



European Student Convention

15.2. - 19.2.2009, Prague, Czech Republic

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The Biggest Regular Students' Meeting Is Heading to Prague

Student Chamber of the Council of HEIs (SK RVŠ) is organizing the 17th European Student Convention (ESC) which takes place at the Czech Technical University in Prague from Sunday February 15th till Thursday February 19th, 2009. The Convention is the biggest regular meeting of representatives of European Students' Union (ESU) member organizations. ESC 17 has been awarded Czech European Presidency label and takes place under the auspices of Ondřej Liška, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic, Pavel Bém, Mayor of Prague, and Professor Václav Havlíček, Rector of the Czech Technical University in Prague.

The official title of ESC 17 is "Student Empowerment through Participation at National, Continental and Global Level". At panel discussions and workshops about 120 students' representatives from all around Europe will participate and discuss topics like Bologna process and students' political participation including the problem of students taking part in governing and developing higher education. Conclusions of the convention will be presented to the Council of Ministers of Education of the European Union.

Official opening of the convention takes place on Sunday February 15th at 2.30 pm. Ondřej Liška, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic, Ligia Deca, Chairperson of European Students' Union, Ján Říha, President of Student Chamber of the Council of HEIs and Václav Havlíček, Rector of the Czech Technical University in Prague will be present.

Press conference takes place on Tuesday February 17th at 2.00 pm in Press Centre of City of Prague in the Municipal House, Mariánské náměstí 2.

Press conference speakers are:

- **Henrik Toft Jensen** – former Chairperson of European University Association, Associate Professor at University of Roskilde
- **Jaroslav Kuba** – Vice-rector for Student Affairs of CTU
- **Ligia Deca** – Chairperson of European Students' Union



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- **Ján Říha** – President of SK RVŠ
- **Frances Aldson** – Information and Communications Officer of European Students' Union

The main speakers at the conference will be Nicolás Richards, Senior Coordinator for Education International's Solidarity and Development Unit; Henrik Toft Jensen, Associate Professor at University of Roskilde and Martin Bojar, President of the Academic Council of the 1st Medical Faculty of the Charles University in Prague during the Prague Spring 1968, former minister of Health, Head Physician of the Neurological Clinic of the Faculty Hospital in Praha–Motol.

Programme of the Convention includes also several social events - classical music concert, Bethlehem Chapel in the Old Town, reception at the Mayor's Residence and "Nations Farewell Party" in Masaryk Dormitory Club.

Accreditation of media representatives at <http://www.esc17.cz/media.php>.

Official language of the conference is English.

Press servis:

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About ESC:

ESC takes part twice a year in the country which holds presidency of the Council of the European Union (CEU). Since Austrian European Presidency in 2006 ESC has always been awarded the label of European Presidency and/or has been the part of the official programme of the presidency. It is a conference where representatives of ESU member organizations are searching for answers for current questions of higher education and question of the role of students within higher education and in society in general. Beside students' representatives also experts from prominent international organizations are taking part in discussions.



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