



Public Forum
The Hitler-Stalin Pact Today
Consequences and Accountability

**30 April 2005, Riga Graduate School of Law,
 Alberta iela 13, Riga, Latvia**

Organisers: Riga Graduate School of Law, Adenauer Foundation and the civic initiative *ELJA50*. The latter is a non-governmental association of professionals, formerly active in the Latvian community in the West and who now promote citizen democracy in Latvia.
 Chair of Organising Committee: Dr. Girts Zegners
 Chair of Programme Committee: Prof. Dr. Rasma Karklina

Aim of the Forum: In the context of the intense debate over the legacy of World War II, this public forum will discuss the legal aspects of the 1939 Secret Protocol between the Hitler and Stalin governments that led to the occupation of the Baltic States. What does this mean today: What are the legal and moral consequences for the heir of the USSR, the Russian Federation? How has the international community reacted to the Soviet occupation (legally, diplomatically, et al.) and what initiatives might develop in the future? What actions could be expected from the Baltic governments or civic groups? The forum is envisaged as a contribution to public debate and the core audience will consist of scholars, students, policy makers, the media and diplomatic representatives.

Programme

- 09.30 Registration of Participants, Coffee
- 10.00 Opening - organisers and Latvian Foreign Minister Artis Pabriks.
 Keynote address by Toomas H. Ilves, former Estonian Foreign Minister; Member of the European Parliament and Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
- 10.45 The Consequences of the 1940 Occupation of the Baltic states in International Law –
 RGSL lecturer Kristine Kruma
- 11.30 International Reaction to the Occupation of the Baltic States –
 Dr. William Hough III (Law firm Hough, Vilcins, Seppälä & Palubinskas)
- 13.00 Lithuania's Law on Compensation - Dr. Dainius Zalimas, Vilnius University
- 14.00 Round Table: The Baltic Quest for Accountability for the Soviet Occupation.
 Participants: speakers, Girts V. Kristovskis (Member of the European Parliament),
 Prof. Dr. Paulis Lazda (Univ. of Wisconsin, founder of the Museum of Occupation),
 Matthias Kelly QC (former Chairman of the Bar Council of England and Wales).
 Moderator: Prof. Dr. Rasma Karklina (Univ. of Illinois at Chicago)
- 16.00 Press Conference

Exhibition: There will be an exhibition of legal books and texts, journal articles and core documents related to the conference topic.