



PRESIDENT IDEAS ACTION ON EUROPE'S CENTRE-RIGHT

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The EPP-ED Group organises in Berlin (9/11 September 2004) the 3rd European Ideas Network (EIN)' s Summer University and 1st European Ideas Fair

The European Ideas Network is the open pan-European think tank established by the centre-right EPP-ED Group in the European Parliament. The network brings together politicians, academics, journalists, businessmen, policy advisers and outside experts, to discuss some of the major issues facing policy-makers in Europe today.

300 invitees will be meeting in Berlin to exchange ideas and develop new policy thinking. The first part (9/10 September) will be a Summer university - following a format pioneered at Oxford in 2002 and El Escorial in 2003 - with detailed, off-the-record policy discussion in a series of working groups and plenary sessions, where active debate and free exchange of views are the order of the day. Our guests of honour will be Angela Merkel, Jos -Maria Aznar, Jacques Barrot, Wolfgang Sch uble, Edouard Balladur, Kenneth Clarke and Rockwell Schnabel.

The Summer university will be followed by a new public forum (10/11 September) called the European Ideas Fair. This will showcase speeches by leading political and intellectual figures from around the world - among speakers are Carl Bildt, former Prime Minister of Sweden, Professor Francis Fukuyama of Johns Hopkins University, author of 'The End of History', and the noted science-fiction writer Bruce Sterling- - on the theme of "the World in 2020". The Fair will also offer a chance for centre-right think tanks and foundations to present their research on current issues.

This year's EIN events come at a particularly interesting moment in European politics, soon after the new European Parliament meets but before it holds its hearings for the incoming European Commissioners. The EPP-ED Berlin's event will help shape the policy debate for the next five years of European Union politics.

EIN's Website: <http://epp-ed.europarl.eu.int/ein>