an administration fee of EUR 150 unless a replacement participant is found.

REGISTRATION FORM

Fifth European Conference

Enlargement of the EU: Last Lap or Last Chance?

Maastricht (NL), 14-15 February 2002

Surname: _____ Title: _____
First name: _____ M / F
Current position: _____
Organisation: _____
Department: _____
Work address: _____
Postal code & town: _____ Country: _____
Tel. no. (work) : _____ Fax no.: _____
E-mail address: _____

PAYMENT

EUR 600

**The participation fee includes participation in the conference, documentation,
2 lunches and beverages**

Method of payment

- ☐ **Bank transfer** (participation fee + EUR 7 transfer costs), clearly indicating the participant's name and the reference 'p: 0234201'

The registration fee was transferred on 2002 to EIPA's bank account no. **41.35.20.358** at the ABN/AMRO Bank in Maastricht (International Bank Account Number: NL07ABNA0413520358; Swift code: ABNANL2A) or giro account no. **34.333.99**

- ☐ **Credit card** (credit card payments are subject to an additional charge of 5% of the total amount of the registration fee).

☐ American Express Card ☐ Eurocard/Mastercard ☐ Visa Card

Card no.: Expiry date:/.....

Name Card holder: (in case this differs from above)

Address Card holder: (in case this differs from above)

Postal code: Country: (in case this differs from above)

Card Validation Code: (this only applies to Eurocards and refers to the last three digits of the number on the BACK of your eurocard)

(Exempt from VAT by virtue of Article 11, para. 1 (o), subpara. 2 of the Dutch Law on VAT of 1968)

Note: Pre-payment is a condition for participation. For administrative reasons, a fee of EUR 150 will be charged for cancellations received after 1 February 2002 unless another participant is designated.

MEALS

Lunch Day 1 ☐ will attend ☐ will not attend Reception Day 1 ☐ will attend ☐ will not attend
Lunch Day 2 ☐ will attend ☐ will not attend

As the number of places is limited, please return the completed registration form **before 1 February 2002** to:

Ms Sonja van de Pol
European Institute of Public Administration
P.O. Box 1229, NL-6201 BE MAASTRICHT

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