



# RALF DAHRENDORF **ROUNDTABLES**

## EUROPE WITHOUT WALLS. WHAT UNITES US TODAY? THE LIBERAL VIEW

Europe is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall. The "iron curtain" is no longer separating the continent. The younger generation is demanding that Europe delivers, responds to the challenges of today's world. It seems that freedom is being called into question. Is freedom the same fundamental value as it was at the time that the wall existed? What is the approach to keep Europe united and make it stronger and safeguard the values of liberal democracy?

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

**28 NOVEMBER | 10.00 AM**

**VRANA PALACE, SOFIA**

Welcome by: **Stanimir Ilchev**, MEP ALDE Group 2009 - 2014

Discussion with:

**Petr Pospíchal** | Journalist, Czechoslovak dissident, Czech Republic

**Felicita Medved** | President of the Board, NOVUM Institute, Slovenia

**Solomon Passy** | President, Atlantic Club of Bulgaria

**Roberto Ricciuti** | Director, PhD in Economics, University of Verona, Italy

**Rainer Adam** | Regional Director, FNF East and Southeast Europe

**Tsvetelina Panchelieva** | Researcher, Bulgarian Academy of Science

Concluding remarks by:

**HM Simeon II**, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria 2001-2005

Moderated by **Zinaida Zlatanova** | Liberal Institute for Political Analysis

Working language

**Bulgarian, English**



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## **ABOUT THE RALF DAHRENDORF ROUNDTABLES**

By connecting the roundtable series with the name of Lord Dahrendorf, ELF wishes to underline his achievements. In his many functions he championed liberal democracy and European integration. He consistently promoted the role of the EU as a guarantor of human rights and liberty. His wide experience combining science and politics provided an excellent background to his activity in the German Parliament for the liberal Free Democratic Party, as European Commissioner, as member of the British House of Lords and as Chairman of the Board of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (1982-1987).

During his four years in Brussels (1970 – 1974), Lord Dahrendorf was responsible for the European Community's Foreign Relations and Trade, and later for Research, Science and Education. He actively supported a stronger Europe. As Commissioner he was a sharp critic of European Union bureaucracy while he was passionately in favour of a European Parliament exercising greater power.