

# **Fifty Years European Parliament Experience and Perspectives**

**Friday, October 17, 2008**

09:00 Dimitrios G. Sioufas, President of the Hellenic Parliament  
*Inaugural address*

## **Session I: Historical Development and Perspectives of the European Parliament**

Chairmen:

Professors Giuseppe de Vergottini and Kostas Mavrias

09:15 *Democracy in the European Union and the European Parliament*  
Professor Bertrand Mathieu, University of Paris I – Panthéon

09:45 *European Parliament and national Parliaments: Are they comparable institutions?*  
Professor Joop Th. J. van den Berg, University of Maastricht

10:15 *From talking shop to working Parliament: The change of the European  
Parliament functions and its implications for the European Parliament's profile*  
Dr. Andreas Maurer, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Berlin

10:45 *Dual legitimacy and the status of the European Parliament*  
Professor Constantine Stephanou, Panteion University, Athens

11:15 Discussion

11:45 Coffee break

## **Session II: European Parliament and the Hellenic Experience**

Dimitrios Sioufas, President of the Hellenic Parliament, will chair the session

12:10 Anna Benaki-Psarouda,  
Former President of the Hellenic Parliament

12:20 Ioannis Varvitsiotis,  
Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)  
and European Democrats

12:30 Stavros Lambrinidis,  
Socialist Group in the European Parliament

12:40 Georgios Toussas,  
Confederal Group of the European United Left / Nordic Green Left

12:50 Dimitrios Papadimoulis,  
Confederal Group of the European United Left / Nordic Green Left

13:00 Georgios Georgiou,  
Independence / Democracy Group

**Session III:  
The European Parliament as Part of the Institutional Architecture of Europe**

Chairpersons:

Professors Carla Van Baalen and Costantine Pitsakis

16:00 *The principle of institutional balance and the position  
of the European Parliament on the Treaty of Lisbon*  
Professor Luis Ortega-Alvarez, University of Castilla-La Mancha

16:30 *Democratic aspects of the European Governments and the European Parliament*  
Professor Nikolaos Scandamis, University of Athens

17:00 *The way towards direct elections for the European Parliament*  
Dr. Joachim Wintzer, Kommission für Geschichte des Parlamentarismus  
und der Politischen Parteien, Berlin

17:30 *The contribution of the European Parliament in the European architecture  
for the promotion and protection of human rights*  
Professor Stelios Perrakis, Panteion University, Athens

18:00 Discussion

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**Session IV:  
European Parliament and National Parliaments**

Chairmen:

Professors Ferdinand Mélin-Soucramanien and Georgios I. Kassimatis

09:00 *European Parliament and national parliaments: Legislative competition  
and conflict of sovereignty*  
Professor Anne-Marie Le Pourhiet, University of Rennes I

09:30 *The role and the powers of the European Union and national Parliaments  
in the integration dynamics*  
Professor Paola Bilancia, University of Milan

10:00 *The German experience*  
Professor Rudolf Streinz, University of Munich

10:30 Intervention  
Associate Professor Asterios Pliakos, Athens University of Economics and Business

10:45 Discussion

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 Closing session.  
Conclusions: Georgios P. Kasimatis, Director of the Office  
of the European Parliament in Greece