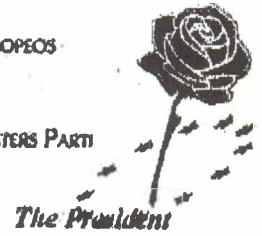


DE EUROPÆISKE SOCIALDEMOKRATERES PARTI • SOZIALDEMOKRATISCHE PARTEI EUROPAS  
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΣΟΦΙΑΔΙΣΤΙΚΟ ΚΟΜΜΑ • PARTY OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS • PARTIDO DE LOS SOCIALISTAS EUROPEOS  
PARTI DES SOCIALISTES EUROPÉENS • PARTITO DEL SOCIALISMO EUROPEO  
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PARTIDO SOCIALISTA EUROPEU • EUROOPAN SOSIAALDEMOKRAATTINEN PUKKUE • EUROPEISKA SOCIALDEMOKRATERES PARTI



Brussels, 8 July 1999

Mr. Costas Simitis  
Prime Minister of Greece and Leader of Pasok  
Athens

Fax:

Dear Costas,

The Party of European Socialists (PES) is organising a special conference on the future of the Balkans to be held in Vienna on 22nd and 23rd July 1999.

One of the major tasks of this event will be to develop ideas on how the PES and its member parties can contribute to the implementation of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

We hope that the conference will result in precise recommendations for the meeting of the Heads of State of the European Union to be held in Sarajevo one week later.

In order to achieve this the conference is divided into three working sessions which correspond with the working areas outlined in the Stability Pact.

I am pleased to be able to invite you to this conference and would like to ask you to contribute actively to its success as one of the speakers in the general debate according to the attached draft programme. The working languages of the conference will be German, English, French and Serbian.

Transport from the airport to the conference hotel and back (Radisson SAS Hotel, Parkring 16, 1010 Vienna (phone: , fax: ) will be provided. Hotel accommodation will be arranged upon request by the International Secretariat of SPÖ: phone: fax: (see attached form).

Unfortunately, the PES will not be able to cover any travel and accommodation expenses.

If you need further assistance, do not hesitate to contact our Secretariat: F.O.J. Roll, telephone , or Marina Pöhlmann, telephone :

May I finally ask your staff to return the attached form to the PES secretariat in Brussels no later than Friday, 16th July 1999.

I look forward to welcoming you in Vienna and hope that we can combine our efforts for lasting peace and stability in South Eastern Europe.

Yours sincerely,

Rudolf Scharping

PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN rue Wiertz 1047 BRUXELLES Tel (

Fax (

email: pes@pes.org • Internet: http://www.pes.org

Update: 07/07

**PES Conference on the Balkans**  
**22/23 July 1999**  
**VIENNA**

**Venue: Radisson SAS Hotel**  
**Parkring 16, 1010 Vienna**  
phone: fax:

***Draft programme***

**Thursday 22 July 1999**

16.30 - 19.30 **Opening Session and General debate:**

Moderator and summing up: Mr. Rudolf SCHARPING, President of the PES

Welcome address: Mr. Viktor KLIMA, Chancellor of Austria and Leader of SPÖ

**Speakers:**

Mr. Gerhard SCHRÖDER, Chancellor of Germany and Leader of SPD

Mr. Milo DJUKANOVIC, President of Montenegro

Mr. Pandeli MAJKO, Prime Minister of Albania

Mr. Martti AHTISAARI, President of Finland (rq.)

20.00 Dinner

**Friday, 23 July 1999**

8.00 Breakfast

9.00 - 9.45 **General Debate:**

Mr. Milan KUCAN, President of Slovenia

Mr. Costas SIMITIS, Prime Minister of Greece and Leader of PASOK

Mr. Laszlo KOVAC, Leader of the Hungarian Socialist Party (rq.)

Mr. Javier SOLANA, Secretary General of NATO (rq.)

Mr. Bodo HOMBACH, EU Coordinator for the Balkans

9.45 - 11.00 1st Working Session: ***"Economic and Social Development"***

Moderator: Mr. Henri NALLET, Vice-president of the PES

Panel:

Mr. Franz VRANTZKY, UN Coordinator for Albania

Mr. Wolfgang ROTH, Deputy Director of EIB (rq.)

Mr. Umberto RANIERI, Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy

Mr. Branko CRVENKOVSKI, Leader of SDU of Macedonia (rq.)

11.15 - 12.30 2nd Working Session: ***"Democracy and Human Rights"***

Moderator: Mr. Heinz FISCHER, Vice-president of the PES

Panel:

Mr. Freimut DUVE, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Mr. Pierre MAUROY, President of Socialist International

Mr. Ivica RACAN, Leader of SDP, Croatia

Mr. Carlos WESTENDORP, MEP

Mr. Pierre SCHORI, MEP

12.30 - 13.45 Lunch

12.30 Press Conference

13.45 - 15.15 3rd Working Session: ***"A Security Policy for the Region"***

Moderator: Mr. Akis TSOHATZOPOULOS, Vice-president of the PES

Panel:

Mr. Robin COOK, Vice-president of the PES

Mr. Wolfgang PETRITSCH, EU High Representative for Bosnia & Herzegovina

Mr. Daan EVERTS, OSCE Representative for the Creation of Institutions

Mr. Gregori PIRINSKI, Deputy Leader of the Socialist Party, Bulgaria

15.30 - 16.30 Conclusions:

Mr. Jan Marinus WIERSMA, MEP, Vice-president of the PES, Coordinator