



PRESS RELEASE

Sustainability - Future European Challenges: A series of lectures and debates organized by the Toyota Chair of the College of Europe, Bruges and the European Policy Centre

Limits to privatisation

Wednesday, 13 July 2005, 4 pm

Residence Palace (Polak Room)
155 Rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels

Globalization has become a mega-trend, with liberalization and privatization at the heart of it. All over the world, governments have been privatizing services in a growing number of sectors - not just industrial utilities such as energy, water and transport, but also health, education, media, pensions, even prisons and defence.

Have private funds and management produced greater efficiency, better economic performance and higher levels of service, or has the growing strength of the private sector eroded public goods such as health, environmental sustainability and democratic accountability?

"Limits to Privatization" is a thorough audit of privatizations from around the world. It outlines the historical emergence of globalization and liberalization, and from analyses of over 50 case studies, it provides guidance for policy and action that will restore and maintain the right balance between the powers and responsibilities of the state, the private sector and the increasingly important role of civil society.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

16h00 Registration and welcome coffee

16h15 Welcome and introduction by **Raimund Bleischwitz**, Toyota Chair for Industry and Sustainability, College of Europe, Bruges

16h20 Presentation by Professor **Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker**, Chairman Environmental Committee German Bundestag, of his report for the Club of Rome:

Limits to privatisation

16h50 Responses by **Phillippe Herzog (Confrontation)**, **Tony Long (WWF)** and **Nick Clegg (MP)** followed by an open debate, moderated by **Hans Martens**, Chief Executive, EPC

17h50 Concluding remarks by **Raimund Bleischwitz**

18h00 Drinks will be served

For more information on the College of Europe, see: www.coleurop.be.

Bruges, 14 June 2005