



## Speakers & Contributors

### **Eight European Conference on Information and Communication Technologies**

*"At the cross point of EGovernment & eDemocracy  
How ICT in the parliamentary environment is setting standards in participation and usage"*

Czech Senate, Prague, 15- 16.03.2005



#### **Mr. Premysl Sobotka**

President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

Premysl Sobotka graduated from 1st Medical Faculty of the Charles University in Prague in 1968. He was working as a doctor in a hospital in Liberec. He is Member of the Czech Senate since 1996. Later he was elected as Vice-President of the Senate. Since 2002 he is the President of the Senate.

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#### *Contribution*

- Opening Speech



#### **Mr. Jiri Oberfalzer**

Chairman of the Standing Senate Commission on Media

Jiri Oberfalzer is Member of the Czech Senate since 2004. He is Chairman of the Standing Senate Commission on Media, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on EU Affairs, Member of the Committee on Mandate and Parliamentary Privilege, Member of the Committee on Agenda and Procedure, and Member of the Civic Democratic Party Caucus. He was Director of Press Department of the Office of the President of the Republic Vaclav Havel (1990 – 1993).

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#### *Contribution*

- Welcome Address  
- eDemocracy in the perspective of the eCzech Strategy 2006



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### Eight European Conference on Information and Communication Technologies

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**Mrs. Monica Green**  
Member of the Swedish Riksdag

Monica Green is Member of the Swedish Parliament since 1994. She is Member of the Committee on Transports and Communications, Deputy Member of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment and Member of the Swedish delegation in the Nordic Council. She is also Member of the Swedish National Rural Development Agency, Vice President of the National Post and Telecom Agency and Member of the Executive Board of the County Administration of Västra Götaland. She is the spokesperson for the Social Democratic parliamentary group in ICT questions.

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*Contribution*

- Summary of the 7th EPRI conference in Stockholm
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**Mr. Richard Allan**  
Head of Government Affairs, UK and Ireland, CISCO Systems

Richard Allan is Head of Government Affairs for Cisco Systems in the UK and Ireland and has held this post since September 2005. He is responsible for a wide range of policy and regulatory issues within the UK and Ireland, as well as being part of the wider Cisco EU team working with the European Commission and Parliament. Immediately prior to joining Cisco Systems, Richard was an academic visitor at the Oxford Internet Institute with whom he continues to work.

Between 1997 and 2005, Richard was a member of the House of Commons representing Sheffield Hallam constituency. He was first elected in May 1997, held his seat with an increased majority in the election of June 2001 and announced in 2003 his intention not to contest the seat again. He ran the successful campaign for his successor, Nick Clegg MP, during the May 2005 General Election. During his time in Parliament Richard specialised in information technology issues. He was a leading spokesman on legislation including the Data Protection Act, Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act and Communications Act. He chaired the House of Commons Information Select Committee from 1997 to 2001. And he was a member of several other Select Committees including a spell on the senior Public Accounts Committee from 2003 to 2005.

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*Contribution*

- Keynote 1 – Assessing the effectiveness of eDemocracy applications



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### Eight European Conference on Information and Communication Technologies

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**Mr. Olav Aarna**

Chairman of the Cultural Affairs Committee, Estonian Parliament

Born in 1942 in Tallinn, Estonia. Graduated from Tallinn Technical University (TTU) with MSc degree in electrical and systems engineering in 1966, PhD in chemical engineering from TTU in 1971, DSc in systems engineering from Kharkov Institute of Radio Engineering in 1986.

Most of his professional life (1966-2000) he has been employed by TTU as lecturer, associate professor, professor, and rector (1991-2000). Rector of Estonian Business School (2000-2003). Member of Riigikogu (Estonian Parliament) since March 2003, from the same time – chairman of the Committee for Cultural Affairs, dealing with education, research, sport, youth affairs, and culture.

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*Contribution*

- Presentation- eDemocracy Development and implementation in the New Member States in line with the Lisbon Strategy, The Estonian Case
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**Mr. Jeremy Millard**

Head of E-Government Programme, Danish Technological Institute, Denmark

Jeremy Millard is Senior Consultant with the Danish Technological Institute, and has more than 30 years experience working with new technology, education and training, across Europe, as well as in Asia and Africa. He has worked on all aspects of the Information Society, often taking the leading and management role, and is presently focusing on eGovernment, eDemocracy and community/regional development issues.

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*Contribution*

- Keynote 2 – Transforming Services in eDemocracy and eGovernment – Similarities & Varieties - eGovernance and eDemocracy: understanding the present and creating the future



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**Dr. h. c. Susanne Kastner**

Vice President German Bundestag

Since 1989 Mrs. Susanne Kastner is a Member of the German Bundestag. She holds an honorary doctorate from the Aurel- Vlaicu- University in Arad, Romania. Since 2002 she is the Vice President of the German Bundestag. Besides this she is Chairwoman of the Commission of the Council of Elders on the use of new information and communication technologies and media.

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*Contribution*

- Keynote 3 – The Parliament as focal point of societal discussion and problem solution
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**Mr. Marco Langhof**

Project Manager EPRI

Mr. Langhof is the Project Manager of EPRI knowledge a European Project funded by the European Commission. He has a degree in electrical engineering from the Technical University in Dresden. His professional experience is focused on development of information and communication applications and services. For many years he was involved in major projects of such as EPRI-Watch and EPRI Com. Mr. Langhof has long experiences with ICT projects for the public administration. His track record includes a number of patents and publications on information technology issues.

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*Contribution*

- Presentation – EPRI – Development of a political Framework for eDemocracy Initiatives



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### Eight European Conference on Information and Communication Technologies

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**Mr. Klemens Gutmann**

Chairman of the Committee of Telecommunications and New Services of the German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK) in Berlin

Mr. Gutmann is co-founder and managing director of regiocom GmbH, an IT services company to the energy sector with 400 employees, located in northern and eastern Germany. Mr. Gutmann (born 1964) studied computer science, and started his career in 1987 at Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, Germany's applied science organisation. Between 1990 and 2002 he founded and managed several telecommunications companies. He continues to be active in the Telco world as national chairman of the Committee of Telecommunications and New Services of the German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK) in Berlin.

*Contribution*

- Moderator Panel discussion "How ICT in the parliamentary environment is setting standards in participation and usage"
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#### Panellists



**Mr. Mikko Alatalo**

(Committee for the Future, Finish Parliament)



**Mr. Martijn van Dam**

(Chairman on the Committee on ICT, Dutch Parliament)



**Mr. Richard Allan**

(Head of Government Affairs, UK and Ireland, Cisco Systems)