



INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE



## AGENDA

### SUPPORTING ECONOMIC REFORMS IN UKRAINE BY TRANSFERRING V4 EXPERIENCE

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOPS

10 – 11 DECEMBER 2015.

**Language:** English

#### 10 DECEMBER 2015. - PLENARY CONFERENCE

**Venue:** Pesti Vigadó

H – 1051 Budapest, Vigadó tér 2.

#### 9:00 – 9:10 Opening Remarks

**MÁRTON SCHÖBERL**, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

#### 9:10 – 9:40 KEYNOTE SPEECHES

**BEATA JACZEWSKA**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL VISEGRÁD FUND

**PETRA PANA**, DEPUTY STATE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS

**MYKHAILO YUNGER**, CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES, EMBASSY OF UKRAINE, HUNGARY

#### 9:40 – 10:55 PANEL DISCUSSION I: PRIVATIZATION AND FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

In May the Ukrainian Government announced an ambitious plan for privatizing over 300 state-owned companies. The list of corporations and assets represents various sectors of the Ukrainian economy, including energy, transport, mining, chemicals, agriculture and construction. The State Property Fund of Ukraine is responsible for the smooth sale of the selected companies and assets. The successful implementation of privatisation is crucial for achieving the objectives of either the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement or the Extended Fund Facility of the IMF. Inter alia, the European Commission, EBRD, EIB, IMF, World Bank and USAID provide active financial and legal support for the ongoing process of privatisation and marketization. As V4 countries have decades of experience in successful economic transition, Privatization and investment promotion, they can also provide practical assistance to the Ukrainian authorities with systematic exchange of experience and sharing good practices.

**PÉTER ÁKOS BOD**, FORMER MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE OF HUNGARY, PROFESSOR, CORVINUS UNIVERSITY OF BUDAPEST

**SZILÁRD BOLLA**, VICE-PRESIDENT FOR INVESTMENT, HUNGARIAN INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY

**JAROSLAW DIATCZYK**, HEAD OF R&D DEPARTMENT, DATA ART, POLAND

**OLEG USTENKO**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE BLEYZER FOUNDATION, UKRAINE

**MODERATOR: ATTILA KOVÁCS**, EXTERNAL RESEARCH FELLOW, INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

**Q&A**

#### 10:55 - 11:25 COFFEE BREAK



INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE



## **11:25 – 12:40 PANEL DISCUSSION II: SHOCK-THERAPY, UNORTHODOX REFORMS AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL EASTERN EUROPE**

The Ukrainian political and economic situation are still challenging and the country has been suffering from a deep economic recession for years. The government is committed to implement an ambitious and comprehensive structural reform agenda with the assistance of its international partners. Progress was made in addressing long-standing problems in the areas of energy and banking sector, public finance management and the fight against corruption. However, further steps should be taken to strengthen anti-corruption framework and judicial system. Prudent monetary policy, fiscal sustainability and transparency are also indispensable for improving business climate and ensuring robust, sustainable economic growth. As V4 countries also face with economic and social challenges from time to time, they have rich experience in successful implementation of various comprehensive structural reform programmes. Therefore, they can offer their expertise and provide technical assistance regarding policy mix for supporting growth and employment, deregulation, public administration reform, tax and public procurement reform.

**DÁNIEL PALOTAI**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE CENTRAL BANK OF HUNGARY

**PÉTER BALÁS**, HEAD OF EU TASK FORCE FOR UKRAINE, DG NEAR— DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENLARGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**OJARS KEHRIS**, FORMER ECONOMIC MINISTER OF LATVIA

**PETROS TOVMASYAN**, HEAD OF INSTITUTE OF WORK AND EDUCATION IN POLAND

**MODERATOR: SÁNDOR GYULA NAGY**, SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW, INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

**Q&A**

## **12:40 – 14:00 LUNCH**

## **14:00 – 15:15 PANEL DISCUSSION III: THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC REFORMS IN IMPROVING COMPETITIVENESS IN CENTRAL EASTERN EUROPE**

Successful implementation of a far-reaching, comprehensive economic reform which can improve competitiveness and considerably enhances Ukraine's growth potential. Decisive efforts including anti-corruption and judicial measures, deregulation, tax reforms, improved transparency and governance capacity building can be expected to lead to a significant improvement in the business environment in Ukraine. These changes together with active and coordinated business promotion seem to be essential to boost Ukraine's economic performance and attract foreign direct investment. Improving energy efficiency, developing infrastructure, and investing in human capital, especially into education and healthcare will also increase competitiveness. V4 countries are highly interested in experiencing a predictable and transparent business environment in Ukraine, with determined steps towards better investor protection. Resolving insolvency and promoting cross border trade and investment could be mutually beneficial.

**SERHIY KULPINSKY**, ECONOMIST, PROFESSOR, DEPUTY HEAD OF DIVISION RESEARCH INSTITUTE UNDER MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, CHERNIHIV UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

**MAGDOLNA CSATH**, ECONOMIST, PROFESSOR, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**JOANNA PAWLAT**, PROFESSOR, LUBLIN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE



- **VALERY YOUZBA**, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THE UKRAINIAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF FINANCE AND FOREIGN TRADE

**MODERATOR: MÁRTON UGRÓSDY**, RESEARCH FELLOW, INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

**Q&A**

**15:15 - 15:45 COFFEE BREAK**

**15:45– 17:00 PANEL DISCUSSION IV: PROMOTING SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED ENTERPRISES, START UPS AND INNOVATIONS IN CENTRAL EASTERN EUROPE**

The economic performance of Ukraine is significantly dependent on large, partly state-owned businesses. However, international experience shows that small and medium enterprises (SMEs) make the national economy more flexible and robust. SMEs have crucial role to play in creating jobs locally and provide a source of income for large groups of the population. Stimulating growth of local small businesses could be an important part of economic recovery of Ukraine, therefore international partners including the European Bank for Research and Development (EBRD), European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Commission support SMEs and entrepreneurship across the country. Well-targeted Business promotion programs for SMEs could significantly enhance export, investment and employment on the one hand and promote regional development in Ukraine and V4 countries on the other hand. Though V4 countries are important trade partners and investors of Ukraine, there is still a great potential in boosting cross border business activities.

**GERGELY BÖSZÖRMÉNYI-NAGY**, GENERAL DIRECTOR, DESIGN TERMINAL

**PIOTR FUGLEWICZ**, CEO OF TIP, MENTOR OF TECHMINE – YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS' COMMUNITY

**ALINA BOYKO**, NATIONAL EXPERT UNDP, PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC THEORY AND COMPETITION POLICY, KYIV NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF TRADE AND ECONOMICS

**OLEG USTENKO**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE BLEYZER FOUNDATION, UKRAINE

**MODERATOR: DÁNIEL BARTHA**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CENTRE FOR EURO-ATLANTIC INTEGRATION AND DEMOCRACY

**Q&A**

CLOSED SECTORAL WORKSHOPS ARE HELD

ON 11 DECEMBER 2015