

## **Online seminar „Europe in 2022 - Is the crisis over or just beginning?“**

**20 December 2021 at 14.30 at Kai Art Center**

The year-end seminar traditionally takes stock of the current year in the European Union and looks ahead to the next year. What lies ahead in 2022? Are the major crises defining 2021 - COVID-19, energy prices, Belarus' hybrid attack – coming to an end, or will we see an even more difficult year 2022?

### **14.30 Opening**

Klen Jäärats, Director for European Union Affairs of the Government Office

### **14.35–14.45 Mission-based Science**

Based on Mariana Mazzucato's book „Mission Economy: A Moonshot Guide to Changing Capitalism“.

Marek Tamm, Professor of Cultural History, Tallinn University

### **14.45–15.00 Can the European Union's research and innovation policy take European competitiveness to a new level?**

Jean-Eric Paquet, Director-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

### **15.00-15.45 Will Europe emerge stronger from crises?**

Kaja Kallas, Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia

Kadri Simson, European Commissioner for Energy

What are the lessons of the COVID-19 crisis for Europe? What is the state of the European economy? Will the green transition bring the European economy out of the crisis stronger in the long term and how to turn it into a growth strategy for Estonia? What conclusions should we draw from the energy price crisis? Is it possible to avoid such price fluctuations in the future and how? The new German government has just taken office, the year begins with the French presidency, and the French presidential elections are ahead. What will 2022 bring to Europe and Estonia?

### **15.45-16.30 What will 2022 bring to the European economy and defence industry?**

Andres Sutt, Minister of Entrepreneurship and Information Technology (TBC)

Henrik Hololei, Director-General for Mobility and Transport, European Commission

Timo Pesonen, Director-General for Defence Industry and Space, European Commission

What is the state of the European economy - what have been the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on mobility and the transport sector, how is the tourism sector doing? How could the European Commission and national governments improve the situation?

What are the Commission's plans for developing a space policy that will help make the European economy more competitive?

One of the priorities of the French Presidency is the EU's strategic autonomy - what does that mean? What is the state of European Defence Cooperation launched during the Estonian Presidency? How can countries, including Estonia, benefit from this?

### **16.30 Closing remarks**

Keit Kasemets, Head of the European Commission Representation in Estonia

Vivian Loonela, Commission's Coordinating Spokesperson for the EU Green Deal, Head of the European Commission Representation from 16 January 2022.

The seminar will be moderated by journalist Erik Moora.