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Directorate-General for
Communication
Directorate for Media
Media Services Unit

MEDIA SEMINAR

Europe 60 years after the Rome Treaty: What does the future hold for the European Union?

European Parliament Press Service
in cooperation with the
Association of European Journalists

27 - 28 March 2017

Room P7C050, Paul-Henri Spaak Building, European Parliament

DRAFT PROGRAMME

The European Union is exploring new paths for the future in response to Brexit and other challenges. This seminar takes place just as plans for Europe's future are starting to emerge and negotiations with the UK are set to begin. The threats posed by disinformation and propaganda will also be discussed.

Monday 27th March

- 14:00 Arrival of participants and delivery of access badges (*'Event participants & Guests' Area*)
- 14:45 **Opening and welcome:** Yannis Darmis, Acting Director of Media, DG COMM, European Parliament
- 15:00 **The future of the EU (part 1) - torn between east and west, big and small, populists and reforms.**
Panel debate with MEPs: Josef Weidenholzer (S&D), György Schöpflin (EPP, Hungary), Rebecca Harms (Greens/EFA, Germany), Ryszard Czarnecki (EP Vice-President, ECR, Poland), *Sylvie Goulard (ALDE, France) tbc*, Eduard Kukan (EPP, Slovakia; former Slovak foreign minister)
- 17:00 **„Fake news“: The false, the partisan and the troll: Disinformation and Propaganda as new threats to media freedom**
Panel with AEJ members William Horsley (UK, former BBC), Irina Nedeva (Bulgarian National Radio), Eric Maurice (EU Observer, France), Daniela Vicenti (editor-in-chief, Euractiv), *MEP Marietje Schaake (ALDE, Netherlands) tbc*
- 18.30 **Q&A with MEP Manfred Weber, leader of EPP group, Germany**
- 19:15 **Q&A with MEP Ska Keller, leader of Greens/EFA group, Germany**

Tuesday 28th March

- 9:00 **EU vs Disinformation**
Giles Portman, European External Action Service, Head of Task Force to fight Russian propaganda
- 10:00 **BREXIT and its consequences**
Panel of MEPs from UK and other EU countries: Richard Corbett (S&D, UK), Alyn Smith (Greens, UK), *Ian Hudghton (SNP) tbc, UKIP MEP NN*
- 11:00 Break

11:15 **The future of the EU (part 2) Options presented by EC President Juncker**
Debate with Juan Fernando López Aguilar (S&D, Spain), Elmar Brok, (EPP, Germany) Marietje
Schaake (ALDE, Netherlands), Antonio Marinho y Pinto (ALDE, Portugal)

12:15 **Q&A with Guy Verhofstadt, leader of ALDE Group** (tbc)

13:00 **Address by Antonio Tajani, President of European Parliament** (tbc)

Lunch

End of seminar