



# PRAGUE **SOCIAL** EUROPE CONFERENCE 2017

Globalization and European Cohesion

6.2.2017

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

We are pleased to inform you about the upcoming international conference Prague Social Europe Conference 2017 (PSEC 2017): "Globalization and European cohesion" which will be held on 27. and 28. April at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic.

The conference is jointly organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Fridrich-Ebert-Stiftung foundation and think tank Masaryk democratic academy with the aim to answer questions which turn up with more intensive European integration. The European project has always been understood as a tool for improving quality of lives of the European citizens. Recently, we can observe that this goal faces some serious challenges - whether in the form of globalization, lack of convergence within the EU, or rising social and economic inequalities. The purpose of this event is to come closer to politically and economically feasible solutions.

The conference is divided into four panels:

## 27. April:

- 1) Between neoliberalism and protectionism
- 2) Populism – challenging a status quo in Europe for better or worse

## 28. April:

- 3) Towards social convergence: role of the EU
- 4) Not forgetting the countryside – global challenges for rural areas

The conference is regularly opened by the Czech Prime Minister and chaired by senior government ministers. Our keynote speakers are respected journalist **Paul Mason** and European Commissioner **Frans Timmermans**. Among other speakers will participate **Petr Drulák** (Czech Ambassador to France), **Maria Joao Rodrigues** (Member of the European Parliament) or **László Andor** (Former European Commissioner for Employment).

Registration to the conference will begin during March. We look forward to your participation.