

## Politics – Europe's future and the contribution of faith communities, **Part 1**

This one-hour session was brought by Jorge **César das Neves**, presently the Advisor to the President of the European Commission on relations with churches, faith-based organisations and 'communities of conviction' (i.e., non-believers). Mr das Neves taught the students about **the official policy of the EU concerning religious/faith communities**, while providing an answer to the following questions: What is happening in and outside your department? How does secularism and openness to faith communities clash in the Commission and how do you handle that? Is there a particular advice you could offer to Christians and/or Christian organizations as to the most effective way of being active citizens in Europe and in EU politics, given your context?

*Mr das Neves officially represented the European Union.*