

# Helsinki Citizens' Assembly

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## **PROGRAM OF THE HCA FOUNDING SESSION** **PRAGUE, OCTOBER 19-21, 1990**

### **Thursday, October 18**

9.00 - 24.00     **Registration of Participants** and distribution of accommodations. Registration will take place at the conference site, Obecní dům (Community Hall), and will continue on Friday morning at 8.00.

### **Friday, October 19**

10.00 - 12.00     **Opening Session - Part I:** (Smetana Hall)

1. Welcoming of participants by Martin Palouš.
2. Presentations from 4 guest speakers addressing the theme: "Possibilities, challenges and tasks for a peaceful and democratic Europe of the future". The speakers are: Roshan Dhunjiboy (journalist and film maker from Pakistan), Václav Havel (writer and President of the ČSFR), Oskar Lafontaine (Prime Minister of Saarland, FRG), Galina Starovojtova (Member of the Congress of People's Deputies, Soviet Union).
3. The HCA project: Historical background, leading ideas and goals.  
Presented by Mient Jan Faber (Netherlands).

12.00 - 14.00     Lunch

12.00 - 16.00     Women's meeting in Sladkovskeho Hall

14.00 - 16.00     **Opening session - Part II:** (Smetana Hall)

1. Introduction to the leading theme of the HCA: "Civil society as a vehicle for the democratic integration of Europe". The speakers are: Mary Kaldor (Great Britain), Tomáš Masínak (Yugoslavia), Jaroslav Šabata (ČSFR).
2. Brief presentation of the 5 subjects that should be discussed within the context of the leading theme:
  - Demilitarization and peace politics.
  - Economy and ecology.
  - Problems of nationalism and (con)federal structures.
  - Human rights, including the rights of minorities.
  - Civil society and the institutional process of European integration.Working groups have been formed to deal with each of these subjects. They will continue their work after the founding session.

6.00 - 16.30     Coffee break

16.30 - 18.30     **First working phase of the Commissions in the form of parallel plenary sessions.** These sessions should start with an introduction into the different aspects and problem areas of the respective themes. Afterwards, the working groups for the second working phase of the commissions will be presented.

18.30 - 20.00 Dinner

20.00- 22.30 **Round table debate on the theme: "The relationship between civil society, institutional politics and State power".** (Smetana Hall) The participants are: Stanislav Hejdanek (ČSFR), Jan Lityński (Poland), Ferenc Miszlivetz (Hungary), Edgar Morin (France), Jaroslav Šabata (ČSFR). Moderator: Mary Kaldor (Great Britain).

**Saturday, October 20**

9.00 - 12.00 **Second working phase of the Commissions in various working groups.**

12.00 - 14.00 Lunch

12.00 - 16.00 Women's meeting in the school gym on 36 Jindřišská street.

14.00 - 16.00 **Continuation of discussion in the working groups.**

16.00 - 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 - 19.00 **Third working phase of the Commissions: parallel plenary sessions.** With reports from the various working groups and, in conclusion, a discussion about conceptual proposals, strategies of action and political initiatives, as well as the future tasks of the respective Commissions.

19.00 - 20.30 Dinner

20.30 - 22.30 **Two parallel podium discussions.**

- a. **Addressing the theme: "Dialogue between Europe and the Middle East about conflict resolution and the fostering of peace, democracy and justice".**
- b. **Addressing the theme: "Kosovo, Northern Ireland and Transylvania as examples of national conflicts and the status of minorities in present day Europe".**

**Sunday, October 21**

**Closing session** (Smetana Hall)

1. **Summarized reports from the convenors about the work of the 5 Commissions: results in the form of new ideas and concepts, suggestions for joint activities and perspectives on future work.**
2. **Proposals about the HCA's future organizational structure and working process.**
3. **Upcoming tasks and projects of the HCA, presented by Mary Kaldor (Great Britain).**
4. **Speech by Moroccan author Abdellatif Laábi on the theme: "How to achieve a peaceful and democratic solution in the Middle East".**
5. **Speech by Jorge Semprún (writer and Spanish Minister of Culture).**
6. **Closing speech by Jaroslav Šabata (ČSFR).**