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SALZBURG SEMINAR

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SALZBURG SEMINAR 1998

SALZBURG SEMINAR - SCHLOSS LEOPOLDSKROHN SALZBURG - AUSTRIA

Founded in 1947 by three Harvard University students, the Salzburg Seminar was initially intended to promote dialogue among the young people of war-torn Europe and America. That first summer nearly 100 young intellectuals from Europe and the United States gathered for six weeks at Schloss Leopoldskrohn in Salzburg, Austria, to study American politics, economics, and culture. Since its inception, the Salzburg Seminar has evolved into a centre for intellectual exchange that commands the attention of leaders around the world.

The Seminar currently conducts eleven one-week core sessions and occasional special symposia, workshops, and conferences annually. Each is devoted to an issue of pressing social, political, economic, or cultural importance. Although the Salzburg Seminar has emerged as a global institution, drawing Fellows from every continent, it continues to offer several core sessions in American Studies every year, and has recently established the Center for the Study of American Culture and Language.

CORE SESSIONS:

A Salzburg Seminar core session generally brings together fifty-five to sixty mid-career professionals from around the world. These participants, known as Fellows, are selected on a competitive basis and are drawn from the public sector, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and academic and research institutions.

PROGRAMME:

The Coordinating Committee for Fellowships, chaired by Mr. **E. Landaburu**, Director General of Regional Policy and Cohesion, has selected six sessions offered in the 1998 programme as being of interest to the Commission for which applications are now invited. Candidates will be chosen by that same Committee.

The sessions are

1 SUSTAINABLE RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

February 7-14, 1998 (session 353)

Rural populations around the globe face enormous challenges as they strive to sustain the well-being of their communities. The foundation of any nation, rural communities need purposeful and deliberate social and economic investments in order to develop and survive in the face of problems such as out-migration, urban influences, poverty, limited educational and employment opportunities, poor social and physical infrastructure, weak political influence, and geographic isolation. Some communities have begun pursuing more inclusive development philosophies and approaches, which are based on mutual cooperation, and are focusing on projects and programmes conceived, organized, and implemented from within rather than from outside the community. Those with the most at stake - the people who live and work in rural communities - are coming forward with ideas, knowledge, and expertise.

Drawing on examples from Latin America, Africa, the United States, and Central and Eastern Europe, this session will seek to understand how vibrant and sustainable rural communities in these regions have learned to encourage and value greater participation by their citizens, including women and youth, while at the same time respecting different social, cultural, and economic perspectives, values, traditions, and aspirations.

2 THE CHALLENGES OF AN AGEING SOCIETY

June 17-24, 1998 (session 357)

The unprecedented increase in the number and proportion of older persons throughout the world is forcing societies to alter social policies and attitudes about ageing and longevity. The first in a three-year series dedicated to ageing populations, this session will examine many of the current challenges and opportunities ageing populations bring to bear on societies, as well as those that are foreseen for the coming century.

With an emphasis on transforming the fears and myths of a potential demographic catastrophe into the triumph of survivorship of an expanding older population, this session will explore how societies might afford the increasing numbers of older persons, given the great economic costs of social protection and healthcare. Discussions will address concerns about a growing stagnation of the economy, a general loss of societal vitality, and potential intergenerational conflicts, all consequent to an increase in the ageing population.

3 THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE INTERNET

July 7-14, 1998 (session 358)

The information revolution and the global expansion of the Internet have implications for humankind that are as dramatic and far-reaching as the industrial revolution of the nineteenth century. Both advancements have become essential to the growth of national and international economies, and to building democracies. The Internet also promises a new global dialogue and holds immense educational potential. Its impact on the world's youth will shape human development in the next century.

The purpose of this session is threefold to explore the history of the development of the Internet, to examine the current human, cultural, societal, and political impacts of the Internet, and to achieve a better understanding of ways in which the Internet will continue to change, enhance, and further the development of humankind. The session will bring together Internet specialists, sociologists, historians, policymakers, and educators, as well as experts on human behaviour and development. Participants will examine how the Internet will expand global communication and awareness, and the impact this expansion will have on peoples, nations, and cultures. The weaknesses and limitations of the Internet will also be addressed, as well as its interrelationship with the process of democratization.

4 HUMAN RIGHTS: AN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

August 1-8,1998 (session 359)

1998 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations General Assembly. In the fifty years following this landmark effort to establish a global structure of human rights protection, significant progress has been made in the codification of human rights within the framework of international law. Still, violations throughout the world remain a grim testament to the lack of a universal commitment to the fundamental protection of human rights, and point to the failure of many mechanisms intended to prevent such atrocities.

The second in a series devoted to international human rights law, this session will explore the various legal instruments and implementation mechanisms that have been, or perhaps should be, developed to ensure that all governments respect and protect the fundamental rights of their citizens. Following an overview of the history and evolution of human rights law, the session will focus on current human rights issues confronting both the international legal community and specific geopolitical regions. The increasingly important role of non-governmental legal organizations in the advocacy of human rights will also be explored to illustrate the effective prosecution of violations in a variety of legal and cultural settings.

5 EAST ASIAN SECURITY: THE ROLE AND IMPACT OF UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY

November 14-21,1998 (session 362)

The rapid economic growth in East Asia points to dramatic shifts in the balance of power among those involved in the region - Japan, Korea, China, Russia, and the United States - and potentially momentous consequences for political and security relationships around the world. The transition of power in China, the economic differences between North and South Korea, and the development of nuclearization in North Korea all have serious security implications both in the region and globally.

Rapid growth inevitably yields changes in societal organizations, government policies, political institutions, and national industrial structures. This session will explore the security implications these changes will have on East Asia, the United States, and the world. Discussions will focus on the influence of China's economic and political power on United States-Japanese and Sino-Japanese relations, Korean economic and political evolution, the robust growth of Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam, and the role of regional institutions, such as APEC and ASEAN. Emphasis will be on the impact of United States foreign policy, and the issue of whether the United States should continue to play a role in maintaining peace and stability in the region.

6 THE INTERNATIONAL IMPACT OF THE EUROPEAN MONETARY UNION

December 5-12, 1998 (session 363)

With the planned introduction of the European Monetary Union (EMU) on January 1, 1999, Europe will enter an era of unprecedented integration and cooperation. The establishment of a single currency for Europe - the euro - and the introduction of a common monetary and exchange rate policy for members of the monetary union will have profound implications not only for Europe internally, but for the international community as a whole.

This session will first explore the impact of the EMU on the continuing political and economic unification of Europe. Topics of discussion will include the social, cultural, and political ramifications of the euro, the establishment of the European Central Bank, and the implications of the EMU for the potential enlargement and consolidation of the European Union. The session will then turn its focus to the impact of the EMU outside Europe. Discussions will consider the effect the EMU will have on international financial markets and currency exchange mechanisms, the impact of the EMU on global business, trade, and investments trends, and ways in which political and economic relations among the United States, Asia, Latin America, Africa, and Europe may change as a result of the EMU.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS:

Applicants should have demonstrated a level of professional achievement and show significant promise in the field covered by the sessions for which they apply. The language of the Seminar is **English** and **an excellent command of spoken and written English** is a prerequisite for participation. Fellows are required to be present for the whole of the session in order to benefit fully from the experience.

When making its selection from the applications received, the Committee will give priority to officials

- whose profile, professional experience and/or level of responsibilities are commensurate with the topic of the session requested
- whose participation would be of special interest for the Institution, Directorate General or Service concerned

INFORMATION FOR THE DIRECTORATES GENERAL:

Directorates General must meet one-third of the registration fee and the whole of the transportation costs. The remaining two-thirds cost of the fee will be borne by DG IX (Training Unit, IX-A-2).

HOW TO APPLY:

Please use the form "**Application to attend a training course submitted by a Directorate General or Department**" which should be available from the official in your Directorate General or Service responsible for training.

This form, together with a CURRICULUM VITAE IN ENGLISH, covering in particular academic and professional experience, should be submitted to your Director General or his/her representative and transmitted after approval, to the

**Training Unit,
Attention of Mrs. L. FLAGIELLO
GU1M.10, 2/63 (FAX 60751).**

Closing date for the receipt of applications is 19 December 1997

After pre-selection, interviews by the **Coordination Committee** in the presence of the relevant Director of the Salzburg Seminar, will take place in the first half of January. Candidates who are chosen for a session will be given further information about their participation by the organisers of the Salzburg Seminar at a later date.