

Foundation Institute for Eastern Studies, Warsaw

## **XIX Economic Forum**



Krynica-Zdrój, Poland

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## **The European Elections of 2009**

### **- Is European Democracy Possible?**

**Two interpretations are possible of this year's European Elections.**

**The first is that the whole concept of European democracy is illusory and flawed. The European Elections are, at best, surrogate of national elections.**

**The other analysis is that the European Elections of 2009 prove the need for changes in the conduct of the European Elections and that with such changes the European Elections can become an important building block of democracy in the European Union.**

**The panel will consider and attempt to adjudicate between these two point of views.**

#### **Moderator:**

**Brendan Donnelly**, Director, Federal Trust, United Kingdom

#### **Speakers:**

**Ignacio Molina**, Senior Analyst, Elcano Royal Institute of International and Strategic Studies, Spain

**Grzegorz Napieralski**, Chairman, Democratic Left Alliance, Poland

**Jiri Pehe**, Director, New York University, Prague, Czech Republic

**Iveta Radicova**, Vice-Chairwoman, Slovak Democratic and Christian Union – Democratic Party, Slovakia

**Klaus-Heinrich Standke**, President, Committee for the French-German-Polish Cooperation ('Weimar Triangle'), Germany