

PASOS (Policy Association for an Open Society) would like to invite you to:



**A PASOS international conference,
09:00 – 19:00, Thursday 10 December 2009
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Černínský palác, Loretánské náměstí 5, 118 00 Prague, Czech Republic**

The conference is being held to mark International Human Rights Day and will bring together young civic leaders from Visegrad countries and Russia and representatives of EU governments and institutions to reflect on 20 years of democratic renewal in the year that marks the 20th anniversary of the fall of communism in Europe.

The conference is held in association with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic, and with the support of the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union, and of the International Visegrad Fund.



Panels of experts will discuss a survey of public attitudes towards Visegrad governments' support for democratisation in third countries, especially the attitudes of the younger generation.

Additional studies from the project, to be presented at the Prague conference and subsequently, include: **Prospects for, and potential impact of, a new EU policy framework for democracy building in EU external relations** and a policy brief on the **Implications of the Ratification of the Lisbon Treaty for European Democracy Support** (focusing in particular on the development of the EU diplomatic service, or External Action Service).

The programme will include a screening of the documentary **The Power of the Powerless** directed by Cory Taylor, USA 2009), followed by an informal discussion among former dissidents and leaders of the Velvet Revolution - including Monika MacDonagh Pajerová, Czech student leader in 1989, and Robert Latypov from the Russian Center for Human Rights Memorial – this year's Sakharov Prize Laureate (*location to be confirmed*).

The conference is being held in association with DEMAS – Association for Democracy Assistance and Human Rights, and with PASOS members: Center for Policy Studies at the Central European University, Hungary, Institute of Public Affairs (ISP), Poland, and the Institute for Public Affairs (IVO), Slovak Republic.



Please confirm your participation by sending an email to Eva Rybkova (eva.rybkova@pasos.org)

PASOS promotes and protects open society values, including democracy, the rule of law, good governance, respect for and protection of human rights, and economic and social development, by supporting entities that individually and jointly foster public participation in public policy issues at the European Union level, in other European structures, and in the wider neighbourhood of Europe and Central Asia.

Chair: George Tarkhan-Mouravi **Executive Director:** Jeff Lovitt

PASOS is a not-for-profit association registered in the Czech Republic