

Fostering Philanthropy in Europe's New Democracies

A PASOS conference to launch an initiative to engage with business leaders and new EU member-states in strengthening business and government dialogue in good governance, open society and the rule of law, both at home and in neighbouring countries

*Venue: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty,
Vínobradská 1, Praha 1, Czech Republic
09.00am-12.30pm,
Thursday, 26 April 2007*



08.30-08.50: Registration (coffee and tea will be served).

*09.00: Welcome address by **Jeffrey Gedmin**, President, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty*

*09.10: Introduction by **Jeff Lovitt**, Executive Director, Policy Association for an Open Society (PASOS)*

*09.20: Introductory speech by **Alexandr Vondra**, Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs, Czech Republic*

*09.40: Guest Speaker: **George Soros**, Chairman and Founder, Open Society Institute*

10.00-10.30: Panel discussion (moderator: Jeff Lovitt)

*Panellists: **Zdeněk Bakala**, Chairman, RPG Industries, Czech Republic*

***Robert R. Amsterdam**, Partner, Amsterdam & Peroff, international defence counsel for Mikhail Khodorkovsky*

10.30-10.45: Coffee break

10.50-12.00: Panel discussion (continued)

*Panellists: **Vita Terauda**, Chair, PASOS, and Director, Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS, Latvia*

***Vazil Hudák**, Vice President, Central/Eastern Europe & CIS, Global Transaction Services (GTS) Public Sector, Citigroup*

***Lenka Surotchak**, Director, Pontis Foundation, Slovakia*

***Martin M. Šimečka**, Editor, Respekt weekly*

***George Soros**, Chairman and Founder, Open Society Institute*

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12.00-12.30: Q&A

Aims:

(a) to raise a greater interest in public policy questions among the business community in Central and Eastern Europe, and an accompanying partnership between the business community and independent policy centres

(b) to build a 'public good' oriented philanthropy in Central and Eastern Europe, supporting open society and good governance at home, and open society and the rule of law in neighbouring countries (particularly on the part of the increasing number of Central European businesses now investing in the Caucasus, Balkans, Russia, Central Asia, Vietnam and China)

(c) to forge an alliance between governments and business in the new EU members to work together to strengthen calls for democracy and the rule of law in neighbouring countries.