



The notion of Europe is associated with a vast range of intellectual, cultural, and political possibilities. Research on Europe tends to invoke biases and a high degree of ideological reductionism that undermines efforts to pursue nuanced and productive forms of reflection.

The congress organisers ask whether there is a way of approaching the essence of the European character without reducing the discussion to essentialism. Is there a way of navigating the mazes that separate questions from answers when we think about Europe?

The aim of the international congress, **Ideas of / for Europe** is precisely to map a better and deeper understanding of Europe, without relinquishing reasoned discourse and ethical dialogue.

The congress will address the double meaning of its title, bearing in mind that the object of reflection intersects with multiple fields of theoretical representation.

The congress will take place in Chemnitz, 6-9 May 2009, under the patronage of the President of the European Commission, Mr José Manuel Barroso.

Mr Barroso will be honoured with the doctorate degree *Honoris Causa* of the Chemnitz University of Technology and will address the audience with a lecture on a topic related to the future of Europe.

- Luís Machado de Abreu (University of Aveiro)
- Onésimo T. Almeida (Brown University)
- Zygmunt Bauman (University of Leeds)
- Ingrid Baumgärtner (University of Kassel)
- Erhard Busek (Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe)
- José Antonio Ferrer Benimeli (University of Zaragoza)
- Bodo Freund (Humboldt University of Berlin)
- Milan Gjurcinov (International Committee of Slavists)
- Michael Harbsmeier (Roskilde University)
- Halina Janaszek-Ivaničková (Commission for Iberian-Slavonic Comparative Research at the International Committee of Slavists, Poland)
- Luís Lobo-Fernandes (University of Minho)
- Günther Lottes (University of Potsdam)
- Eduardo Lourenço (University of Nice)
- Andrei Marga (Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, the Rector)
- António Nóvoa (University of Lisbon, the Rector)
- Guilherme d'Oliveira Martins (Centro Nacional de Cultura)
- Mary del Priore (University Salgado de Oliveira, Rio de Janeiro)
- János Riesz (University of Bayreuth)
- Jean-Frédéric Schaub (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales)
- Helmut Siepmann (RWTH Aachen University)
- Bernhard Taureck (University of Braunschweig)
- Janusz Tazbir (Polish Academy of Science)
- Steven Tötösy de Zepetnek (National Sun Yat-sen University / University of Halle-Wittenberg)
- Frieder O. Wolf (Freie Universität Berlin)

- Centre for Philosophy, University of Lisbon, Portugal
- Centre Jean Monnet, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
- Centre for Humanistic Studies, University of Minho, Portugal
- Department of History, Federal University Santa Catarina, Brazil
- École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France
- European Research Institute, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- European Studies Institute at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Moscow, Russian Federation
- Faculty of Humanities, University of Alcalá de Henares, Spain
- Lehrstuhl Kulturgeschichte der Neuzeit / Aufklärungsforschung, University of Potsdam, Germany
- Institute of European Studies, Budapest, Hungary
- Institute of European Studies and International Relations, Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence, Bratislava, Slovakia
- Commission for Iberian-Slavonic Comparative Research at the International Committee of Slavists, Macedonia
- Spanish Society for Iberian-Slavonic Studies, Spain
- The Institute for European Studies at International University Audentes, Tallinn, Estonia
- The School of High Comparative European Studies, University of the West Timisoara, Romania

Organising Institutions



- Chemnitz University of Technology
- Institute for European Studies,
Chemnitz University of Technology
- CLEPUL – Centre for Literatures in Portuguese of the
Lisbon Universities
- CompaRes – International Society for Iberian-Slavonic Studies
- European Institute for Cultural Sciences Pe Manuel Antunes