



ASIA-EUROPE MEETING

THE ASEM DIPLOMATIC ACADEMIES NETWORK

Seminar: “Regionalism vs. Universalism in Global Order”

THE ASEM DIPLOMATIC ACADEMIES NETWORK

Proposal of the Republic of Poland
co-sponsored by Malaysia and the Netherlands

1. BACKGROUND

Successful communication and dialogue always begin with contacts between people who know little or nothing about each other. Deep understanding and cooperation between societies begin with meetings of their leaders and diplomats. Young and not-biased future diplomats may bring in a fresh perspective into multidimensional dialogue between Asia and Europe. Over the past decade, the European Union has been developing rapidly its relations with Asian countries within the framework of ASEM (*Asia-Europe Meeting*). Following recent wave of the EU enlargement and the ASEM V Summit in October 2004 held in Hanoi, new member states of the Union became fully-fledged participants of this platform of dialogue.

Bearing in mind recommendations of ASEM 5, Hanoi, Poland during ASEM FMM in Kyoto (May 2005) proposed to establish the ASEM DIPLOMATIC ACADEMIES NETWORK as a platform of enhancing mutual respect, understanding and equality between Asia and Europe societies.

Establishing within ASEM framework an informal cooperation between Asian and European diplomatic academies will complement existing cooperation levels and fit in ASEM working methodology. Furthermore, annual seminars of diplomatic academies, combined with emphasis on equal partnership, will spin up friendship and true understanding among young people – future diplomats – and will create a new positive energy in Asia-Europe partnership.

2. OBJECTIVES

The ASEM DIPLOMATIC ACADEMIES NETWORK aims at:

- promoting the idea of equal partnership through direct contacts among future professionals of diplomacy;
- enhancing mutual understanding, tolerance and dialogue of people coming from different cultures and civilizations;
- providing an opportunity to discuss topics of inter-regional and global importance, as well as to learn from each other;
- enabling young diplomats to communicate and interact freely in order to let them know each other and break stereotypes;
- creating a firm network of direct *sui generis* “people-to-people” contacts among future diplomats that will facilitate prospective official relations;

3. FORMAT

The ASEM DIPLOMATIC ACADEMIES NETWORK will be based on annual seminars of ASEM countries’ students of the diplomatic academies and young diplomats. Every seminar will be devoted to a particular theme of mutual interest. Young diplomats will exchange their views and debate current international issues from Asian and European perspectives. They will have an opportunity to present their national foreign policy and explain possible doubts in unofficial atmosphere. A joint conference paper will follow every seminar. It is expected that various initiatives will enrich the cooperation within ASEM DIPLOMATIC ACADEMIES NETWORK in future.

4. VENUE AND DATE

Poland proposes, that seminars will be held alternatively in Europe and Asia. **Poland will organize the first seminar at May 30th - June 3rd 2006 in Arlamow** (South East Poland, close to Rzeszów Airport). **The main theme of the seminar will be “Regionalism vs. Universalism in Global Order”.**

Agenda (tentative) of the seminar on “Regionalism vs Universalism in Global Order” will contain:

1. Political Aspects

- a. Panel discussion “Regionalism: counterweight or a strategy towards globalisation”.
- b. Workshops (4 themes – preparing a common text)
 - i. Regional security organizations in global environment.
 - ii. Can regional organizations better tackle global problems?
 - iii. Benefits and dangers of regional cooperation.
 - iv. Global powers and regional organizations.Presentation of workshop results / discussion.
- c. Lecture “Influence of new EU members on CFSP”.

2. Economic Aspects

- a. Panel discussion “Global trade liberalization vs regional free trade agreements”.
- b. Simulation – WTO DOHA Ministerial Meeting.
- c. Case study – “Criteria for multinational companies’ decisions on localization”.
- d. Lecture “EU responses to economic globalization”.

3. Social / Cultural Aspects

- a. Presentation – Trans-border mountain trekking – joint point for the borders between Poland – Ukraine – Slovakia.
- b. Debate – Is sub-regional cooperation weakening national state in International Affairs?
- c. Panel discussion “Cultural domination vs cultural cooperation – homogenous global culture and local cultures”.
- d. Lecture “Concept of common identity in EU integration”.

5. PARTICIPANTS AND EXPENSES

Each ASEM member state will be entitled to delegate **two participants**: students of diplomatic academy or young diplomats at the very beginning of their career. The host of the seminar will bear the costs of the workshop and accommodation while the participants will be responsible for their expenses for travelling (costs of the plane tickets – favorable to the Rzeszow Aiport). Participating countries are requested to send filled out registration form to: Ms. Anna Niechciał: niechcial@pism.pl or fax: +48/22/523 89 48 **by 30 April 2006**. Further detailed information will be send after this date directly to the registered participants.

Registration Form

**ASEM Diplomatic Academies Network
Seminar
„Regionalism vs. Universalism in Global Order”
Arlamów, Poland
May 30 – June 3, 2006**

Please fill in the form in block letters and kindly return by fax
+48 (22) 523 89 48 or e-mail to niechcial@pism.pl

Deadline for Registration: 30 April 2006

Registration form

Country _____

Institution _____

Participant:	
Title	Mr. Ms. Mrs. Dr. (please circle)
First name	
Last name	
Email	
Fax	
Additional requirements, including dietary	
Participant:	
Title	Mr. Ms. Mrs. Dr. (please circle)
First name	
Last name	
Email	
Fax	
Additional requirements, including dietary	