

## STATE OF EUROPE FORUM, FRIDAY MAY 10, PARLIAMENTARY PALACE, BUCHAREST

9.00		<b>Why this forum?</b> <i>Why we should celebrate our connected, interdependence and togetherness around Europe Day, especially in times of growing populism and nationalism. Europe's future is too important to be left to politicians.</i>	Welcome to Parliamentary Palace: <b>Florica C.</b> Introductions: <b>Mari Blaj</b> <b>Jeff Fountain</b>	
9.30	PLENARY I	<b>Europe: our common heritage?</b> <i>What heritage do East and West share, and what differences cause misunderstanding? Why do East and West see differently on migration, politics of sexuality? Do the Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant backgrounds make a difference?</i>	<b>Piotr Mazurkiewicz</b> <b>Dragos Pislaru</b> <b>Evert Van de Poll</b> <b>Corneliu Constantineanu</b>	chair: Jeff Fountain
10.30		<b>coffee break</b>		
11.00		<b>Ode to Joy</b>	<b>Sung by school children from Cluj Napoca</b>	
11.20	PLENARY II	<b>Security through solidarity:</b> <i>How can the challenges of an unpredictable White House, terrorism, hybrid warfare, violation of territorial integrity in eastern Ukraine, Turkey's flirtation with Russia and lack of common foreign policy within the EU, best be met?</i>	<b>Gabriel-Benjamin Les</b> <b>Silviu Rogobete</b> <b>Claudiu Degeratu</b> chair: Adelina Jelescu	<b>SCHUMAN FOR KIDS PROGRAMME</b> 11.20 meet in seminar room with <b>Florica Chereches</b> : <i>What does it mean to be involved in politics?</i>
12.10		<b>Populism and the common good:</b> <i>Political and economic factors have contributed to the rise of a populism that is fragmenting society into competing identity groups. Some populist leaders even appeal to the Judeo-Christian heritage. Why? Does secularism's refusal to acknowledge Europe's Christian foundations contribute to a general identity crisis? How threatening is this to healthy democracy in Europe? How can we find a more inclusive identity and promote a 'spirit of Europe' as Schuman called it, seeking the common good?</i>	<b>Piotr Mazurkiewicz</b> <b>Evert Van de Poll</b> <b>Jonathan Tame</b> <b>Ben-Oni Ardelean</b> chair: Cristi Siomaru	12.00 launch of children's book, <b>Father of Europe</b> , with author <b>Margriet Krijtenburg</b>
13.00		<b>lunch break</b>		
14.00	SEMINAR SESSION I	<b>A. The relevance of Robert Schuman today:</b> <i>Can a 70 year old vision still be relevant in a world vastly changed from post-war times? Should we still take him seriously?</i>	<b>Margriet Krijtenburg</b> <b>Jeff Fountain</b> <b>Prof Piotr Mazurkiewicz</b>	chair. Mari Blaj
		<b>B. Civil society, stand up!</b> <i>Europe's future is too important to leave to politicians only. Restoring the soul of Europe is not their competence. That must be a task for the faith communities.</i>	<b>Cristi Soimaru</b> <b>Anita Delhaas</b> <b>Alexandra Nadane</b> <b>Jan Aage Torp</b>	chair. Florica Chereches
		<b>C. Culture and memory:</b> <i>What role can culture and memory play in creating a more inclusive identity for Europeans than when politics and economy remain the leading players? How can the lost memory of the crucial Christian contribution to forging Europe's identity be recovered?</i>	<b>Silviu Rogobete,</b> <b>Nicoleta Salcudean</b> <b>Evert Van de Poll</b>	chair. Monica Cure
15.15		<b>coffee break</b>		
15.45	SEMINAR SESSION II	<b>A. The Eastern partnership and the future of Europe:</b> <i>Nations in the Balkans and the East European partnership are lining up to join the EU despite Brexit. What do they expect? What could this mean for the future of Eurasia?</i>	<b>Ben-Oni Ardelean</b> <b>Titus Corlatean</b> <b>Matei Dobrovie</b> <b>Valeriu Ghiletschi</b> <b>Sever Voinescu</b>	chair: Silviu Rogobete
		<b>B. Myths, symbols &amp; nationalism:</b> <i>Nationality is a myth expanded beyond an individual's view, a shared stereotype which shapes our collective reality. We hold these stereotypes not only of other nationalities, but of our own. How should we as Christians perceive our national identity in the light of Paul's statement that in Christ there is neither Jew nor gentile?</i>	<b>Monica Cure</b> <b>Piotr Mazurkiewicz</b> <b>Evert V.d Poll</b>	chair. Lavinia Besliu
		<b>C. Migration and refugees:</b> <i>How can we find the balance between compassion and security, bridges and walls, inclusion and selection? Why do East and West often think differently on this issue?</i>	<b>Anita Delhaas</b> <b>Corneliu Constantineanu</b> <b>Alice Neffe</b>	chair. Jonathan Tame
17.00		<b>break</b>		
17.15	PLENARY III	<b>Europa Christiana interviews</b>	<b>Sever Voinescu</b>	intro: Mari Blaj
18.15		<b>Presentation of Schuman Award</b> <i>in recognition of contribution towards promoting Schuman's vision of Europe as a community of peoples deeply rooted in basic Christian values.</i>	<b>Mari Blaj</b> <b>Romkje Fountain</b>	