

**Course on Structural Reforms**

**Joint Vienna Institute**

**In Cooperation with JVI Partners**

**Vienna, August 26 – September 6, 2018**

**PROGRAM[[1]](#footnote-1)**

# Monday, August 26

8.30 a.m. – 9.00 a.m. **Registration and Administrative Session**

Mr. Luka Zupančič, Program Officer, Joint Vienna Institute (JVI)

9.00 a.m. – 9.30 a.m. **Opening Session**

Mr. Holger Floerkemeier, Deputy Director, JVI

9:30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m. **Initial** **Quiz**

10.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-1 **Structural Reforms, Competitiveness, and Impact on Economic Growth**

Mr. Holger Floerkemeier, JVI

* Definition of structural reforms and competitiveness
* Transmission channels to growth
* Reform gaps and priorities

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. L-2 **Structural Reform Indicators**

Ms. Asel Isakova, Economist, JVI

* What do structural reform indicators measure?
* Examples of structural reform indicators
* Reform progress in CESEE, Caucasus and Central Asia

3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. W-1 **Indicators of Structural Reforms**

Ms. Asel Isakova, Ms. Maria Arakelyan,   
Mr. Holger Floerkemeier, JVI

# Tuesday, August 27

9.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-3 **Methodologies for Assessing Competitiveness**

Ms. Julia Wörz, Head of Unit, Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB

* Trade and Competitiveness
* Measure of price and non-price competitiveness
* Role of international production sharing
* Productivity and reallocation

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. L-4 **Labor Market Policies and Institutions**

Mr. Ekkehard Ernst, Chief, Macroeconomic Policy Unit, International Labor Organization (ILO)

* Labor market developments in the region
* Labor market policies and reforms
* Equity vs. efficiency

3.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. W-2 **Workshop on Labor Market Issues**

Mr. Ekkehard Ernst

# Wednesday, August 28

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. L-5 **Capital Account Liberalization**

Mr. Miksjuk, JVI

* Measuring capital account openness
* Pros and cons of capital account liberalization
* The IMF’s institutional view

10.45 a.m. – 11.15 p.m. PP-1 **Introduction to Group Work: Participant Presentations on Structural Reforms in the CSEE and CCA Region**

Ms. Arakelyan; Mr. Floerkemeier; Mr. Miksjuk

11.15 p.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-6 **The Role of Corruption and How to Overcome it**

Mr. Maksym Ivanyna, Economist, JVI/IMF

* Measuring corruption
* Impact on growth
* Overcoming corruption

1.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. L-7 **The Role of Infrastructure and the Bottlenecks in Investment Finance**

Mr. Atanas Kolev, Economist, European Investment Bank (EIB)

* Structural Reforms, infrastructure, and growth
* Financing infrastructure

# Thursday, August 29

9.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-8 **Trade Reform**

N.N., World Trade Organization (WTO)

* Trade policy's reform: Openness and growth
* Examples of trade policy reform
* Coherence between trade reform and other reforms

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. W-3 **Case Study on Trade Liberalization in an Emerging Country**

N.N. (WTO)

3.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. L-9 **Youth Unemployment**

Ms. Jamele Rigolini (World Bank)

* Recent developments
* Policy measures
* Reform progress and challenges

# Friday, August 30

9.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-10 **Identifying Policy Priorities: The OECD’s Annual Structural Policy Surveillance**

Mr. Alain de Serres, Deputy Director, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

* The main growth drivers and their link to policies
* Framework to identify policy priorities
* Benchmarking on performance and policies

1.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. W-4 **Workshop on** **Implementing the Framework:   
 Going for Growth**

Mr. de Serres, Ms. Arakelyan and Mr. Hlédik

* Matching indicators with performance
* Application to CESEE countries
* Selected country examples

# Monday, September 2

9.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-11 **Financial Sector Development and Reform**

Mr. Bojan Markovic, Deputy Director; Economics, Policy and Governance, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

* Financial sector development and growth
* The role of financial inclusion
* Financial sector liberalization

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. L-12 **Energy Market Reform**

Mr. Chris Basinski, Principal Energy Economist, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

* Sector restructuring, unbundling, privatization
* Key elements of a functioning energy market
* Re-balancing the energy mix

3.45 p.m. – 5.00 pm. PP-2 **Preparation of** **Participant Group Presentations**

Ms. Arakelyan; Mr. Floerkemeier; Mr. Hlédik, Mr. Miksjuk

* Three groups on structural reforms in selected areas in Central Europe, Southeastern Europe, and Central Asia/Caucasus

# Tuesday, September 3

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. L-13 **Pension Reform**

Mr. Zbyněk Štork, Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic

* Demographic Trends and population ageing
* Recent developments in pension schemes
* Options for reforming existing pension schemes
* Pension reform in the Czech Republic

10.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-14 **Annual Lecture: Transparency in Public Finance**  
 Mr. Vitor Gaspar, IMF

1.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. L-15 **Public Sector Reform: The Example of Austria (BMF)**

Ms. Eva Festl and Mr. Andreas Fraydenegg, both Ministry of Finance of Austria (BMF)

* Budget reform, design, stakeholders, medium-term expenditure framework
* Cash vs. accruals budgeting and accounting
* Performance budgeting (incl. gender budgeting)
* Outlook, next steps, general discussion

# Wednesday, September 4

9.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. W-5 **Ranking Reform Priorities**  
Ms. Arakelyan; Mr. Floerkemeier; Mr. Miksjuk

* Estimating reform gaps
* Identifying priorities
* Heat maps

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. W-6 **Fiscal Impact of Structural Reform**

N.N., Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF)

* Costing of structural reforms
* Challenges and limitations

3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. PP-3 **Preparation of** **Participant Group Presentations**

Ms. Arakelyan; Mr. Floerkemeier; Mr. Miksjuk

* Three groups on structural reforms in selected areas in Central Europe, Southeastern Europe, and Central Asia/Caucasus

# Thursday, September 5

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. L-16 **SME Financing**

Mr. Aron Gereben, Economist, European Investment Bank (EIB)

* The rationale for supporting SMEs through public policy interventions
* The current economic situation of SMEs and SME financing in Europe
* Some insight into European SMEs through the EIB Investment Survey
* The role of SME credit guarantee schemes in Central, Eastern, and South-Eastern Europe

10.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. PP-4 **Preparation of Participant Presentations**

Ms. Arakelyan; Mr. Floerkemeier; Mr. Miksjuk

* Three groups: structural reforms in selected areas in Central Europe, Southeastern Europe, and Central Asia/Caucasus

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. L-17 **Structural Transformation—How to Design Place-Based Competitiveness Policies**

Maximilian Benner, EC Smart Specialization Platform

* Regional & sectoral productivity gaps
* Diffusion of productivity-enhancing innovations
* Cluster policies and smart specialization

4.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m. PP-6 **Participant Group Presentations**

Ms. Arakelyan; Mr. Floerkemeier; Mr. Hlédik, Mr. Miksjuk

# Friday, September 6

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. L-18 **Europe 2020: Europe’s Growth Strategy**

Mr. Karl Pichelmann, Senior Advisor, DG ECFIN, European Commission (EC)

* Objectives
* National Targets
* Country Actions

10.45 a.m. – 11.30 p.m. **Final Quiz**

11.30 p.m. – 12.30 p.m. **Concluding Session**

1. *Unless otherwise stated, coffee breaks are during 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. and lunch breaks during 12.30 p.m. - 2.00 p.m.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)