

Reaccelerating Convergence in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe

The Role of Governance and Institutions

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BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS/PANELISTS



Boris Vujčić is the Governor of the Croatian National Bank since 2012, prior to that he was Deputy Governor (2000-06). He is the chairman of the steering committee of the Vienna Initiative. He has also been a Member of the managing board of the Global Development Network since 2006. He has taught at the University of Zagreb since 1989 in various positions; and was the Director of the Research Department at the Croatian National Bank in 1997-2000. He has also played a prominent role in the country's accession talks with the EU.



Gérard Roland is the E. Morris Cox professor of economics and professor of political science at the University of California Berkeley where he has been since 2001. He has widely written in the field of economics. He has the leading graduate textbook *Transition and Economics* published in 2000 at MIT Press and translated in various languages. He also authored an undergraduate textbook on *Economics of Development* (2013, Pearson Addison-Wesley). In recent years, his research has broadened to developing economies in general with special emphasis on the role of institutions and culture.



Poul Thomsen is the Director of the European Department at the International Monetary Fund. He has been working at the IMF since 1982. Mr Thomsen gained an extensive knowledge of economic and social problems in former socialist countries in Central and Eastern Europe while working as the Senior Resident Representative in Belgrade (1990-91) and Moscow (2001-04). He headed IMF missions in Slovenia and Macedonia (1992-96), Romania (1996 –98), Russia (2004-10), and Poland (2007-10) Mr. Thomsen was Head of the IMF's Russia Division (1998 – 2000).



Jörg Decressin is the Deputy Director, of the European Department at the, International Monetary Fund. He joined the IMF in 1993. Until early 2014, he was the Deputy Director of the Research Department in charge of the IMF's World Economic Outlook and multilateral surveillance work for the G-7 and G-20. Mr Decressin has written numerous scientific research papers and publications on labour and capital market adjustment, fiscal policy and financial integration in Europe, and on deflation.



Laura Papi is Assistant Director in the European Department of the International Monetary Fund, heading the Emerging Economies Unit. She leads the work for the Regional Economic Issues Report for Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe. She has about 25 years of experience, of which 21 at the IMF, focused on emerging markets covering all regions. She has worked on a broad range of countries and, most recently was IMF mission chief for South Africa and India. Previously, she worked as Associate Director at Deutsche Bank, London, in Emerging Market Research focusing on Turkey and Emerging Europe (1997 – 2000).



Luis-Felipe Lopez-Calva is a Practice Manager in the Poverty & Equity Global Practice for the Europe and Central Asia region. Luis-Felipe was the co-Director of the World Development Report 2017: Governance and the Law. Previously, he was Lead Economist and Regional Poverty Advisor in the Europe and Central Asia region, and until 2013 was Lead Economist in the Poverty, Equity and Gender Unit at the World Bank. He has also served as Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean at the United Nations Development Program in 2007-10. He has been an Ivy League Exchange Scholar at Harvard University as well as Visiting Scholar at Stanford University and the World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER).



Servaas Deroose has been Deputy Director-General at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs since 2010. In this capacity, he coordinates the DG's work on EU Governance, EU Semester, fiscal policy and international economic adjustment programs. He has been a member of the Economic and Financial Committee since 2005. Since joining the European Commission in 1985, he worked in the field of macroeconomic surveillance (economic forecasts; economic policy coordination; budgetary policy) and EMU-related issues (economic convergence; euro adoption; imbalances). Mr. Deroose also was a researcher at the Economics Faculty of the University of Ghent.



Anders Åslund is a senior fellow at the Atlantic Council and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University. He is a leading specialist on the East European economies. Dr. Åslund has advised the Russian and Ukrainian governments. Previous employments include the Peterson Institute for International Economics, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and the Brookings Institution. He has been a professor at the Stockholm School of Economics and was the founding director of the Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics. He has worked as a Swedish diplomat in Moscow, Poland, Geneva and Kuwait. He is the author of 14 books, most recently with Simeon Djankov, *Europe's Growth Challenge* (OUP, 2017).



Martina Dalić is Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy, Small and Medium Entrepreneurship and Crafts since 2016. She is the first female Minister of Economy (excluding Tamara Obradović-Mazal's two-day acting tenure in 2012). She was previously Croatia's first and to date only female Minister of Finance 2010-11. She was Deputy Chief Negotiator for EU accession 2005-08. In 2011-15 she was a member of parliament, and in 2015 became a Permanent Public Financial Management Advisor at the IMF.



Alina Mungiu-Pippidi is a governance scholar and civil society activist, who created the Romanian anticorruption civil society coalition “Clean Romania!”. Her work was published in various journals, most notably as ‘Becoming Denmark: How Societies Build Control of Corruption’ (Social Research, 2014) and ‘Corruption: Good Governance Needed to Power Innovation’ (Nature, 2015). She designed several good governance assessment methodologies used by development institutions. She chairs the European Research Centre for Anticorruption and State-Building (ERCAS) at Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, where she teaches democratization and comparative public policy.



Sergei Guriev is the Chief Economist of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). He joined the EBRD in 2016 after running the New Economic School in Moscow in 2004-13 and serving as a tenured professor of economics at Sciences Po, Paris in 2013-16. Mr. Guriev’s research interests include political economics, labor mobility, corporate governance and contract theory. Mr. Guriev has published in several international refereed journals including American Economic Review and Review of Economic Studies. He has been a board member of various companies, including Sberbank, E.ON Russia, Alfa-Strakhovanie Insurance Company. He is also the President of the Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics and a Research Fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy Research, London.



Minister Peter Kažimír is serving his second consecutive four-year term as Finance Minister of Slovak Republic after being reappointed in March 2016. He was first appointed as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance in April 2012. In 2006, he was appointed State Secretary of the Ministry of Finance. From 1993 to 2006, Mr. Kažimír worked in the field of industrial real estate and business restructuring. Between 2001 – 2006, he was a member of the Supervisory Board at the DDP Credit Suisse Life and Pensions. From 2010 to 2012, he was a Member of Parliament and Vice-Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee. Since 2010 he has also been the Vice-Chairman of Social Democrats (SMER-SD).



Oleksandr Danyliuk. He has been Ukraine's Minister of Finance since April 2016. Previously, he was the President's representative at the Cabinet of Ministers and later Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration (2014-15). He has worked as a consultant and investment manager in several companies, including Alfa Capital Western NIS Enterprise Fund (WNISEF) in Ukraine, and McKinsey & Company's London and Moscow offices. He also chaired the Rurik Investment fund that operated in London and Luxembourg (2010-16).



Jan Švejnar is the James T. Shotwell Professor of Global Political Economy and Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance at Columbia University. He is a Fellow of the European Economic Association and Research Fellow of the Center for Economic Policy Research (London) and Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn. He was honored with a Neuron Prize for lifelong achievement from the Karel Janeček Endowment for Research and Science in 2012, and the 2015 IZA Prize in Labor Economics from the Institute for the Study of Labor. In 2008, he was one of two presidential candidates in the Czech Republic.



Karen Tso has extensive business and journalistic experience of more than 15 years as a reporter and commentator for television, radio, print and digital, in both developed and emerging markets. Based in London, she co-anchors CNBC International, a flagship program in Europe, Middle East and Africa, Squawk Box, a fast-paced three-hour show that sets the daily news agenda.



Madame Christine Lagarde has served as the eleventh and first woman Managing Director of the IMF since July 2011. She started her second five-year term in July 2016. A lawyer by background, she practiced for 20 years with the international law firm Baker & McKenzie, where she became Global Chairman in 1999. In 2005, Christine Lagarde joined the French government as Trade Minister. Two years later, she

became the first woman to hold the post of Finance and Economy Minister of a G7 country, and eventually held the G20 presidency.



Jacek Rostowski joined the Cabinet of Premier Donald Tusk in 2007, and served as Finance Minister of the Republic of Poland until 2013, including as Deputy Prime Minister in the final year. From 1997 to 2000, Rostowski was Chairman of the Macro-Economic Policy Council at the Polish Ministry of Finance, and from 2002-04 was an Economic Adviser to the National Bank of Poland. Previously, was a lecturer at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL, a professor of Economics at the Central European University in Budapest, and head of its Department of Economics. Currently he is Chairman of the Board of the "Foundation for Contemporary Liberalism" in Warsaw. He is the author of many articles and academic books including, *Macroeconomic Instability in Post-Communist Countries* (1998).



Zdravko Marić is the Finance Minister of Republic of Croatia since 2016. He worked as an Executive Director for Strategy and Capital Markets at Agrokor in 2012-16. Mr. Marić was the State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance in 2008-12, and the Assistant Minister for Macroeconomic Analysis and Planning in 2006-08. In 2006, he became the Assistant Minister for Macroeconomic Analyses and Planning in the Ministry of Finance, where his area of responsibilities primarily included state budget, and macroeconomic analyses and planning. He was also a member of several working groups for EU negotiations dealing with economic and monetary policies, tax systems, financial services and free movement of capital. From 2001 to 2006, he was an assistant at the Institute of Economics, Zagreb