



## HIGHLIGHTS

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The Czech Prime Minister opens the works at the conference on the new EU agenda for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Read our reportage about this major Brussels event.

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7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development: we continue our presentation of the main thematic areas of financing, in this issue, we talk about Energy.

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The website of the Zlin Region in Brussels is getting richer and richer; now, you can find there even the links for the main European internet video-channels: the EU comes closer directly in your pc with interviews, debates and conferences in all the official languages of the Union.

Don't forget to have a look at our review of the Calls for proposals published by the EC.

## Editorial

*Mattia Crosetto*

Dear readers,

a new year is starting for the Representative Office of the Zlin Region in Brussels. In fact, differently from all the others, we don't consider the 1<sup>st</sup> of January as the starting point of the year, but the 1<sup>st</sup> of March. The reason is that the contract for the mission to the EU runs from that date on. Springtime is thus our wakening up season!

For this new period, we have prepared a long list of novelties.

The first one is already under your eyes and consists in the renewed edition of the Office's Newsletter. We made a great effort in creating a nicer lay out, easier for the downloading in the electronic version and more user friendly for you. We hope that this new version – arrived now at the fourth year of publication – can meet your appreciation and positive evaluation.

We have introduced several innovations also in the website of our Office. The original English version, created to promote the Region at the EU level, is now accompanied by the Czech one, and the two websites are perfectly corresponding one to the other. Then, we have created some new sections to provide you complete information about our activities in Brussels, together with documentation and audiovisual supports.

A new page introduces the Zlin Region to our international partners and makes it easier for them to reach the institutional website of the regional administration. Throughout two additional links, you have now the possibility of following in direct the agenda of the EU: Europe by Satellite and Euronews, the two main European channels, are reachable with a simple click from the website.

Finally, the Representative Office will participate in the celebrations for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Treaties of Rome, as well as in the Institutional event "Portes Ouvertes 2007" of the Committee of the Regions.

And a lot of other initiatives are in preparation! Follow us in these pages where we will keep you informed about.

Sincerely,

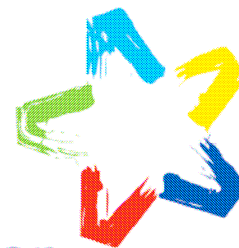
Mattia Crosetto  
Director of Zlin Region in Brussels



## WHAT'S NEW IN BRUSSELS?

### Brussels, 6. 3. 2006: EU Conference

In March 2000, European leaders pledged that the EU would become the world's most competitive knowledge-based economy by 2010. However, economic indicators show that the EU is far from reaching this goal and is in a phase of relative decline. The challenges that Europe is now facing are global: competition from emerging economies, environmental and energy concerns, fight against poverty. The responses to these challenges will determine EU's success in the future. The conference examines these issues and tries to start-up the reform process for a new Europe. Business people, representatives of the public sector, politicians, activists and young people take part to the conference.



Movement for  
**EUROPEAN REFORM**

### The conference started with Czech Prime Minister's speech

The works of the conference has been opened by the interventions of Mr. Jan Zaharadil, Leader of the ODS Delegation in the European Parliament and by Mr. Mirek Topolánek, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic. They resumed the opportunities and urgent challenges Europe is facing. They also underlined the role that the EU countries and regions can play in the development of a new, positive agenda for the relaunch of the EU economic growth.

The conference then went on with three Working Sessions.

### Working Session 1 - Competing in the 21st Century

A Goldman Sachs study predicts that the EU's share of global trade will fall under a third of its present level by 2050. The participants in the Working Sessions discussed about the reasons of the decline and tried to identify the guidelines for a political initiative to face the decline of EU trades. A strengthened cooperation between Member and Third countries in the frame of free-trade areas of macro-regional dimension (the Mediterranean area, the EU-Latin America free trade association, etc.); an effort for the inclusion of the Developing Countries in the international trade and a renewed effort for innovation are the main solutions proposed.

### Working Session 2 - Can the EU lead a global response?

Energy security and climate change are challenges that do not respect the boundaries. For that reason, they are typical international issues requiring coordinated and cooperative approaches. In those fields, the EU has a huge opportunity to show its own leadership.

The participants in the Working Session analysed the limits of the present regulations and policies, starting with the failure of the Emission Trading Scheme and continuing with the with the other legal instruments of the EU. Proposals for action included a reformed fiscal policy, focused on the green incentives, as well as the revision of the common Energy strategy.

### Working Session 3 - The developing world needs freer & fairer trade

The EU is the world's largest trading bloc. Because of this role, it has the possibility of ensuring that the benefits of the economic growth are shared by everyone. Trade liberalisation should provide global opportunities and spur development in the world's poorest countries.

The participants discussed the state of the art and the perspectives of the Common Agricultural Policy with regard to its contribution in the fight against poverty and marginalisation of developing Countries. Suggestions have been made for reforms in the EU external relation policy in the sense of trade liberalisation and trade barriers elimination.



## The European Council met in Brussels



Climate protection, energy policy and the Lisbon Strategy were on the agenda of the Spring meeting (8-9 March 2007), which traditionally deals with economic issues.

An integrated package of measures was adopted, an action plan for climate protection and energy policy. Alongside climate protection it embraced external energy relations and the internal market, competition and environmental protection.

The Council was focused at three particular aspects of climate protection: reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, increasing the use of renewables and making energy savings.

The EU Presidency has ambitious goals in climate protection. EU emissions of greenhouse gases are to be reduced by 20 percent by 2020. If other non-EU states are prepared to collaborate, a target of 30 percent will be considered. Within the framework of a process which can last several years, the targets for each individual member state will be established.



As well as looking at ways to reduce CO2 emissions, the Council discussed renewable energies. It dealt with the proposal of raising the percentage of total power generation coming from renewable sources to 20 percent. Currently, renewables account for 6.5 percent of energy generated in the EU. These changes in energy policy will, of course, come at a price, but the costs of deferring action would be higher.

This should also be seen as an opportunity for the European economy. It should become the technological pioneer in the energy sector. Today, the European Union already leads the field in technology for renewable energies. It holds 60 percent of the market for wind power worldwide.

At the official dinner of the Council, the Chancellor presented her main message for the Berlin Declaration, which is to lay out the challenges facing us in future. The Declaration addresses the citizens of the European Union in particular. It will be officially signed at the meeting of Heads of State and Government in Berlin on 25 March.

## Cultural events during the European Council

On 7<sup>th</sup> March 2007, German Chancellor Angela Merkel opened in Brussels the exhibition "Views of Europe", which presents more than 150 masterpieces of nineteenth century German painting. Many German artists, from Karl Friedrich Schinkel to Casper David Friedrich and Adolph Menzel, have immortalised their own views of Europe.

On 8<sup>th</sup> March 2007, International Women's Day, the Chancellor opened the exhibition "European Women" prior to the first session of the European Council.

*For more information on the European Council's background and mode of operation, please go to:*

[http://www.eu2007.de/en/Policy\\_Areas/European\\_Council/index.html](http://www.eu2007.de/en/Policy_Areas/European_Council/index.html)

## New body to fund frontier research in Europe

The official inauguration of the first ever pan-European funding body for frontier research took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February at a conference in Berlin. The European Research Council (ERC) will open up new opportunities for the most talented and creative researchers from all over the world.

"Some of the greatest scientific discoveries and advances in knowledge have come from giving great ideas the space and time to flourish. This is what we want to achieve," explained research commissioner Janez Potočnik.

The ERC is guided by 22 renowned scientists, chaired by Professor Fotis Kafatos of Imperial College London.

It operates under the EU's seventh research framework programme, which has a budget of €7.5bn to promote cutting-edge research.

Aiming to create an efficient, integrated research system, the ERC is part of the EU's vision of a globally competitive knowledge society. It will work alongside national research funding schemes to overcome barriers, create new jobs and secure existing ones.



## FOCUS ON EU PROGRAMMES



7th FP: Tomorrow's answer starts today

Special section on Innovation: second sheet devoted to the opportunities offered by the new EU programme for research and technological development

### FP7

FP7 is the short name for the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. This is the EU's main instrument for funding research in Europe and it will run from 2007 to 2013.

The Seventh Framework Programme is made up of four Specific programmes plus a fifth specific programme on nuclear research.

Cooperation (collaborative research) is the programme that finances international cooperation projects across the European Union and beyond in 10 thematic areas, corresponding to major fields in science and research:

- Health
- Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology
- Information and Communication Technologies
- Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies
- Energy
- Environment (including climate change)
- Transport (including Aeronautics)
- Socio-economic sciences and Humanities
- Security
- Space



*In this special section, we describe the main aims and content of the four specific programmes of the 7FP. The first sheet has been published in the edition no 01 of January 2007.*

### ENERGY

#### Budget: 2.3 billion (2007-13)

Energy systems are confronted with major challenges. The urgency to identify and develop adequate and timely solutions is justified by the alarming trends in global energy demand, the finite nature of conventional oil and natural gas reserves, and the need to dramatically curb greenhouse gas emissions. These actions would effectively mitigate the devastating consequences of climate change, the damaging volatility of oil prices (in particular for the heavily oil-dependent transport sector) and geopolitical instability in supplier regions.

Activities in the energy area include:

- Hydrogen and fuel cells
- Renewable electricity generation
- Renewable fuel production
- Renewables for heating and cooling
- CO2 capture and storage technologies for zero emission power generation
- Clean coal technologies
- Smart energy networks
- Energy efficiency and savings
- Knowledge for energy policy making

#### Benefits for the EU citizens

Citizens will benefit from energy research through more affordable energy costs and through more efficient use of energies provided by different sources. Consequently, this will help reduce the causes of climate change, which will benefit everyone directly.

#### Benefits for the researchers

Researchers will help transform the current energy system into a more sustainable one, making it less dependent on imported fuels. Energy efficiency, which includes rationalising use and storage of energy, will be enhanced, thus addressing the pressing challenges of security of supply and climate change.

#### Benefits for industries and the SMEs

Europe's industry has developed world leadership in a number of energy generation and energy efficiency technologies. It is the pioneer in modern renewable energy technologies, such as solar energy, bio- and wind energy. The EU is also a global competitor in power generation and distribution technologies and has a strong research capacity in the area of carbon capture and sequestration. In order to maintain this position, Europe's industries must continue their efforts through international collaboration.



## SHORTS FROM BRUSSELS

Would you like to follow a fascinating debate of the European Parliament on the Regional Policy without moving from home? Are you interested in watching a briefing of the European Commission about Structural Funds? Then, enter into the website of the Zlin Region in Brussels and exploit the links to Europe by Satellite (EBS) or Euronews. The two eurochannel provide you images and sounds of all the activities of the European Institutions, the Member States and the Region at the EU level.

### Europe at home! The Brussels' chronicle on your pc

The website of the Zlin Region in Brussels is presently hosting two new links relating to EU news and archives providing indispensable information on the history and the chronicle of the EU.

The link to EbS (Europe by Satellite) offers access to video, photo and sound coverage of European news. European audiovisual material dating from the 1940s is also available. On this site, you can find an overview of the products and distribution means on offer by the EC, as well as the technical services available in Brussels.

Euronews is committed to provide you information continuously updated about the European and international events.

All these services are available free thanks to the information platform of the Zlin Region in Brussels.

To reach them, go to:

<http://www.zlinregioninbrussels.eu/links/institutions.php>

### News from the European Commission Europe at work for more growth and jobs

At today's Tripartite Social Summit, Commission President Barroso and German Chancellor Merkel – current President of the European Council – discussed with high-level employers' and workers' representatives progress on the EU's jobs and growth goals. They were joined by the Portuguese and Slovene Prime Ministers – future Presidents of the European Council – and Vladimír Špidla, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. The debate focused on promoting knowledge and innovation and making labour markets more adaptable through flexicurity – combining flexibility on the labour market with employment security of workers – and better regulation.

The Tripartite Social Summit meets at least once a year, ahead of the Spring European Council, to allow for an exchange of views between the social partners, the Commission and the Heads of Government and employment ministers of the current and the two subsequent Council Presidencies ("troika"). The agenda is always closely linked to the items discussed later by the Heads of State and Government in their Spring Summit.

Further information: [http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/social\\_dialogue](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/social_dialogue)

### European Photo Competition for Diversity



Photography students from across the European Union can make a creative statement about diversity while having their work showcased to an EU-wide audience by entering the 2007 "Breaking Stereotypes" photo competition. The competition runs from March 1st to June 30th, 2007, as part of the EU's "For Diversity. Against Discrimination." campaign and under the umbrella of the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All.

A total of €9000 prize money will be shared among the first, second and third place winners as well as the first place winner's university or academy. The overall winning design will be printed on flyers spreading the "For Diversity. Against Discrimination." message throughout the EU.

The competition is open to students registered at an art and design institution in disciplines such as photography, fine arts and graphic design. A pan-European jury of photographers, young design artists and design and visual communication experts will select the finalists and winners.

For information on how to enter the 'Breaking Stereotypes' competition on, please visit the web page:

<http://www.stop-discrimination.info/>

or directly contact the project officer:

Ms. Sarah Coppens, Media Consulta International Holding

Tel.: +49 (0) 30 65 000-358

s.coppens@media-consulta.com

# Calls for proposals

<b>Media 2007</b>	Support for the development of production projects (MEDIA New Talent, single projects and slate funding) Deadline: <b>16. 04. 2007</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/cs/oj/2006/c_320/c_32020061228cs00240025.pdf">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/cs/oj/2006/c_320/c_32020061228cs00240025.pdf</a>
<b>Media 2007</b>	Support for the transnational distribution of European films (automatic) Deadline: <b>30. 04. 2007</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_050/c_05020070306en00040004.pdf">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_050/c_05020070306en00040004.pdf</a>
<b>Media 2007</b>	Support for the transnational distribution of European films (selective) Deadlines: <b>16. 04. 2007 ; 10. 07. 2007 ; 01. 12. 2007</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2007:050:0005:0005:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2007:050:0005:0005:EN:PDF</a>
<b>Fundamental Rights Programme</b>	Specific programme on Criminal Justice – Framework partnerships Deadlines: <b>19. 04. 2007</b> <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/jpen/funding_jpen_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/jpen/funding_jpen_en.htm</a>
<b>Civil Society</b>	Violent Radicalisation Initiative Deadlines: <b>Various</b> <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/isec/funding_isec_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/isec/funding_isec_en.htm</a>
<b>Public Health</b>	Community action in the field of public health (2003-2008) Deadlines: <b>21. 05. 2007</b> <a href="http://lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_034/c_03420070216en00110011.pdf">lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_034/c_03420070216en00110011.pdf</a>
<b>Higher Education</b>	Erasmus Mundus – Action 1 Deadlines: <b>30. 04. 2007</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_041/c_04120070224en00180019.pdf">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_041/c_04120070224en00180019.pdf</a>
<b>Higher Education</b>	Erasmus Mundus – Action 2 Deadlines: <b>28. 02. 2008</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_041/c_04120070224en00180019.pdf">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_041/c_04120070224en00180019.pdf</a>
<b>Higher Education</b>	Erasmus Mundus – Action 3 Deadlines: <b>30. 11. 2007</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_041/c_04120070224en00180019.pdf">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_041/c_04120070224en00180019.pdf</a>
<b>Higher Education</b>	Erasmus Mundus – Action 4 Deadlines: <b>31. 05. 2007</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_041/c_04120070224en00180019.pdf">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_041/c_04120070224en00180019.pdf</a>
<b>Cost Programme</b>	European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research Deadlines: <b>30 03. 2007 ; 30. 09. 2007</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2007:045:0004:0005:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2007:045:0004:0005:EN:PDF</a>
<b>7FP</b>	Specific programmes Cooperation, Ideas, People, Capacities Deadlines: <b>Various</b> <a href="http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm">http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm</a>





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## CALENDAR

### MARCH

**22. 3. 2007**

CoR Plenary Session in Rome  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Treaties of Rome.

### APRIL

**16-17. 4. 2007**

4<sup>th</sup> European Conference on  
Craft and Small Enterprises in  
Stuttgart.

### MAY

**5. 5. 2007**

Portes Ouvertes 2007  
Interinstitutional EU Day  
Celebrations of the Schumann  
Day and promotion of the  
Regions in Brussels.

### MAY

**9. 5. 2007**

Europe Day in Schools  
Celebration of the Schumann  
Day in the schools of the  
European Union

## Vacancies in Europe

### European Investment Bank

- **JASPERS** (Joint Assistance to Support Projects in the EU Regions)  
Database Administrator for the Jaspers Unit  
Place of work: Luxembourg  
Duration of the contract: 3 years  
Deadline: 19. 03. 2007  
Ref.: JA07WWW01  
Info: <http://www.eib.europa.eu/jobs/>

### European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

- **Internships at the EBRD**

Banking Special Programme  
Place of work: London  
Deadline: 31. 12. 2007  
Ref.: Intern2007  
Info: [http://www.ebrdjobs.com/fe/pl\\_ebrd01.asp](http://www.ebrdjobs.com/fe/pl_ebrd01.asp)

### World Trade Organisation

- **Legal / Economic Affairs Officer**

Trade Policy Review Division  
Place of work: Geneva  
Deadline: 29. 03. 2007  
Ref.: 606  
Info: <http://www.wto.org/>



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Vydavatel: Zastupitelská kancelář Olomouckého kraje v Bruselu.

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