

 Pictures or images cannot be printed.

 **Print this**

Asia-Europe forum for journalists opens

The ninth annual Asia–Europe Press Forum began its three–day run yesterday.

This year's conference theme is "New Asia, New Europe." Organized by the JoongAng Ilbo and the Korea Press Foundation, the forum began with a banquet hosted by former Prime Minister Lee Hong–koo at the Shilla Hotel, with 22 senior journalists from 20 countries in Asia and Europe attending. Six more countries took part in the annual forum than last year.

The forum will discuss today the implications of Asia's growing influence in global affairs and the effects on the international order of the expansion of the European Union from 15 to 25 members.

Keynote speakers include William Pfaff, a contributing columnist for the International Herald Tribune; Kavi Chongkittavorn, the assistant group editor of Bangkok's The Nation newspaper. Mr. Pfaff will give the first keynote speech, titled "Asia's place in the world, in the light of strained U.S.–European relations." Mr. Chongkittavorn will give the second keynote address on "Making sense of the new Asia."

Adam Michnik, editor–in–chief of Gazeta Wyborcza and a well–known activist for Polish democratization, will also speak at today's second session.

Tomorrow, Lee Bu–young, chairman of the governing Uri Party, and Grand National Party leader Park Geun–hye are slated to participate in a roundtable discussion among Korean political leaders.

Except for discussions with Korean politicians, all sessions will be held in English without interpreters.

by Choi Jie–ho

2004.09.19 22:19