

**“European Governance: Potential of Differentiated Cooperation”****Differentiated Cooperation in Action Part #1: Economic cooperation**

While economic reforms will surely remain a huge challenge, fixing the eurozone’s institutional flaws and thus ensuring the euro’s long-term viability may prove even more difficult. Will the recent developments on the continent inspire long-needed EU and eurozone reforms, or merely fuel complacency – and thus set the stage for another crisis down the road? What closer cooperation of eurozone countries mean for members and non-members?

Programme:

5 October 2018 **Friday**

17.15 – 19.15

Focus Group: Eurozone: Resilient, Attractive and Beneficial for All?

The long-awaited Franco-German reform proposal for safeguarding the eurozone against future volatilities is finally on the table. Differences remain, however, between members concerned that they will bear the cost of others should another crisis occur, and those that seek deeper integration, including separate budget and governance capacities. Will recent developments on the continent inspire much-needed EU and eurozone reforms, or merely fuel complacency – thus setting the stage for another crisis down the road? What will future eurozone reforms mean for non-member states? How would further eurozone convergence influence Central and Eastern Europe? What kind of stimulus could make the eurozone more attractive to potential new members?

NAURO CAMPOS, Professor in Economics, Brunel University London**JAKUB WIŚNIEWSKI**, Vice President, GLOBSEC; Director, GLOBSEC Policy Institute, Bratislava**MATTI MAASIKAS**, Deputy Minister for EU Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia**KATARÍNA KAKALÍKOVÁ**, Director, Public Policy, Mastercard, BrusselsLed by: **KAREL LANNOO**, CEO, Center for European Policy Studies, Brussels**6 October 2018** **Saturday**

8.30-10.00

Focus Group: Building a Vision for Europe Through the Lenses of a Constructive Central European Perspective

With European Parliament elections, a new Commission and Brexit, 2019 promise to be a pivotal year for the European Union. The outcome of these key developments will also shape EU’s response to a number of pressing issues, including ensuring economic growth and financial stability; harnessing the full potential of technologies while safeguarding labour markets; balancing migration policies with the need to protect citizens and borders; and determining the EU’s future role on the global stage. There’s also the need to contend with the growing popularity of populist and Eurosceptic forces and their potentially dangerous consequences for political, economic and social stability. How will the EU resolve common challenges while tackling its East-West divide? Will engaging with constructive voices from Central and Eastern Europe create a vision for Europe that bridges existing gaps and reignites a common purpose?

Introductory remarks: H.E. MIROSLAV LAJČÁK, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic**H.E. IVAN KORČOK**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic to the United States**LADISLAV MIKO**, Head of the European Commission Representation in Slovakia



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JAKUB WIŚNIEWSKI, Vice President, GLOBSEC; Director, GLOBSEC Policy Institute, Bratislava

Led by: **VLADISLAVA GUBALOVA**, Research Fellow, GLOBSEC Policy Institute, Bratislava

ŠTEFAN FÜLE, Member of the Board, CEFC Group (Europe) Company a.s., Prague

VLADIMIR DLOUHY, President, Czech Chamber of Commerce, Prague

GORDON BAJNAL, Chairman of Global Advisory Board, Campbell Lutyens, London

Led by: **KINGA BRUDZINSKA**, Senior Research Fellow, GLOBSEC Policy Institute, Bratislava

8.30-9.30

Focus Group: Brexit: the Countdown Has Begun

Intense negotiations between the UK and EU are expected to continue until well beyond the official due date for Brexit. The decision to leave the EU and the Single Market will not only reshape trade relations but also the future of European companies and banks based in the UK. How can companies navigate the economic uncertainties of a post-Brexit Europe? How will the possible relocation of large corporations and banks affect the labour force of the UK and EU? Which European economies will be most affected by the changes and how will this affect the economy of the EU as a whole?

JENNIFER JACKON-PREECE, Associate Professor, European Institute and Department of International Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science

FABIAN ZULEEG, Chief Executive, European Policy Centre, Brussels

MATEUSZ SZCZURE, Associate Director and Regional Economist, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Warsaw

RONALD KENT, Managing Director, UK Finance, London

Led by: **AGATA GOSTYŃSKA-JAKUBOWSKA**, Senior Research, Centre for European Reform, London

8.30-9.30

Focus Group: New Technologies vs. Old Skill Sets: Competitiveness in the Age of Disruptive Innovation

The digital transformation of the European economy brings as many benefits as it does challenges. New technologies are changing the entrepreneurial environment and what follows they have an impact on the competitiveness of the Member States. Therefore, the large number of countries must prepare themselves to the changing nature of their economy. What does it mean for the European economy as a whole? Do new challenges unite or broaden the divisions among the Member States? What is the impact for the euro and the non-euro Member States? Does lack of convergence is currently preventing Europe from being globally competitive in the field of digital and innovative business? How can the CEE region fully embrace the concept of knowledge-driven societies and secure future economic growth?

JURAJ VACULÍK, CEO and Co-founder, Aeromobil, Bratislava

OANA POPESCU, Director, GlobalFocus Center, Bucharest

MICHAL CIZ, General State Advisor, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's for Investments and Informatization of the Slovak Republic

LEVENTE JUHASZ, Public Policy Manager, Google, Warsaw

Led by: **ALENA KUDZKO**, Deputy Research Director, GLOBSEC Policy Institute, Bratislava

