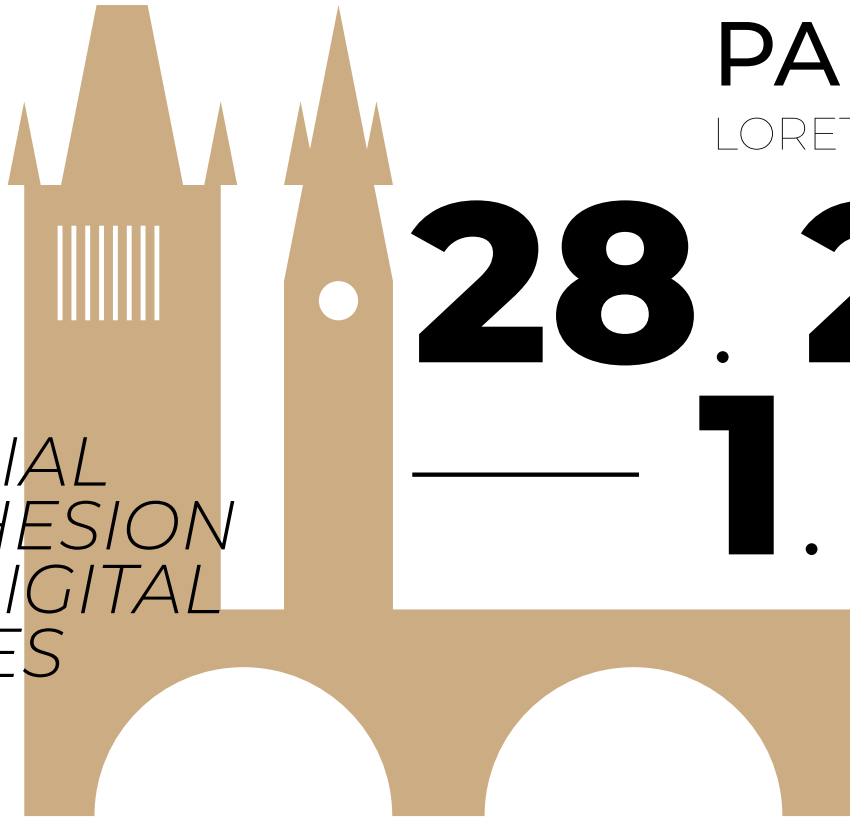


ČERNÍNSKÝ  
PALÁC,  
LORETÁNSKÉ NÁM. 5, PRAHA



28. 2.  
— 1. 3.

SOCIAL  
COHESION  
IN DIGITAL  
TIMES

The Masaryk Democratic Academy (MDA), the Czech representation of the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation (FES) and the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) are jointly launching this high-level gathering in Prague, at the centre of Europe, to reflect about potential avenues to enhance European integration in the social sphere.

PRAGUE  
**SOCIAL**  
EUROPE  
CONFERENCE  
2019

This third edition of the Prague Social Europe Conference will focus on the European actions, in terms of politics and policies, which are needed to properly manage the on-going digitalisation process that is transforming labour markets and also requiring updates in the education and welfare systems. The implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights needs a coherent approach that keeps together national and European legislation providing rights and social protection to atypical and new forms of employment. Among other matters, also the financial backing from EU and national resources to uphold social outcomes all across Europe will be a subject of the debate.



## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY: 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019

**16.00**

*Registration*

**16.30**

*Welcoming Remarks*

**Lubomír Zaorálek,**

President, MDA

**Anne Seyfferth,**

Director, FES Office in the  
Czech Republic and Slovakia

**Uwe Optenhögel,**

Vice President, FEPS

**17.00**

*High Level Talk*

***The European Pillar of Social  
Rights: Implementation  
or Stagnation?***

After an ambitious start in autumn  
2017, the European Pillar of  
Social Rights needs continuing  
efforts to secure its correct and

prompt implementation. To avoid  
stagnation in the implementation  
process new energy and clear  
guidance are needed in all three  
large areas: 1) equal opportunities  
and access to the labour market,  
2) fair working conditions, and  
3) social protection and inclusion.  
Sadly, calls for nationalism and  
authoritarianism or even welfare  
chauvinism are becoming more  
frequent and vocal. How shall we  
face those challenges and build the  
pillar more robust and ambitious?

*Introduction by:*

**Björn Hacker,**

Professor, HTW – University  
of Applied Science Berlin

*Talk with:*

**László Andor,**

Senior Fellow, FEPS and Former  
European Commissioner  
for Employment, Social  
Affairs and Inclusion



PRAGUE  
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2019

**Josef Středula,**

President, Czech-Moravian  
Confederation of Trade Unions

*Moderator:*

**Lubomír Zaorálek,**

President, MDA

**19.00**

*Keynote Address and  
Dinner Reception:*

by **Aleš Chmelař,**

Deputy Minister of Foreign  
Affairs for European Affairs  
of the Czech Republic

### 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY: 1 MARCH 2019

**9.15 – 11.00**

*Breakout Session*

*Workshop 1:*

***Priorities and Strategies to Socially  
Rebalance Our Union  
(in ENGLISH)***

**Barry Colfer,**

European Studies Centre,  
University of Oxford

**Sofia Fernandes,**

Senior Research Fellow,  
Jacques Delors Institute

**Danuše Nerudová,**

Rector, Mendel University  
in Brno and economist and  
tax policy specialist

**Uwe Optenhögel,**

Vice President, FEPS

*Workshop 2:*

***European Financing for Socially  
Relevant Priorities  
(in CZECH)***

**Ales Chmelař,**

Deputy Minister of Foreign  
Affairs of the Czech Republic

**Lucie Studničná,**

Head of the Department for  
European and International  
Relations, Czech-Moravian  
Confederation of Trade Unions

**Kateřina Štěpánková,**

Head of the Employment and Jobs  
Department, Ministry of Labour and  
Social Affairs of the Czech Republic

**11.00 – 11.30**

*Coffee Break*

**11.30**

*Expert Talk*

***Social Protections for Our  
Future – the Role of Europe***

The so-called digital revolution  
poses a series of challenges to

the way in which we organise  
and regulate economic and  
social development in Europe.  
Often, misleading terms such as  
“sharing economy” or “collaborative  
economy” hide under an appealing  
and modern cover, some old and  
worrysome phenomena: workers'  
exploitation, extreme precarisation  
of work, race to the bottom, etc.  
How can the European Union and  
the new upcoming Commission  
facilitate the soft and fair landing  
of automation, robotization  
and artificial intelligence?

**Liina Carr,**

Confederal Secretary, European  
Trade Union Confederation

**Sacha Garben,**

Permanent Professor of EU  
Law, College of Europe

**Maria João Rodrigues,**

President, FEPS and Vice  
President, S&D Group at the  
European Parliament

**Vít Samek,**

Vice President, Czech-Moravian  
Confederation of Trade Unions

More information at

**[bit.ly/PSEC2019](http://bit.ly/PSEC2019).**

The program can be subject  
to minor changes.

The Conference takes place  
under the auspices of Minister  
of Foreign Affairs of the Czech  
Republic Tomáš Petříček.

**13.00**

*Light Lunch*