

International Conference
**The Austrian Presidency of the European Union:
Constitutional Treaty, Budget and Enlargement: Milestones or Stumbling
Blocks?**

Date: 19/20 May 2006

Venue: *Sitzungssaal der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Dr. Ignaz Seipel-
Platz 2, 1010 Vienna*

Friday, May, 19th, 2006

10.00 – 10.30: **Welcome Address**

Heinrich Neisser, Austrian Political Science Association, Vienna

Introductory Speech

The Privy Council with no King: Between Management and Vision

*Sonja Puntischer Riekmann, Institute of European Integration Research,
Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna*

10.30 – 12.00

1. Panel Europe's Institutions: In Whose Name?

The Relations between European Parliament, European Commission and the Council
of the European Union

Othmar Karas, Member of the European Parliament

The Role of Council Presidencies

Peter Ludlow, Eurocomment

The Council's Agenda

*Jean Claude Piris, General Director of the Legal Service, Council of the European
Union*

Discussant: *Hussein Kassim, University of London*

Chair: *Johannes Pollak, EIF*

12.00 – 14.00: Lunch Break

14.00 – 15.30

2. Panel Reflections on the State of the Art – Part I: The Constitutional Treaty

Current State of the Ratification and the Future of the Constitutional Treaty. A View
from the Austrian Presidency

Elisabeth Tichy-Fisslberger, Austrian Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Re-negotiation of the Constitution

Andrew Duff, MEP

The Commission's View

Marc Fähndrich, Representation of the European Commission in Austria

Discussant: *Carlos Closa Montero, Centro de Estudios Políticos y Constitucionales*

Chair : *Peter Slominski, EIF*

15.30-16.00: Coffee Break

16.00 – 17.30

3. Panel Reflections on the State of the Art – Part II: Balancing the Budget

The Financial Perspective Re-considered

Stefan Lehner, European Commission, Directorate General for Budget

Reform Options for the EU Budget

Manfred Lödl, Austrian Federal Ministry of Finances

The European Parliament's Vision for the Budget

Herbert Bösch, MEP

Discussant: *Iain Begg, London School of Economics*

Chair: *Isabella Eiselt, EIF*

Saturday, May, 20th, 2006

10.00 – 12.30

4. Panel: Reflections on the State of the Art – Part III: Enlargement

Why Enlarging at all?

Thomas Mayr-Harting, Political Director, Austrian Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Taking Stock: Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey

Maria Åsenius, Adviser, Cabinet Rehn, European Commission

The European Parliament's Vision for Enlargement

Karsten Mecklenburg, European Parliament

Discussant: *Christine Arnold, University of Maastricht*

Chair: *Monika Mokre, EIF*

Organizers: Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of European Integration Research, Austrian Political Science Association

Sponsors: City of Vienna, Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture, Federation of Austrian Industry

