

# Media Advisory

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### 47 member States

Albania  
Andorra  
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Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Belgium  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Georgia  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Malta  
Moldova  
Monaco  
Montenegro  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Russia  
San Marino  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
"The former Yugoslav  
Republic of  
Macedonia"  
Turkey  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom

Strasbourg, 19.06.2009

## 4<sup>th</sup> Summer University for Democracy: "Global challenges to democracy"

**Date:** 6 – 10 July 2009

**Organised** by the Council of Europe with the support of the European Union, the French Government and the local authorities of Alsace and Strasbourg.

### Description:

Over 600 political leaders, civil society activists, journalists and business leaders from 16 European countries will meet in Strasbourg to discuss the impact of contemporary challenges to democratic values, human rights and the rule of law, as promoted by the Council of Europe since its creation in 1949.

The Summer University is the annual highlight of the Council of Europe's 16 [schools of political studies](#) which aim to train the next generation of political, economic, social and cultural leaders in transition countries.

### Speakers :

- Council of Europe Secretary General Terry Davis will open the Summer University on Monday 6 July at 9:30 a.m. and Slovenian President Danilo Türk is expected to give an opening lecture.
- Strasbourg Mayor Roland Ries, Parliamentary Assembly President (PACE) Lluís Maria de Puig, President of the European Association of the Schools of Political Studies Catherine Lalumière and Michel Rocard, former French prime Minister, are among the opening speakers.
- Lilian Thuram, President of the Lilian Thuram Foundation-Education against Racism, will participate in the closing session on Friday 10 July at which a final declaration is due to be adopted.

### Practical information:

- A **press briefing** will be given by Jean-Louis Laurens, Council of Europe Director General of Democracy and Political Affairs, and Nawel Rafik-Elmrini, Deputy Mayor of Strasbourg, **on Monday 22 June at 6 p.m. (Room 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Palais de l'Europe).**
- The plenary sessions and thematic conferences are **open to the press**, as opposed to the workshops and meetings in the ECHR.
- The **opening and closing sessions** of the Summer University **will be webcast live** at [www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)

**Special file:** [The Schools of political studies](#)

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A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.