



## Conference “Baltic Days”

October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
Emeroteca, Badia Fiesolana

Please register with: [Monika.Rzemieniecka@eui.eu](mailto:Monika.Rzemieniecka@eui.eu)

### Programme

Thursday, October, 13<sup>th</sup>

**14:00-14:15**

Welcome by Josep Borrell Fontelles, President of the European University Institute and László Bruszt, Head of Department in Political and Social Sciences

**14:15-15:00**

Vello Pettai (*University of Tartu, Estonia*): The Baltic States 20 Years On: When and How Does Post-Communism Fade?

#### First Part: Baltic Independence – 20 Years After

**15:00-15:45**

Andres Kasekamp (*University of Tartu, Estonia*): The Singing Revolution

**15:45-16:30**

Pavel Kolar (*European University Institute*): Socialism and What Came Next: Historicizing Eastern Europe's Transformation

Discussant: László Bruszt

**16:30-16:45**

*Coffee break*

**16:45 – 17:30**

Jesus Lopez-Medel Bascones (*High Court of Spain*): 1991, Again the Freedom



## Second Part: Economic Transformation - Is there a Baltic Exceptionalism?

Friday, October, 14th

**9:15-10:00**

Jolanta Aidukaite (*Mykolas Romeris University*) The "Baltic welfare state" After 20 Years of Transition

**10:00-10:45**

Marju Lauristin (*University of Tartu, Estonia*): Human Developments in the Baltic Countries: Twenty Years on

**10:45-11:15**

*Coffee break*

**11:15-12:30**

Raul Eamets (*University of Tartu, Estonia*): Baltic countries: New tigers or social failures?  
Discussants: Visnja Vukov, László Bruszt

### Short info about the speakers

**Jolanta Aidukaite** is a Research Fellow at the Lithuanian Social Research Centre and an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Politics and Management, Mykolas Romeris University. Prior to taking up a position in Lithuania she was lecturing and conducting research on social policy development issues in the three Baltic States at the Södertörn University, Sweden. Her main research interests are comparative social policy, globalization, inequalities and poverty, gender and family policies, and urban segregation. Currently she is leading a project "The transformation of welfare state in Lithuania: the origin, specific features and main causal forces behind its development" financed by the Lithuanian Research Council.

**László Bruszt** is a Professor of Sociology at the European University Institute. Before his arrival at the EUI he was a professor at the Department of Political Sciences at the Central European University. He has taught in the United States at Notre Dame University, at the New School for Social Research and at Cornell University. In his earlier research he has dealt with issues of economic and political transformation in the postcommunist countries. His more recent studies focus on the interplay between transnationalization, institutional development and economic change.

**Raul Eamets** is Professor of Macroeconomics at the University of Tartu. Since 2005 he is a head of the Institute of Economics in the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration. Raul Eamets focuses on labour market issues, but also in the area of general macroeconomic developments on Baltic countries. From 2004 to 2009 he was a member of the (Supervisory) Board of the Bank of Estonia. He is also a Chairman of the Council of EuroCollege at University of Tartu and Director of PhD School in Economics and Innovation Studies.



**Andres Kasekamp** is Professor of Baltic Politics at the University of Tartu and the Director of the Estonian Foreign Policy Institute. He worked as the Political and Information Officer at the Delegation of the European Commission in Estonia from 1997 to 2000. He is the author of “The Radical Right in Interwar Estonia” (Macmillan, 2000) and “A History of the Baltic States” (Palgrave, 2010). He has been a Visiting Professor at the University of Toronto and Humboldt University, Berlin and has served as Editor of the Journal of Baltic Studies.

**Pavel Kolář** is Professor of Comparative and Transnational History of 19th-20th century Europe at the European University Institute. He is also a Co-Director of an international research project “Physical Violence and State Legitimacy in Late Socialism” at Centre for Contemporary History, Potsdam.

**Marju Lauristin** is Professor of social communication in the Institute of Journalism and Communication in University of Tartu, Estonia. She is teaching courses on theories of modern society; political culture and political communication; analysis of public communication and introduction to media and communication. She is president of Estonian Sociological Association and had been from 2007 to 2011 member of Executive Committee of European Sociological Association. Her research is mainly focused on social, political and ethnic issues of post-communist transformation. Since 2008 she has been editor of the Estonian Human Development Report.

**Jesus López-Medel Bascones** is Lawyer and Legal representative of the State, he works for the High Court of Spain and is the Head of the Legal Service of International Cooperation for Development Agency. Mr Lopez-Medel Bascones is also a University Lecturer in Administrative and Constitutional Law and author of over 20 books on Law and Justice. Between 2008-2010 he was member of Legal Service before the European Court of Justice in Secretary of State for European Union. In July 2011 he wrote a new book with the title of: “Gorbachov, dusk and fall of the red empire”. The foreword was written for Mijail Gorbachov.

**Vello Pettai** is Professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Tartu. He received his PhD in Political Science from Columbia University and did undergraduate work in Russian and Political Science at Middlebury College. From 2008 to 2011 he was a DAAD Guest Professor at the Zentrum für Demokratieforschung at Leuphana Universität Lüneburg. His research interests are in democratic transition, ethnopolitics and post-communist party development. He has twice been a guest research fellow at the EUI, and currently serves as a member of the EUI High Council.

**Visnja Vukov** is a PhD student in social and political sciences at the European University Institute, currently in her 4th year. She previously studied at the University of Zagreb and Oxford University. Her research deals with the transformation of Eastern European states in the context of economic transnationalization, focusing in particular on the emergence of different types of Competition states in the region.