

# TRUTH AND LOVE

OBČIANSKE ZDRUŽENIE  
PROJEKT)(FÓRUM

MAIN PARTNERS:



ERSTE Stiftung

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CENTRAL EUROPEAN)(FORUM  
BRATISLAVA 15 - 18 NOVEMBER 2012  
DIVADLO ASTORKA / KORZO '90



## CENTRAL EUROPEAN FORUM 2012 PROGRAMME ) (TRUTH AND LOVE

### 15 – 18 NOVEMBER 2012 BRATISLAVA

From 15 to 18th November 2012 the Slovak non-profit organisation Projekt Fórum, in conjunction with a number of other Slovak and international institutions, is organizing the fourth Central European Forum, a three-day series of discussions in Bratislava open to the public and featuring an international cast of panellists.

Václav Havel's conviction that truth and love will prevail over lies and hatred, that we must remain faithful to our own values as well as believe in love that upholds the truth of others, are the two key principles without which a pluralist world cannot, in the long run, exist. Central European Forum 2012 will focus on these issues, which seem particularly relevant to Central Europe in the present day and the future in 2012, the year of ominous prophecies.

Under the overall heading of 'Truth and Love' Central European Forum 2012 will discuss the many and varied forms and causes of lies and hatred. Lies become untenable at a time of crisis, as evidenced by the current debt and economic crisis and the crisis in European coherence it has engendered. This is a time when instances of fraud are being uncovered and lies exposed. It is also a time of hatred unleashed by the lies that have been exposed. It seems that the fiercest opponents of lies are further lies, generating more hatred. We will be discussing possible ways of breaking this vicious circle at the Astorka/Korzo '90 Theatre (Nám. SNP 33, Bratislava).

### THURSDAY) (15 NOVEMBER 5:00 PM) (OPENING

Vladimír Černý, director of the Astorka/Korzo '90 Theatre  
Jáchym Topol, programme director of the Václav Havel Library

### 5:30 PM) (PANEL I: LIES

It is a commonplace that behind the official public institutions of our societies there are other institutions – private, confidential and often top secret: mafias, brotherhoods, mutual back-scratching alliances. Why do they thrive in our part of the world? How do they operate? In what ways do they overlap with official institutions? How do they weaken democracy?

Oksana Zabuzhko (Ukraine), Giacomo di Girolamo (Italy), Tomáš Němeček (Czech Republic), Ilija Trojanow (Germany)  
Chair: Martin M. Šimečka (Slovakia)

### FRIDAY) (16 NOVEMBER 5:00 PM) (PANEL II: HATRED

How is it possible for people living in a civilized country to succumb to sudden bouts of hatred? Is a predisposition to intolerance something shared by countries in this part of Europe? What, if anything, can we learn from the Western experience of multiculturalism and integration of immigrants?

Vladimir Arsenjević (Serbia), Jens-Martin Eriksen (Denmark), Andrzej Stasiuk (Poland)  
Chair: Chris Keulemans (Netherlands)

### 6:15 PM) (PANEL III: STUPIDITY

On the one hand, ideologies in the 21st century have managed to turn entire nations

into mindless cattle, while on the other people now enjoy unprecedented access to information. The digital era is changing the way we think in profound ways. Where will this change lead us?

David Auerbach (USA), Miklós Haraszti (Hungary), Ivan M. Havel (Czech Republic), Drago Jančar (Slovenia)  
Chair: Thierry Chervel (Germany)

### SATURDAY) (17 NOVEMBER 3:30 – 5:30 PM) (PANEL IV: CHANGE

What was behind the mass civic protests and demonstrations of the past two years in the East and the West? What were their goals and what have they achieved?

Zygmunt Bauman (United Kingdom/Poland), Juraj Buzalka (Slovakia), Leonidas Donskis (Lithuania), Aitor Tinoco i Girona (Spain), Peter Pomerantsev (United Kingdom/Russia)

Chair: Eszter Babarczy (Hungary)

### 8:30 PM) (PANEL V: EXPERTS

We made the mistake of placing our trust in economists and ceding to them some of our intellectual and political responsibility, Václav Havel said in Bratislava in 2009, in reference to the legacy of the Velvet Revolution. What does it mean to "cede the world to economic experts"? Was there any alternative and do we have an alternative today?

Lajos Bokros (Hungary), Pascal Bruckner (France), Adam Michnik (Poland)

Chair: Ulrike Ackermann (Germany)

### SUNDAY) (18 NOVEMBER 2:30 PM) (PANEL VI: FEAR

Leftist and rightist ideologies in their classic forms no longer work even in Central Europe, where they traditionally wielded immense power. Instead, their new hybrids and aggressive mutations are beginning to hold sway. What words does power use to speak to us?

Radka Denemarková (Czech Republic), György Konrád (Hungary), Robert Menasse (Austria)

Chair: Jana Cviková (Slovakia)

### 4:00 PM) (PANEL VII: LOVE

Why do the old feel disrespected by society? What wisdom does old age bring? And how can we overcome our fear of growing old?

Jiřina Šiklová (Czech Republic)

Chair: Svetlana Žuchová (Slovakia)

### 5:00 PM) (PANEL VIII: PROTEST

Pussy Riot, their appearance in an Orthodox church, the punishment handed down to them, and the unexpected worldwide outrage have revived the broader question of what qualifies as art and what does not. Where does art's political power lie? And what makes art attractive to politics?

Milena Bartlová (Czech Republic), Anna Daučíková (Slovakia), Anna Jermolaewa (Russia), Alison Klayman (USA), Bertrand Ogilvie (France)

Chair: Michal Hvorecký (Slovakia)

*Any changes to the programme will be announced*

### FRINGE EVENTS

### THURSDAY) (15 NOVEMBER 10:30 AM) (THE WORLD INSIDE US

Lobby of the Slovak Republic Ministry of Culture

Opening of an exhibition of art produced by residents of the Ohel David Jewish Senior home in Bratislava, introduced by ethnographer Peter Salner, Chairman of the Bratislava Jewish community and artist Júlia Kunovská. With Bratislava conservatoire student Marek Juráň on violin

### 4:45 PM) (VÁCLAV HAVEL. A TRIBUTE

Astorka / Korzo '90 Theatre

Opening of an exhibition of Peter Župník's photographs of 1980s Prague

### FRIDAY) (16 NOVEMBER 8:30 PM) (CONCERT BY THE ETHNO-FUSION BAND AFTER PHURIKANE

The Mirror Hall, Primates' Palace (Primaciálne nám.1, Bratislava)

A joint project involving musicians from a Roma settlement, cellist Jozef Lupták, accordionist Boris Lenko and African musician Thierry

### 9:30 PM) (RECEPTION

The Mirror Hall, Primates' Palace (Primaciálne nám. 1, Bratislava – by invitation only)

### SATURDAY) (17 NOVEMBER 11:00 AM) (JUST THE WIND

Kino Mladost' (Hviezdoslavovo nám. 14, Bratislava)

Screening of the 2012 Berlin Film Festival Silver Bear winning film, dir. Benedek Fliegauf, followed by a discussion

### SUNDAY) (18 NOVEMBER 11:00 AM) (AI WEIWEI: NEVER SORRY

Kino Mladost' (Hviezdoslavovo nám. 14, Bratislava)

Screening of Alison Klayman's award winning documentary, followed by a discussion with the film's director and producer

### MONDAY) (19 NOVEMBER 10:30 AM) (TRUTH

Ohel David Senior Home

Discussion with former Prime Minister Iveta Radičová on Václav Havel's legacy in politics (By invitation only)

### EVENTS ORGANISED BY CENTRAL EUROPEAN FORUM PARTNERS

### SATURDAY) (17 NOVEMBER 4:00 PM) (REMEMBER NOVEMBER

KC Dunaj (Nedbalova 3, Bratislava, 4th floor)

A Milan Šimečka Foundation event marking the anniversary of The Velvet Revolution of 1989

### 6:00 PM) (THE WHITE CROW AWARD

KC Dunaj (Nedbalova 3, Bratislava, 4th floor)

The White Crow (or whistleblower) Award ceremony honouring civic courage followed by a discussion with the winners. Organised by the NGOs Fair Play Alliance and Via Iuris