



# EU-RUSSIA CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM ГРАЖДАНСКИЙ ФОРУМ ЕС-РОССИЯ

## **European Union–Russia Civil Society Forum: A Second Conference (Warsaw, Poland 1–2 December 2011 )**

### **Introduction**

Civil society organizations from across Europe and Russia will gather on 1-2 December, 2011 in Warsaw, Poland, for a second conference of the EU-Russia Civil Society Forum. The founding meeting of the Forum took place in March 2011 in Prague, Czech Republic. The founding documents of the Forum were discussed and adopted there, four thematic working groups were formed as the main vehicles of the CSF activities, and the Steering Committee was elected.

The Forum is seen by its founding members as a venue to facilitate interactions between civil society organizations in the EU and Russia, as a platform to develop a joint agenda to agree on civil society's positions and recommendations on pressing issues of social and political development across the continent and advance them in a dialogue with representatives of the governments. The Forum aims at supporting networking, exchanges, and implementation of joint initiatives and projects at the horizontal level. The Forum was not conceived as a formal institution; instead, it should be regarded as a framework for enhanced cooperation, an informal "meeting place" for joint action.

The main goals of the CSF second conference in Warsaw are seen as identifying a clearer mandate and modalities of activities of the working groups, finalizing by the working groups of position papers with policy recommendations to be delivered to the EU-Russia summit to be held later in December in Brussels, working out concrete and realistic plans of the Forum's work for 2012, and developing effective mechanisms of communication between the Forum members and its decision-making mechanisms between the conferences.

**Venue: Hotel Holiday Inn Warsaw, Złota St. 48/54**

Honorary Patronage of  
**Radosław Sikorski, the Minister of Foreign Affairs  
of the Republic of Poland**



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Rzeczpospolita Polska  
Ministerstwo  
Spraw Zagranicznych

## Day 1, December 1<sup>st</sup> 2011

09:30–10:00 registration

10:00–11:00

### plenary session 1. opening of the conference

#### welcoming statements:

- welcome address by the **President of the Republic of Poland**, delivered by **Jacek Michałowski**, Head of the Chancellery of the President of Poland
  - **Bogdan Borusewicz**, Marshal of the Senate of the Republic of Poland
  - **Jerzy Pomianowski**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland
  - **Mikhail Fedotov**, the adviser to the President of the Russian Federation and Chairman of the Presidential Council for Civil Society Institutions Development and Human Rights
  - **Michael Pulch**, Head of Russia Division, European External Action Service
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- Overview of the results of the CSF founding meeting in Prague and the CSF activities between the Prague and Warsaw meetings  
**Rostislav Valvoda**, People in Need
  - Presentation of the Warsaw conference goals and agenda  
**Natalia Taubina**, Public Verdict

11:00–12:30

### plenary session 2.

#### panel discussion: *Challenges and Prospects of EU-Russia Relationships: What Is on the Agenda?*

- **Michael Pulch**, Head of Unit for Russia, EEAS
- **Alexander Alekseev**, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Poland
- **Nadia Arbatova**, Institute for World Economy / International Relations (IMEMO), Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow
- **Fraser Cameron**, EU-Russia Center

chair: **Eugeniusz Smolar**, The Polish Institute of International Affairs

12:30–13:30 lunch

13:30–15:30

### working groups session 1.

Discussion of the draft position papers with recommendations to the governments

**15:30 -16:00 coffee break**

**16:00-17:30**

**working groups session 2.**

Finalizing and adoption of position papers with recommendations to the governments.

Elaboration of the work plans of the Working Groups for 2012.

**17:40** - transfer to the restaurant (from the hotel lobby)

**18:30 - 20:00 reception - Belvedere Restaurant** (Agrykoli 1 St., Warsaw)

## **Day 2, 2 December 2011**

**9:30 – 11:30**

### **working groups session 3.**

Finalising of the work plans of the Working Groups for 2012.

Discussion of effective mechanisms of communication within the Working Groups and their decision-making process between the conferences. Distribution of responsibilities.

Election of the Working Group Coordinators (where necessary).

**11:30 – 13:00**

### **plenary session 3.**

Presentation of the results of the meetings of the Working Groups (position papers and working plans).

Approval by the conference participants of the position papers with recommendations to the governments developed by the Working Groups.

**13:00-14:00 lunch**

**14:00 – 16:00**

### **plenary session 4.**

Discussion of the Forum's activities and plans for 2012.

Discussion of effective mechanisms of communication between the Forum members, interaction between the Working Groups, and the decision-making process in the Forum between the conferences.

Clarification of the role of the Steering Committee and the Secretariat (if necessary).

Election of the Steering Committee members (if necessary).

**16:00-16:15 Closing Remarks by representatives of the Steering Committee.**