



Warsaw, 6 June 2008

To whom it may concern,

The Institute for Eastern Studies is one of the largest NGOs in Central Europe. Since 1991, we have been organizing various international events, the main of which is the Economic Forum held annually in Polish mountain resort of Krynica (to be spelled kri'nitza). The Krynica Economic Forum covers over 120 debates divided into 11 topic paths, as well as a wide range of analytical reports, with the aim of developing dialogue and cooperation among European Union countries and their neighbors and partners. It brings together participants from more than 60 countries – Europe, America and Asia, including EU Commissioners, heads of states and governments, MPs, businessmen, NGO representatives, experts, journalists. Further information is available on our website at www.forum-ekonomiczne.pl.

I came in touch with Mr Frédéric Plasson following the advice of Mr Jérôme Vaillant, Chief Editor of the „Allemagne d'Aujourd'hui“, French review devoted to German foreign policy. In fact, I was searching for speakers to take part in the roundtable on the Weimar Triangle organized within the 17th Krynica Economic Forum, and Mr Vaillant suggested I should invite Mr Plasson. The latter accepted my invitation to be member of the roundtable „The Future of the Weimar Triangle After the Elections in the Member States“. His co-panelists were : Marek Belka – Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, and Gunther Krichbaum – Chairman of Bundestag Committee on the European Affairs. The debate was chaired by Mr Klaus-Heinrich Standke – President of the Committee for the Support of German-French-Polish Cooperation.

Also, with the idea of promoting the European integration through institutional (the Weimar Triangle) and informal (the Krynica Economic Forum) cooperation platforms, he wrote a short review on the perception of the Weimar Triangle among participants of the Forum which was published in „Allemagne d'Aujourd'hui“.

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He is currently active as an informal consultant for our Institute, working on new concepts for the upcoming panel discussions in Krynica 2008 Forum. He is particularly interested in involving civil society activists in the key fields of the European integration.

Mr Plasson's basic knowledge of Polish gives yet another positive aspect to our cooperation.

Given all the above, I would like to recommend his energy and enthusiasm for each organisation or institution working on promotion of the European integration.

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