

Round table

The Treaties of Rome: the EU is 60 years old. Is it too young or too old?



In the aftermath of World War II, six European countries decided to change the course of history. On 27th March 1957 Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands signed the Treaties of Rome. In seeking to create a common market, they laid the foundations for the creation of a safer, more stable and prosperous continent.

Although European countries have flourished, six decades on, the European construction finds itself increasingly under stress. Should the current situation and dynamics be seen as signs of old age or are they paving the way for future developments? The round table will shed light on several aspects of the first six decades of integration, charting possible ways forward.

Friday, 10th March 2017 – 10.00 am

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski (Aula Magna)

Panelists:

Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo

Full Professor of Demography at the Faculty of Economics, “La Sapienza” University (Rome)
Founder and President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria

Solomon Passy

Head of European Commission Representation in Bulgaria

Ognian Zlatev

Full Professor of EU policies at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

Ingrid Shikova

*The round table will be moderated by H.E. Stefano Baldi, Ambassador of Italy in Bulgaria
All proceedings will be in English without translation.*

CV Panelists

Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo

Full Professor of Demography at the Faculty of Economics, University “La Sapienza” of Rome and Director of a Unesco Chair on “Population, Migrations and Development”. He has been Director of EuroSapienza Center; Director of CUIA (Italian University Consortium for Argentina); and Deputy Rector for international affairs of the University “La Sapienza” of Rome. He collaborated with the Foreign Office for statistical and demographic issues related to the main International Organizations: in this capacity he was a member of the Italian Delegation at the European and World Population Conferences from 1974 to 2005. On several occasions he has drawn up research reports on problems of migrations and population studies for various Administrations and International Organizations. He was President of the European Committee for the Population of the Council of Europe (Strasbourg). He is member of the Editorial Board of the Reviews “L’Europe en Formation”, “Studi Emigrazione”, “GENUS”, “Welfare papers” and many others.

Solomon Passy

Founder and president of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria, and previously Bulgaria’s Foreign Minister, Chairman of the OSCE and UN Security Council. In August 1990, Dr. Passy, MP in the Grand National Assembly, drafted a bill for Bulgaria’s accession to NATO. This was the beginning of the public discussion in CEE about the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, and NATO and the EU’s eastward enlargement. Minister Passy (2001-2005) successfully negotiated the invitation for Bulgaria’s membership in NATO, and effectively concluded the accession process in 2004 when Bulgaria joined the Alliance. He drafted a parliamentary resolution for Bulgaria joining the EU (1990). In addition, he is a co-author of the new Bulgarian Constitution of 1991 and a sponsor of the draft bill for abolishing the death penalty. Minister Passy negotiated and signed the EU Accession Treaty in 2005. He is also a pioneer in the elaboration of a national legal framework on space exploration, and a passionate proponent of Bulgaria’s membership in the European Space Agency.

Ingrid Shikova

Full professor in EU Policies at Sofia University “St.Kliment Ohridski”. She is dedicated to European Studies. She is one of the founders of the European Studies Department at Sofia University. She has many publications in the field of European integration issues including textbooks for university and secondary school students. She has a broad teaching experience as well as specialisations at prestigious Universities in Europe. She is experienced in EU project management. Prof. Shikova is guest lecturer at the Diplomatic Institute to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and at the Bulgarian School of Politics. In 2009 she was awarded a highest honorary sign with blue ribbon of Sofia University for her contribution to the development of European Studies in Bulgaria.

Ognan Zlatev

Head of European Commission Representation In Bulgaria since May 1, 2013. Prior to that since 2011 he was Head of Communications at the Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. In this role, he helped in communicating effectively the Commission's actions to tackle youth unemployment and social inclusion. Before joining the European Commission, he served on the Managing Board of Bulgarian National Television (the public service broadcaster). Earlier, he founded and managed the Media Development Center in Bulgaria and was a Founding Member and President of the South-East European Network for Professionalization of the Media (SEENPM). His consultancy assignments for the World Bank, OSCE and UNESCO took him to transitional societies in Central Asia, Caucasus, Western Balkans and Middle East. He has a strong background in communication related to EU integration, EU policies and EU institutions