



20th Annual Czech and Slovak Studies Workshop March 19-21, 2020



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Evolution and Dilemmas of Transatlantic Relations Since 1989

Pavol Demeš, Senior Fellow, The German Marshall Fund of the United States

Friday, March 20, 2020

4 p.m.

4130 Posvar Hall



Pavol Demeš is a well-known Slovak expert on international relations and civil society, an author, and a photographer. Prior to the Velvet Revolution, Demeš was a bio-medical researcher at Comenius University in Bratislava. He is a graduate of Charles University in Prague. After democratic changes in 1989, he served in the Slovak government and was the co-founder of the Slovak Academic Information Agency-Service Center for the Third Sector, a leading NGO in the country. Appointed first to the Ministry of Education, he was later named Minister of International Relations (1991-1992) and served subsequently as the Foreign Policy Adviser to the President of the Slovak Republic Michal Kováč (1993-1997). In 1999, he was awarded a six-month public policy research fellowship at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington D.C. From 2000-2010, he was the Director for

Central and Eastern Europe for the German Marshall Fund of the United States based in Bratislava. Currently, he is a non-resident senior fellow with GMF US and an external adviser to the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has his own program on international relations and diplomacy on an internet TV of the Slovak Press Agency. He published several books and numerous articles.

Demeš has served on boards of domestic and international non-profit organizations, among others: the European Foundation Center, the European Cultural Foundation, the European Council on Foreign Relations and the European Endowment for Democracy. He played an important role in EU's civil society development program in Slovakia and democratization efforts in the Balkans and Eastern Partnership countries.

Selected Awards:

The EU-US Democracy and Civil Society Award (1998), the USAID Democracy and Governance Award (1999), a public policy research fellowship at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington D.C. (1999), Knight of the Order of Orange-Nassau (2005), Yugoslav Star of First Class (2005), South East Europe Media Organization Human Rights Award (2009), and Medal of Honor from the Friends of Slovakia (2011).

CO-HOSTS:

Czechoslovak Studies Association
Slovak Studies Association