



International Centre for Democratic Transition



*Promoting
Democratic Transition
Worldwide
in 2008*

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends of Democracy and the ICDT,

Democracy is a complicated process. Establishing democracy is, too. Helping to establish democracy means both understanding it and being able to promote it. This has been the goal of the International Centre for Democratic Transition for the past two and a half years.

We are very proud that, despite being a young organization, we have earned the recognition and respect of many partners, including both the Governments and the civil societies of countries in transition. This is extremely important for us, since we firmly believe that democracy can only be homegrown. Those who have gone through a democratic transition understand perfectly that attempts to superimpose even the most successful of outside solutions without the necessary local adaptation can only lead to failure. This is the real challenge for us: finding out what is needed, advising our partners without imposing someone else's solution, offering our own experience without trying to copy it exactly, and finding, together with our partners, what's best for them, and what's best for democracy throughout the world.

We would never be able to reach our goals without the support we receive from multiple sources, including, first and foremost from our Board. Several members of our Board have also been advising and supporting our activities over the past year, which has been an invaluable contribution to success. Equally, partner Governments and their representatives in the Governmental

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Advisory Board have also been a tremendous help in our work. We are also very grateful to the dozens and dozens of experts who became involved and provided us with the expertise needed. Last, but not least, I would like to thank our devoted and able staff, mostly young people, who understand how important it is also for their generation, though they have not experienced what life was like under a dictatorship, to help others to achieve the same democratic goals: to ensure that their children can also grow up without knowing what starvation or dictatorship means.

I cannot finish this short letter without mentioning a great loss the world and ICDT have suffered during this last year: we still mourn the loss of Professor Geremek, one of the last real heroes of transition and democracy. We will never be able to replace him, nor should we even try. Some people are simply irreplaceable. He was definitely one of the few.



Amb. Prof. Dr. István Gyarmati,
President and CEO of the ICDT

MISSION STATEMENT

Because the International Centre for Democratic Transition was founded in Central Europe, we are acutely aware of the complexity of democratic transition as a process. We ourselves have recently undergone this process and know full well the fragility of new democracies. We firmly believe that a transition can only be judged to be successful when the benefits of democracy are shared by the whole of society. The ICDT's mission is to facilitate the smooth and peaceful process of democratic transition on the basis of participatory principles; the political, economic, legal, cultural, and civil societal aspects of transformation; and the socio-cultural context of regions and countries where the process takes place.

VISION

In a future filled with daunting challenges and serious obstacles that could impede the spread of democracy, the International Center for Democratic Transition will be a leading authority on the difficult issue of democratic transition. Combining hard-won exceptional practical knowledge with an unyielding commitment to the process of transition, the ICDT will stand at the side of those who seek to bring democracy's benefits to their own people and to provide the skills and tools to do so effectively.

ABOUT THE ICDT

The ICDT is a non-profit organization based in Budapest, Hungary which collects the experiences of recent democratic transitions and shares them with those who are determined to follow that same path. Instead of promoting democracy in general, the ICDT sets more concrete and pragmatic goals. The Centre strives to show how dozens of young democracies have made and are making the transition, so that those who set off on this difficult journey from dictatorship to democracy in the future may learn from the successes as well as from the failures.



HISTORY

The idea of establishing an institute to collect and share the experiences of past democratic transitions originated with former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary Mark Palmer when he was serving as Vice President of the Council for a Community of Democracies (CCD) in 2004. His proposal was followed by a meeting between the Hungarian Foreign Minister Laszlo Kovacs and the U.S. Secretary of State in June 2004. At a conference in Budapest in March 2005, civil society and governmental leaders from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, and the United States, as well as representatives of a number of international organizations gave a warm welcome to, and clear approval of, the ICDT's concept paper. Subsequently, this idea for a "clearing house" on democratic transitions was presented by the Hungarian Foreign Minister at the Third Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies in Santiago de Chile. Once again, the idea was well-received and endorsed by the participating Foreign Ministers representing more than 100 democratic governments of the world. Finally, in September 2005, the Hungarian President announced at the World Summit of the United Nations that "an International Centre for Democratic Transition (ICDT) has been set up in Budapest."



OPERATIONAL METHOD

The ICDT:

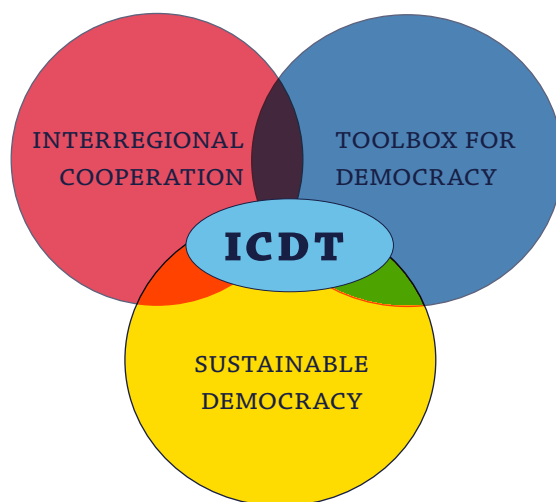
- Facilitates the process of democratic transition by using the knowledge pool of transitional experiences and by sharing experiences and best practices;
- Convenes the most important indigenous stakeholders to play key roles in the transition process;
- Provides an adaptable toolbox and appropriate models for the creation and consolidation of democratic institutions;
- Mediates between cultures and regions by generating dialogue.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2008

- Worked on the implementation of 20 distinct projects;
- Established a strong presence in the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe;
- Secured support from international organizations such as the UN Democracy Fund and the Council of Europe;
- Intensified relations with existing donors and earned the trust of new donors including the International Visegrad Fund, the Helen Bader Foundation, the German Marshall Fund of the United States, the Open Society Institute, NATO, the Council of Europe, the Central European Initiative, Hungarian Ministry of Culture, as well as the Governments of Austria, Estonia, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, and Sweden;
- Built new partnerships with a range of international NGOs, including the Foundation for the Future, the Partnership Centre for Development and Democracy, the Eurasia Foundation, the Centre for Middle-Eastern Strategic Studies, the Kawakibi Democracy Transition Center, and the Foundation Institute for Eastern Studies;
- Published the expert report and recommendations *Minorities in Transition in South, Eastern, and Central Europe*, the report of the Belarus Task Force *A European Alternative for Belarus*, as well as a book on *Democratic Change and Gender* prepared in the framework of 'Strengthening the Capacity of Belarusian Women's Movements and Organizations.'

PROGRAM AREAS

Promoting interregional cooperation between governments and civil societies of neighboring countries to enable democratic transition and to ensure regional stability.



Providing assistance and learning opportunities to new and fragile democracies, concentrating on particular and practical elements of democracy such as elections and freedom of speech.

Strengthening the involvement of marginalized groups such as minorities, women and other unprotected social groups in both the transition process and the functioning of democracy.

PROJECTS

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE BALKANS: OMBUDSMAN SERVICE REFORM IN KOSOVO AND MONTENEGRO

December 2006 to June 2008

Through the recommendations on the draft ombudsman law developed by the ICDT (and with the help of local experts) the effectiveness was significantly improved of both the "Ombudsman Institution" in Kosovo and the "Institution for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms" in Montenegro. During this project good working relationships were established between the staff of the Ombudsman Institutions and the leading figures of the different European institutions working for the emergence of human rights, notably the European Ombudsman. As a follow-up, the ICDT organized a conference on the "Functioning of Ombudsman in Fragile Democracies" and assembled the Ombudsmen of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia to discuss the common challenges of their work. The ombudsmen shared their experiences and elaborated a list of best practices that contribute to stabilizing democracy.

COMPENDIUM OF SUMMARIES OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRUCTURES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE FOR THE YEARS 2006 AND 2007

September 2008 – December 2008

Having closely monitored the implementation of the ICDT's former project, "Ombudsman Service Reform in Kosovo and Montenegro," the Council of Europe entrusted the ICDT with preparing the compendiums based on the yearly reports of 2006 and 2007 published by each member of the National Human Rights Structures (NHRS) of the Council of Europe. The project aims to strengthen the National Human Rights Structures and to help create a better overview of the work done by the different institutions.



CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF ALBANIA

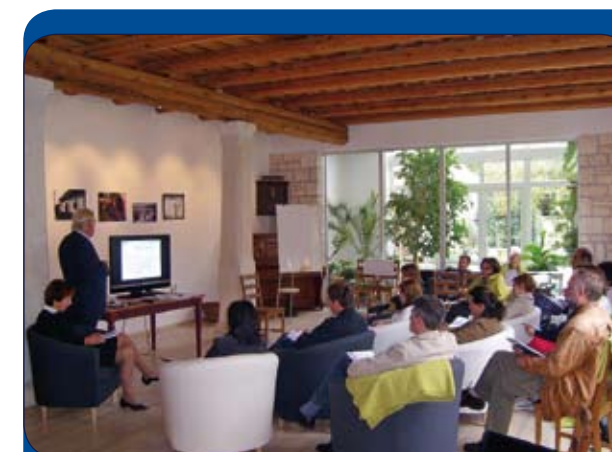
September 2008 to June 2009

This project is aimed to share the Hungarian experience in Albania and to provide advice and assistance to the Albanian Electoral Commission which is currently facing multiple difficulties in connection with the introduction of the new Albanian electoral code. To achieve these objectives Hungarian experts from the National Election Office will travel to Albania and Albanian experts will be invited to Hungary for intensive training sessions. The idea of the project emerged during the visit of the Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs Ms. Kinga Göncz to Tirana last year and was welcomed by the Albanian Government.

ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE LOCAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE SAP COUNTRIES BY INTRODUCING THE 'LEADER' EXPERIENCE

March 2008 to September 2008

In this project the ICDT transferred Hungarian experience and best practices associated with LEADER, a successful EU-wide scheme, to the countries in the EU's Stabilization and Association Process (SAP), commonly referred to as the "Western Balkans." LEADER (Links between Actions for the Development of the Rural Economy) is a European Community initiative for assisting rural communities in improving their quality of life. It is an innovative approach which addresses issues like participatory democracy, specific methods



of local governance, cross sector decision-making, a bottom-up approach, and stretching the definition of accountability – clearly strengthening local democracy in the process. First, the ICDT created “visibility” for the idea by bringing together national officials, civil society leaders, experts and other local stakeholders. The initial meeting was followed by a site visit in the local development area of the region surrounding a village near Budapest, where experiences of Hungarian rural development examples were presented. Second, to assure the biggest impact and ripple-effect possible, a “Training for Trainers” workshop was conducted in September 2008, again as follow-up. Upon conclusion of the training, an important milestone was reached when participants were assigned to work on a selection of micro-regions in their countries to serve as venue for the implementation of pilot projects based on the LEADER approach.

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF BELARUSIAN WOMEN’S MOVEMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS

October 2007 to July 2008

The Belarus Women’s Project transferred to Belarusian women first-hand experience gained in the building of women’s movements under authoritarian regimes throughout Central and Eastern Europe. The main objectives were to educate and train the participants in areas such as project management, communication, and fundraising, as well as to facilitate networking and enable them to better promote women’s rights. During project implementation the participants developed their own project proposals and the ICDT helped them to find funding opportunities. The ICDT also provided consulting and assistance in refining and improving the proposals. As a result, one participant will supervise the extension of the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) to Belarus. In 2010 the GMMP will survey for the first time how the media portray gender stereotypes and whether the genders are treated equally in Belarus. Two other project participants are set to receive funding for their initiative group aimed at local community building in an outlying district of Minsk. In addition, one Belarusian women’s organization will receive funding for a women’s rights conference to be held in Poland. An additional output of this project was the publication of the book ‘Democratic Change and Gender: The Foremother Exercise.’



BELARUS TASK FORCE

October 2007 to March 2009

The Belarus Task Force is comprised of intellectuals, political leaders, experts, and researchers (both from Belarus and outside) who are working together to analyze the current political situation in Belarus. The publication, *A European Alternative for Belarus - Report of the Belarus Task Force of the ICDT*, is the initial outcome of the project and contains the Task Force members’ recommendations for action by the international community towards Belarus. The last phase of the project will be an information campaign in various capitals of Europe and the United States with the aim to raise awareness of the situation in Belarus, as well as to deliver the report to political leaders, opinion makers, and the general public.

DIPLOMACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE: TRAINING OF NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATS

June 2008

At the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, the ICDT implemented a one month-long professional training program for diplomats of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. The topics covered included: international relations, diplomacy, modern international routine, good governance, civil society, a history of Central Eastern Europe from the 1980s, and experiences and lessons learned.

STRENGTHENING RULE OF LAW INSTITUTIONS IN MOLDOVA: THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT AND THE OMBUDSMAN SERVICE

July 2008 to January 2009

The objective of this project is to help Moldova to reform two of the most important institutions of democracy: the Constitutional Court and the Ombudsman Service, so as to improve local and international visibility, accountability, and transparency. The ICDT believes that the reforms will improve the overall effectiveness of the two bodies, enabling them to assist citizens in the fight against maladministration; and strengthening the protection of the fundamental constitutional and human rights. In the first phase of the project, the ICDT will send an expert mission to Moldova to identify and engage the key stakeholders, to study the functioning of the existing institutions, and to analyze the current legal environment. Subsequently, Moldovan and international experts will create a new concept and framework for the two institutions. In the second phase of the project, the Constitutional Court and the Ombudsman Service will be restructured according to the findings and recommendations of the experts.

EVENTS

FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ICDT: 'THE CHANGING ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHANGING WORLD'

November 2007

The ICDT firmly believes that the empowerment of women, the advancement of women's rights, guaranteeing their equal access to political, economic, and other spheres of social life, should not be seen as merely a consequence of democratic transition, but as the foundation for the start and progress of the process of democratic transition itself. Therefore, the Centre dedicated its first Annual Conference to "The Changing Role of Women in The Changing World." After the inauguration of the event by the Speaker of the National Assembly of Hungary, Dr. Katalin Szili, internationally renowned and distinguished women leaders from around the world discussed how women's responsibility has changed in the last decade, in view of global issues. Case studies were shared on the roles women play in countries that are facing the challenges of political and socio-economic transition. Women leaders at the Conference included: the Chair of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Dr. Sima Samar; the Secretary-General of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, Ms. Pera Wells; and the President of the Hungarian Democratic Forum Ibolya Dávid, among others.

'MINORITIES IN AN EVER WIDER EUROPEAN UNION' CONFERENCE

February 2008

Minorities in the 'countries in transition' in Central and Eastern Europe are discriminated against and marginalized because of the lack of legal provisions to protect them adequately, speakers agreed at a European Policy Centre Dialogue, held in cooperation with the King Baudouin Foundation and the ICDT in February 2008 in Brussels, Belgium. In the introductory part, Fabrice de Kerchove, Project Manager of the King Baudouin Foundation, explained the main findings and recommendations of the expert report *Minorities in Transition in South, Central, and Eastern*



Europe prepared and published by the ICDT that provided the occasion for the event. The publication is the result of a research project on minorities in South, Central, and Eastern Europe, run by the ICDT with support from the King Baudouin Foundation, which aims to identify the role of minorities in transition processes as well as the policies, legal structures, and best practices to support minority rights in these diverse regions.

NATO ADVANCED TRAINING WORKSHOP

March 2008

In cooperation with NATO, the International Centre for Democratic Transition hosted a five-day training workshop in Sarajevo in March. The NATO Advanced Training Workshop provided 30 female security experts from the Western Balkans with information, knowledge, and expertise on terrorism and gender sensitivity. The discussion panels covered a wide array of topics such as Women in War, Armed Conflicts, and Post-Conflict Situations, The Role of NATO and the EU, and Terrorism and Threat Perceptions in the Western Balkans, as well as various case studies and best practices to raise awareness and mobilize local communities. At the

end of the workshop, policy recommendations were formulated in two subjects, namely: "The Issue of Security Sector Reform in the Western Balkan Countries" and "Gender Representation in the Media". These recommendations are aimed at increasing gender sensitivity within international as well as civil organizations, and among national policy- and decision-makers.

CUBA SOLIDARITY DAY

May 2008

On the occasion of the first global "Day of Solidarity with the Cuban People" on May 21, 2008, the ICDT expressed its solidarity with the quest for democracy in Cuba and so informed the public by organizing a press conference. Chair of the ICDT Foundation Council Dr. Iván Vitányi, and Co-Chair of the ICDT Foundation Council Dr. István Stumpf, called not only upon the Government of Cuba to release all political prisoners and to establish democratic institutions in the country, but also drew attention to the positive developments which had been achieved in Cuba since Raul

Castro assumed the presidency. Finally, they declared the Centre's readiness to support the process of providing information on the transition experience of the Central and Eastern European countries to those in Cuba who want it.



'UKRAINE IN FOCUS' SEMINAR

September 2008

In co-operation with the Open Ukraine Foundation and the Central European University, the The ICDT held a "Ukraine in Focus Seminar" in Budapest. Ukrainian and Hungarian politicians, experts, and diplomats analyzed the most important political and security challenges Ukraine is currently facing. In the first panel, reviewing Ukraine's perspectives regarding the European Union, speakers assessed the criteria system the EU applied to candidates in its former enlargements and applied those criteria to Ukraine's current political and economic situation. They also urged the EU to set a clear and definite criteria system for Ukraine's integration. In the second panel, dealing with the role of Ukraine in the wider European security architecture, conference participants reviewed how the divided political elite and public opinion impacted on Ukraine-NATO relations. All speakers agreed that, after the events of August 2008 in Georgia, a strategic partnership with Ukraine is even more important than ever before, and all welcomed the European Union's Eastern Europe Policy, recognizing Ukraine's key mediation role in European Union-Russian Federation relations.

GOALS FOR 2009

Extending Activities to Further Geographical Regions

WESTERN BALKANS AND EASTERN EUROPE

The ICDT plans to deepen and intensify its existing activities in 2009 based on the lessons it has already learned. The main new objective is to cover Moldova, Ukraine, and the Caucasus. The ICDT will establish its presence on the country level through on-going projects in Moldova, as well as on the interregional level, through the “Transferring the Experiences of the Visegrad Cooperation to the Western Balkans and the GUAM countries” project starting in the end of 2008 and continuing throughout 2009 and 2010.

THE BROADER MIDDLE EAST AND CENTRAL ASIA

In addition, the ICDT wants to extend to additional regions, principally, Central Asia and the Broader Middle East. In the Broader Middle East the ICDT plans to develop comprehensive programs for Iraq and Afghanistan. For that reason the Centre has already established important partnerships with local NGOs and relevant government organs. Regarding Central Asia, the ICDT’s staff made major study trips to the region, built a network of partnerships and submitted several project proposals for funding.

Based on this preparatory work, the objective for 2009 is to start preliminary projects in Central Asia by concentrating on civil society development and interregional cooperation.

Expanding Network of Partnerships

Throughout the past few years, the ICDT has built several partnerships with international organizations and NGOs. In addition to continuing these efforts, the ICDT plans to engage more local and grassroots organizations in its target countries in order to guarantee smooth project implementation, to build on their knowledge, and to enable the sustainability of project results after a project’s closing.

Reinforcing Research Capability and Activities

At the outset the ICDT positioned itself primarily as an “action tank,” as opposed to a “think tank,” meaning that so far it has concentrated more on practical action than on research. From 2009 onward, the Centre will intensify its research function in order to more thoroughly analyze the process of democratic transitions. In 2009, the continuation of the Oral History project and the “Measuring Civil Society” project will lead the way, but more thorough research projects are to follow.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE 2009

PROGRAM AREAS	CORE COMPETENCIES	GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS
Sustainable Democracy	Citizen Participation and Good Governance	Central Asia Lebanon Western Balkans
	Civil Society Development	Western Balkans Belarus Central Asia
	Protecting the Rights of Vulnerable Groups	Middle East Western Balkans Belarus Moldova
	Local Governance and Development	Western Balkans
Interregional Cooperation	Intergovernmental Cooperation	Western Balkans Eastern Europe
	Transnational Cooperation	
	Cross-border Cooperation	
Toolbox for Democracy	Sharing Experiences of Democratic Transitions in Central and Eastern Europe	Emerging Democracies
	Sharing Experience in European Integration Processes	Western Balkans Eastern Europe
	Ombudsman Institutions	Western Balkans Moldova
	Constitutional Courts	Western Balkans Moldova

FINANCIAL SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDING

During its three years of existence the ICDT has been successful in raising **EUR 2 523 202**. Approximately **47%** of this amount came from the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to help startup financing and selected projects. Our leading contributors include UNDEF, the Governments of the Netherlands, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, and Norway, the US Department of State, the Helen Bader Foundation, the German Marshall Fund, NATO, and the Central European Initiative.

2006 → EUR 553 785

2007 → EUR 1 110 417

2008 → EUR 859 000

PROJECT	BUDGET	DONOR
COMPENDIUM OF SUMMARIES OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRUCTURES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE FOR THE YEARS 2006 AND 2007	EUR 31 500	Council of Europe
SUPPORTING THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM REFORM IN ALBANIA	HUF 12 000 000	Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE LOCAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE SAP COUNTRIES BY INTRODUCING THE ‘LEADER’ EXPERIENCE	EUR 40 000	Central European Initiative
BELARUS TASK FORCE	EUR 160 000	Government of Norway
	USD 25 000	The German Marshall Fund of the United States
DIPLOMACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE: TRAINING OF NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATS	HUF 7 000 000	Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
STRENGTHENING RULE OF LAW INSTITUTIONS IN MOLDOVA: THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT AND THE OMBUDSMAN SERVICE	HUF 10 000 000	Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
TRAINING OF YOUNG MOLDOVAN POLITICIANS	HUF 5 000 000	Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY IN CENTRAL ASIA	EUR 10 000	Open Society Institute
KOSOVO MINORITY SELF-GOVERNANCE	EUR 10 000	Government of Italy
NATO ADVANCED TRAINING WORKSHOP	EUR 45 000	NATO

PERSONNEL

INTERNATIONAL BOARD

The International Board of Directors consists of prominent personalities from the areas of international politics, economics, the arts, and the sciences. Among other duties, this body approves the annual work plan and the strategy of the ICDDT and consults on the annual budget.

Chairperson

H.E. **Janusz Onyszkiewicz**, Vice-President of the European Parliament, former Minister of Defense, Poland

Members

H.E. **Madeleine Albright**, former Secretary of State, Chair, The Albright Group, USA

Mr. **Daniel Bader**, Director, Helen Bader Foundation, USA

H.E. **Donald Blinken**, former Ambassador of the United States of America to Budapest, USA

The Right Hon. **Kim Campbell**, former Prime Minister, Canada

Mr. **Gustavo A. Cisneros**, Chairperson and CEO of the Cisneros Group of Companies, Venezuela

Prof. **Emil Constantinescu**, former President of Romania 1996-2000

Mr. **Joel H. Cowan**, President of Habersham & Cowan, Inc, USA

H.E. **Jayantha Dhanapala**, former Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, Honorary President of the International Peace Bureau, Sri Lanka

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H.E. **György Habsburg**, Ambassador, Hungary

Mr. **Andrei Nikolayevich Illarionov**, former Economic Policy Advisor to the President of Russia, Director of the Institute of Economic Analysis in Moscow, Russia

H.E. President **Ricardo Lagos**, Former President of the Republic of Chile, Chile

Ms. **Sonja Licht**, President, Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence, Serbia

H.E. **János Martonyi**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hungary

Mr. **Markus Meckel**, last Minister of Foreign Affairs of the GDR, Deputy Foreign Policy Speaker of the SPD, Germany

Prof. Dr. **Anatoli Mikhailov**, President of EHU-International, Lithuania

H.E. **Mark Palmer**, former Ambassador of the United States of America to Hungary, USA

Mr. **Thomas S. Rooney**, Former CEO of Insituform Technologies, USA

Dr. **Sima Samar**, Chairperson, Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Afghanistan

H.E. **Narcís Serra**, former Vice-President of the Spanish Government, President of CIDOB Foundation, Spain

HRH Prince **el Hassan bin Talal**, President, Club of Rome, Jordan

Mr. **Borys Tarasyuk**, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ukraine

Mr. **Maximilian Teleki**, President, Hungarian-American Coalition, USA

H.E. **George Herbert Walker**, former Ambassador of the United States of America to Hungary, USA

Mr. **Sundeep Waslekar**, President, Strategic Foresight Group, India

H.E. **John C. Whitehead**, Former Deputy Secretary of State, USA

Honorary Members

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The Hon. Judge **Alexander Boraine**, formerly Truth and Reconciliation Commission, South Africa

H.E. **Nancy Brinker**, White House Chief of Protocol, former Ambassador of the United States of America to Budapest, USA

H.E. **Toomas Hendrik Ilves**, President, Estonia

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee consists of five internationally recognized figures from the scientific and public arenas, elected for a term of three years by the International Board based on the recommendations of the President of the Centre. This body prepares the decisions of the International Board.

Chairperson

Mrs. **Sonja Licht**, President and Founder of the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence

Members

Mr. **Iván Bába**, former State Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, Editor-at-Large, Budapest Analyses

Mr. **Daniel Bader**, Director, Helen Bader Foundation, USA

Mr. **Richard C. Rowson**, President, Council for a Community of Democracies

H.E. **András Simonyi**, former Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary to the United States of America

GOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

The members of the GAB represent their governments. This body serves as an organized form of communication with the democratic governments of the world. So far over 40 democracies have delegated a representative to the ICDDT's Governmental Advisory Board, which advises and appraises the work of the Centre and makes proposals for specific projects.

STAFF

Amb. Prof. Dr. **István Gyarmati**, President and Chief Executive Officer

Dr. **Tamás Magyarics**, Executive Vice President

Mr. **Sándor Köles**, Senior Vice President

Mr. **Gáspár Varkonyi**, Executive Director of the ICDDT's Foundation Council

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Mr. **Cesar D. Beltran**, Senior Adviser

Amb. **André Erdős**, Senior Adviser

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