

INTERNATIONAL
NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANISATION



Go South East

CONSULTATIVE STATUS
WITH THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE
UNITED NATIONS (ECOSOC)

REGISTERED IN THE
TRANSPARENCY REGISTER
OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
AND EUROPEAN COMMISSION

VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM

2016



**SUCCESS STORY
NEW HORIZONS**



DEAR MEMBERS OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM!

As Honorary President, it is a matter of particular concern to me to address all of you to congratulate you most warmly for your contribution to the **success story of Vienna Economic Forum**.

Born in 2004 as **an idea of Dr Elena Kirtcheva**, at this time Ambassador of Bulgaria to Austria, to offer an independent economic platform, based in Vienna, to the countries of South-East Europe, today Vienna Economic Forum is a widely recognized Non-Governmental Organisation, which has remained true to its **founding objectives** in all these years.

Popularising investment opportunities; setting impulses in order to promote joint economic projects and to foster their implementation; being a place of definition, of encounters and of realisation of public and private interests in the context of the different projects, to support the region to become **part of a united Europe** – these are still feasible concrete objectives.

I am convinced – Vienna Economic Forum has to continue to enforce these objectives: although, in **changed circumstances**, of changing times, with new and to these times adapted initiatives.

The status as **International Non-Governmental Organisation**, the **Consultative Status** granted by the **Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC)** and the entry in the **Transparency Register** of the **European Parliament** and the **European Commission** are milestones of great recognition for all Vienna Economic Forum – activities in the region, which enable Vienna Economic Forum – to reach methodically and continuously **new horizons**.

I would like to thank all of you most warmly, dear **Members of Vienna Economic Forum** and longstanding as well as loyal supporters of our pioneering role in the region, for your trust and excellent collaboration, and to wish the extended Vienna Economic Forum-Board and my successor – the newly elected Vienna Economic Forum-President, DI Dr Günther Rabensteiner, Member of the Board of Verbund AG, to continue the prosperous contributions to this Vienna Economic Forum-success story.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erhard Busek', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Erhard Busek

Former Vice-Chancellor of the Republic of Austria
Honorary President of Vienna Economic Forum

DEAR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM!



You can certainly imagine the feeling of gratitude when thinking of our common time together with the longstanding President of Vienna Economic Forum, former Vice-Chancellor Dr Erhard Busek and we are pleased, that he will continue to support us as Honorary President of Vienna Economic Forum in the future.

Allow me to assure you, dear Dr Erhard Busek, as well as all of you, distinguished Members and Partner of Vienna Economic Forum, that we continue to work unstintingly and specifically towards the further development of our collaboration and to harness the premises of the great recognition of all Vienna Economic Forum activities in the region, in order to disseminate the visions of **Vienna Economic Forum** as an International Non-Governmental Organisation **and of all Vienna Economic Forum-Members**, not only Europe-wide, but also worldwide.

By overview of the **Vienna Economic Forum-success story** during the “**Dr. Busek-Era**” in this brochure, we hope at the same time to count on the significant support of all members and partners to reach together new horizons in the changed circumstances of our world today.

With a growing foundation, Vienna Economic Forum has not only developed into **THE economic platform**, but into **THE EUROPEAN economic platform in Vienna**. We offer this platform to our members, various representatives from economy and politics from the Member Countries, but also to countries worldwide. A platform for trust – building, exchange of thoughts and concrete collaboration in the area of economy – together with state institutions and political circles! A platform where **visionaries** meet!

The ability to identify visions and having the determination to realise them – this is crucial nowadays.

This is a matter of fact: Vienna Economic Forum, an economic and non-political platform, based in Vienna, expanded in 2016 again its own European-wide and world-wide network in economy and politics. Vienna Economic Forum has been increasingly requested for more collaboration, and we are pleased to welcome new members and representatives from more and more countries: for the first time from the USA as well.

The market-based conditions in many countries of the world, of Europe and the Balkan region are influenced by great political uncertainty. We, from Vienna Economic Forum, continuously confront this uncertainty of our time with keeping up the **pro-European** collaborations in the area of economy, with actively developing proactive economic initiatives and realising them together with our Partners.

According to a European-wide survey, 72% of young people feel European! We from Vienna Economic Forum have to mediate and facilitate this feeling – **to feel European** – to the regional economy too!

Honoured Members,


Cooperation remains the keyword of Vienna Economic Forum!

We all know very well that there is no vacuum in the business world! Therefore, Vienna Economic Forum is always ambitious to not only increase the numbers of its members and partners from different countries, but also to support its cooperation partners and members in their economic endeavours and to motivate decision-makers from economy and politics to further strive for regional investment projects.

For all of this we can recognize new horizons for our engagement. A future without closer cooperation, especially in the area of economy, is hard to imagine.

A great thank you to all of you, Members and Partners of Vienna Economic Forum!
For your trust, for your consistent support!
And for your disposition to reach new horizons together!

Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva
Secretary General

 Bundesministerium für europäische
und internationale Angelegenheiten

DVR: 0000060

Wien, am 7. Jänner 2011

GZ: BMeIA-N9.8.19.12/0036-I.2/2010

An das

Vienna Economic Forum (VEF)
z.Hd. Fr. Dr. Elena Kirtocheva
Stubenring 16/3
1010 Wien

BESCH E I D

Der Bundesminister für europäische und internationale Angelegenheiten als Behörde gemäß § 1 des Bundesgesetzes über die Einräumung von Privilegien an nichtstaatliche internationale Organisationen, BGBl. Nr. 174/1992, entscheidet wie folgt:

Spruch

Dem Vienna Economic Forum (VEF) wird die Rechtsstellung einer Organisation im Sinne des Bundesgesetzes über die Einräumung von Privilegien an nichtstaatliche internationale Organisationen (NGO-Gesetz), BGBl. Nr. 174/1992, eingeräumt.

...

Für den Bundesminister:



(Ges. MMag. Gregor Schusterschitz)
Leiter der Abteilung I.2 – Allgemeines Völkerrecht

United Nations  Nations Unies

Non-Governmental Organizations Branch
Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

DC1-1480, 1 U.N. Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017 • Tel. (212) 963-8652 • Fax (212) 963-9248
Website: www.un.org/ecosoc/ngo • Contact: www.un.org/ecosoc/ngo/contact

27 July 2012

Dear NGO Representative,

I am pleased to inform you that the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its Substantive Session of July 2012 adopted the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to grant **Special** consultative status to your organization **Vienna Economic Forum**. On behalf of all staff of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch, please accept our heartfelt congratulations.

Consultative status for an organization enables it to actively engage with ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies, as well as with the United Nations Secretariat, programmes, funds and agencies in a number of ways. In order to better understand this relationship, we take this opportunity to provide some critical information about the **privileges** that consultative status with ECOSOC confers on your organization, as well as the **obligations** that your organization will be required to meet under this relationship. **We therefore urge you to take the time to carefully review the information we have provided below.**

Privileges and benefits of consultative status

- 1) ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31
 - Arrangements for consultations with NGOs are regulated by ECOSOC resolution 1996/31, adopted by the Council on 25 July 1996. Please review the entire resolution at: <http://csonet.org/content/documents/199631.pdf> for detailed information . It provides information on ways to participate in the work of the Council, including opportunities to organizations such as yours to consult with Member States and the United Nations system at large, based on the nature and scope of work that your organization undertakes. Consultative relationship with NGOs also enables the Council or one of its bodies to seek expert information or advice from organizations with special competence in a subject matter.
 - Consultative status allows you to be informed about the provisional agenda of the Economic and Social Council;

.../...

Vienna Economic Forum

BOARD OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM

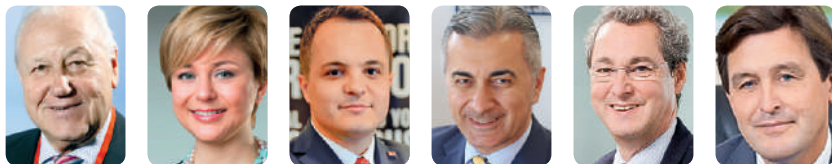
CHAIR



photo: Mag. Neumann © Novomatic AG

- | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|
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<i>Member of the Board, Verbund AG</i> | <i>President</i> |
| | Ambassador Dr. Elena KIRTICHEVA
<i>Vienna Economic Forum</i> | <i>Secretary General</i> |
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<i>Former Federal Minister of Interior of the Republic of Austria
Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum</i> | <i>Board Member</i> |
| | Ms. Polina CHRISTOVA
<i>Executive Director, Head of Group Financial Institutions and Business Support
HYPO NOE Gruppe Bank AG</i> | <i>Board Member</i> |



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Former Governor of the Austrian National Bank

Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum

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Board Member



DI Peter UMUNDUM

Member of the Board, Österreichische Post AG

Board Member

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photo Dr. Rothensteiner © Peter Rüggeud



Dr. Erhard BUSEK, *Former Vice-Chancellor of Austria*
Honorary President of Vienna Economic Forum



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First President of Vienna Economic Forum



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Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Wolfgang SCHÜSSEL, *Former Federal Chancellor of Austria*



Dr. Walter ROTHENSTEINER, *Chairman, Raiffeisen Zentralbank Österreich AG*
Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Rudolf GRUBER, *Former President of the Supervisory Board of EVN AG*
Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Martin BARTENSTEIN, *Former Federal Minister of Economy*
of the Republic of Austria



photo Mr. Sundt © Ian Elm



Mr. Heinz SUNDT, *Former General Director of Telekom Austria AG
Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum*



Prof. Dr. Suzanne RÖDLER, *Medical Specialist for internal Medicine and
Cardiology, Medical University of Vienna AKH*



Mag. Josef MAYER, *Former Vice Minister of the Ministry of Economy
of the Republic of Austria*



Amb. Prof. Vesna BOROZAN, *PhD, Sts. Cyril and Methodius University Skopje
Macedonia*



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HONORARY COMMITTEE OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM



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Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum



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Versicherungsverein, Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Veit SORGER, *Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Mondi AG*
Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum



Amb. Daria KRSTICEVIC, *Advisor to the President of Chamber of Economy*
of Croatia



Dr. Claus RAIDL, *President, Oesterreichische Nationalbank*



Dr. Franz WOHLFAHRT, *Lawyer, Honorary Consul of Croatia with*
Consular District Lower Austria



Dr. Johann SOLLGRUBER, *European Commission Representation in Austria*

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photo Dr. Wohlfaht © Novomatofotostudiozaller, photo Dr. Sollgruber © Harald Stockinger



KR Hanno SORAVIA, *CEO of CEE and SEE, Soravia Group*
Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum



KR Prof. Waltraud STEINBÖCK, *long-time Partner of Vienna Economic Forum*
Honorary Consul of the Philippines



Mr. Bojidar DANEV, *Executive President, **Bulgarian** Industrial Association*



Prof. Dr. Vujica LAZOVIĆ, *Former Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Policy and Financial System, Member of Parliament of **Montenegro***



Ms. Dragijana Radonjić PETROVIĆ, *Partner, MD Solution*
*Vice President of the **Serbian** Association of Economists*



Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ewald NOWOTNY, *Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank*

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H.E. Dr. Oleksandr SCHERBA, *Ambassador of Ukraine*



Vienna Economic Forum is proud to have as **Patron Dr. Heinz Fischer, former President of the Republic of Austria (2004–2016)** as well as **Patrons all Prime Ministers** of the Vienna Economic Forum Member Countries.

The **Governors Committee**, the **Committee of Ministers of Economy**, the **Committee of Presidents of Chambers of Economy and Commerce** and the **Committee of Presidents of Investment Agencies of the Region** consist of **official representatives** of the respective national entities of the member countries.

The **Committee of Mayors** from the region and the **Culture Committee** of Vienna Economic Forum involve additional strengths to accomplish the **main goal of Vienna Economic Forum – support of the whole region on its European path.**

The **close collaboration** and common activities with the Members of the different Vienna Economic Forum-Committees, takes **high priority** and directly determines the numerous projects of Vienna Economic Forum throughout the year.

ARBITRATORS OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM



KR Ing. Otto MUSILEK, *Consultant, MEC Management Energy Consulting*
Member of Vienna Economic Forum



Mag. Marika LEVENA, *Strategic Advisor, European Commission*
Member of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Friedhelm BOSCHERT, *Founder, MINDFUL SOLUTIONS and Executive Advisor*
Member of Vienna Economic Forum

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Raiffeisen Bank International AG



Mag. Ekkehart STREMITZER, *Managing Director, AME International GmbH*

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AT ITS BEST

AME International GmbH is a comprehensive partner in the field of health care with over 21 years of experience on an international level. As a total solution provider we unite know-how and competence in the field of health care technology projects and provide customer-tailored solutions for our clients. Our customers receive comprehensive concepts for the realization of their projects and are supported by our competencies at all stages of the project.

OUR SCOPE OF SERVICE COMPRISES:

- **Project Development**
- **Consulting**
- **Financial Services**
- **Implementation**
- **Know-how Transfer**
- **After Sales Service**

IN THE FIELD OF:

- **Consulting & Hospital Engineering**
- **Medical Package Solutions**
- **eHealth Solutions**

Our technical expertise and project management capabilities are supported by a strong financial background and access to project financing.

Recent Success – eHealth Albania – Nationwide Electronic Health Record

AME successfully completed the implementation of the Nationwide eHealth Project for the Albanian Ministry of Health in 2016. The scope of the project included the supply of Data Centre, Hardware, Software, Implementation Services and Training to operate an eHealth system across the country covering all major public health facilities (11 regional hospitals, 4 hospitals in Tirana, 25 district hospitals and 39 policlinics). Around 1000 users are capturing clinic data for the benefit of healthcare providers and patients.





The road forward

*COLAS in Balkans, committed in the
TEN-T European projects*

**EUROPEAN CORRIDOR Vc
CROATIA - PLOCE**



Realization of the highway A10, asphalt pavement works
105.000 tons delivered & placed
Highway section opened on 11/2014

WITH CHANGE COMES ~~RISK~~

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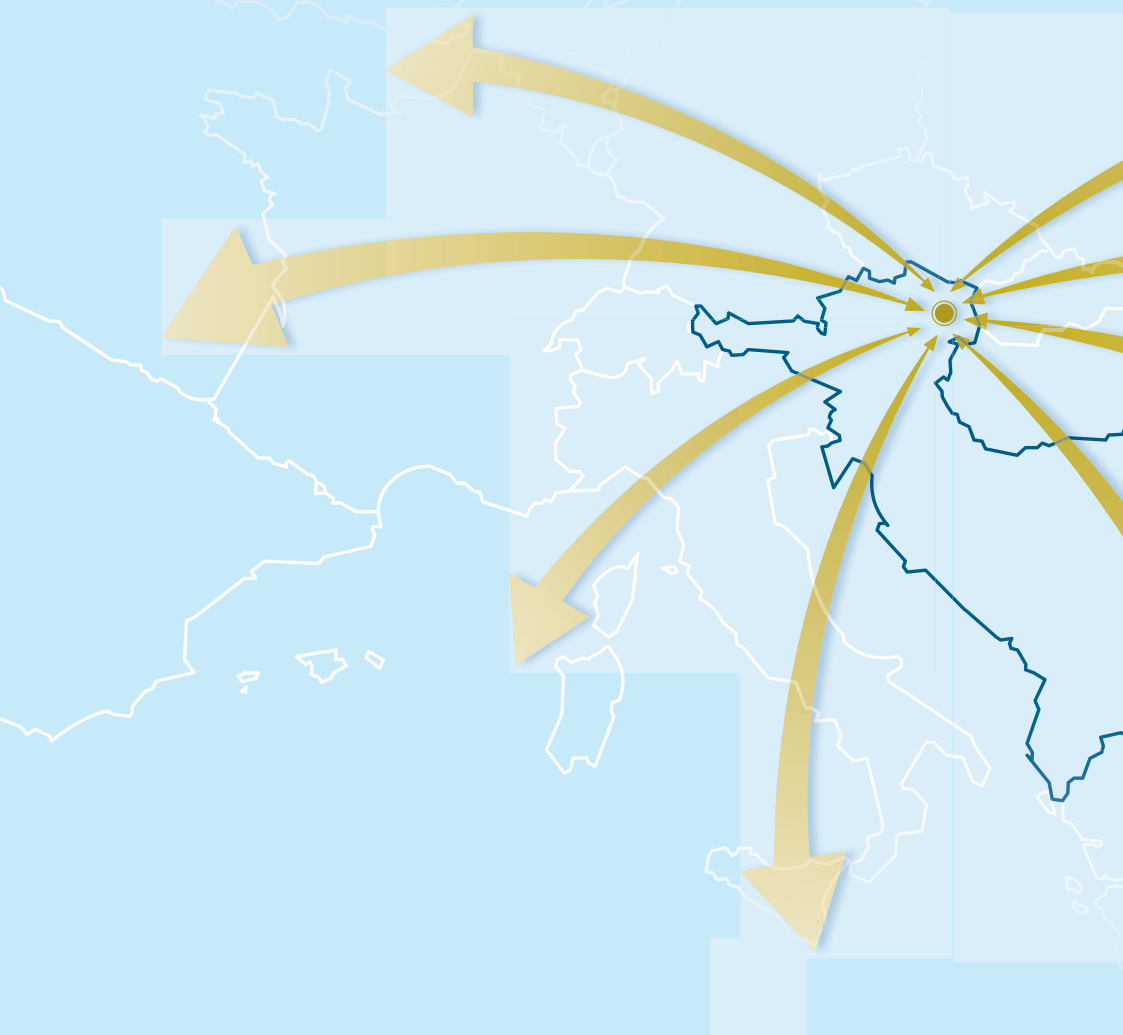
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VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM





**A SUCCESS STORY
THROUGH THE YEARS**

2004

1st Vienna Economic Forum

8 November 2004

“Integrating Europe – the growing importance of South East Europe – von der Adria bis zum Schwarzen Meer, das liest sich fast wie ein Werbeprospekt für einen Traumurlaub, ist aber zugleich eine Ortsangabe für eine der dynamischsten und spannendsten Regionen, deren Bedeutung und Potential dieses Vienna Economic Forum ausloten will. Und das ist etwas Besonderes.

Es wird eine Privatinitiative von Unternehmern gestartet, die die Chancen und Möglichkeiten dieser Region ernst nehmen und sie auch aktiv nutzen.”

Dr. Wolfgang SCHÜSSEL, *Federal Chancellor of Austria in the year 2004,
Member of the Honorary Committee of Vienna Economic Forum*

Addresses of the Prime Ministers, Patrons of Vienna Economic Forum,
on behalf of the Member Countries:

Albania

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bulgaria

Croatia

Macedonia

Montenegro

Romania

Serbia

Slovenia

Turkey

“It is my pleasure to convey my warmest congratulations on the successful organisation of the 1st Vienna Economic Forum.

Turkey welcomes the objectives of the 1st Vienna Economic Forum and is determined to play its full part in order to achieve them. I believe this platform will be a fruitful occasion with many more mutually beneficial exchanges in the future.”

Recep Tayyip ERDOGAN, *Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey in the year 2004*

1st Vienna Economic Forum

8 November 2004



2004

1st Vienna Economic Forum

8 November 2004

“The Vienna Economic Forum strives to support the business community in its efforts to overcome borders, thus promoting the further European integration process. I am convinced that the Vienna Economic Forum will be able to make a substantial contribution towards this goal. I would like to extend my sincere wishes to the Vienna Economic Forum for success with its activities.”

Dr. Martin BARTENSTEIN, *Federal Minister of Economy of the Republic of Austria in the year 2004, Member of the Honorary Committee of Vienna Economic Forum*

“We have the chance of forming a region.”

Mag. Andreas TREICHL, *CEO, Erste Group Bank AG, Founding Member and Member of the Honorary Committee of Vienna Economic Forum*





2005

Vienna Economic Forum – Bucharest Meeting

19–20 June 2005

“I would like to thank Dr. Josef Taus – President of Vienna Economic Forum, as well as your colleagues, for all the joint efforts to facilitate our discussions here today – promoting investment opportunities in the region from the Adriatic to the Black Sea. I am convinced that foreign investors have made a good decision when they turned their focus to this regional market, in the framework of their global architecture and in the context of a globalized world.”

Mr. Calin POPESCU-TARICEANU, Prime Minister of Romania in the year 2005 and Member of the Patrons Committee of Vienna Economic Forum

“The region from the Adriatic to the Black Sea is the core region of OMV’s growth strategy. For all of these investments we need a stable framework.”

Dr. Wolfgang RUTTENSTORFER, CEO OMV AG in the year 2005, Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum



2005

2nd Vienna Economic Forum

7 November 2005

“It is with great pleasure that I extend my wholehearted welcome the participants of this year’s Vienna Economic Forum taking place in Austria’s capital. The Vienna Economic Forum, founded only in April 2004, has already proved to make a valuable contribution to enhance economic cooperation in the countries from the Adriatic to the Black Sea. The high-ranking participants of this meeting also emphasise the significance this institution has already reached.”

Dr. Heinz FISCHER, *Federal President of the Republic of Austria*

“It is with pleasure that I accepted to be part of the Committee of Patrons of the Forum and to participate in today’s conference devoted to spurring investment into the South East Europe.”

H.E. Mr. Milo DJUKANOVIC, *Prime Minister of Montenegro in the year 2005,
Member of the Patrons Committee of Vienna Economic Forum*

„Aus Sicht der österreichischen Industrie ist es sehr erfreulich, dass Spitzen aus Politik und Wirtschaft Wien für diesen Meinungsaustausch gewählt haben.“

Dr. Veit SORGER, *President of the Federation of Austrian Industries in the year 2005,
Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum*

“South East European markets are the closest. The light was already dark green because the markets are ready for investments, there is not very much to be changed, although there are still the people who are waiting, and then somebody was blowing the horn that other gays first, and passing by and made the investment already or would make their investments rather way. So all I can say on this question is: Please jump on your gas and get to South East Europe because that is an area that is waiting for investments and has all the prerequisites you can think about. Thank you for coming to 2nd Vienna Economic Forum.”

Dr. Herbert STEPIC, *Deputy Chairman in the year 2005,
Raiffeisen Zentral Bank AG (RZB)*



2006

Vienna Economic Forum – Belgrade Meeting

11–12 June 2006

“It is my privilege and satisfaction, as a Patron of Vienna Economic Forum to welcome you all. Vienna Economic Forum is particularly important and it is reflected in a fact that this is an investment gathering, which includes 10 countries from the Adriatic to the Black Sea.”

Mr. Vojislav KOSTUNICA, Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia in the year 2006,
Member of the Patrons Committee of Vienna Economic Forum





2006

3rd Vienna Economic Forum

6 November 2006

“It is the third time that we meet here for the Vienna Economic Forum and it seems to have become a tradition to meet here in Vienna in order to discuss strategies and challenges for the future.”

Dr. Walter ROTHENSTEINER, *Chairman of the Board, Raiffeisen Zentralbank Österreich AG (RZB)*



„Ich freue mich sehr, dass es wieder gelungen ist, dieses hochrangige Treffen von Politik und Wirtschaft hier in unserer Stadt zu organisieren.“

Dkfm. Karl FINK, *Member of the Executive Board, Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein*







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Corporate Social Responsibility. Vom Spielschutz über den schonenden Umgang mit Ressourcen bis hin zur Unterstützung zahlreicher Organisationen und Projekte im Interesse der Allgemeinheit: Casinos Austria lebt Nachhaltigkeit seit der Gründung vor 50 Jahren. Aus Überzeugung. Für Mensch und Umwelt.

Gut für Österreich.





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Wir beraten Sie gerne in unseren Filialen oder auch in Ihrem Unternehmen.

2007

Vienna Economic Forum – Ohrid Meeting

20–21 April 2007

“As a President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and Patron of Vienna Economic Forum it is my great pleasure and privilege to wish you welcome to this important event.”

H.E. Mr. Nikola GRUEVSKI, *President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia in the year 2007, Member of the Patrons Committee of Vienna Economic Forum*

„Wir von der Soravia Gruppe definieren uns über eine ausgesprochene ‚First Move Mentalität‘. Wir nehmen dieses unternehmerische Risiko in Kauf, uns auf ein Terrain zu begeben, wo vorher noch keiner war.“

Mr. Hanno SORAVIA, *Soravia Group, Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum*





2007

Vienna Economic Forum – Istanbul Meeting

24–25 June 2007

“I would like to begin by expressing my best wishes for the success of this meeting and conference, which has been jointly organized by the Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEİK) and the Vienna Economic Forum. And I hope it will open new horizons regarding relations with the European Union as well as relations between Turkey and Austria.”

H.E. Mr. Ali BABACAN, *Minister of State in charge of Economy of the Republic of Turkey in the year 2007*





2007

4th Vienna Economic Forum

5–6 November 2007

„Ich darf Ihnen auch meine große Bewunderung zu dem ausdrücken, was Sie in den letzten Jahren geschaffen haben. Die Teilnehmer des Vienna Economic Forums sind steigend und die Spitzen vieler großer Unternehmen nehmen daran teil.“

Dkfm. Elisabeth GÜRTLER, CEO Hotel Sacher Wien,
Ehrenmitglied des Vienna Economic Forum

“Gathering for the 4th time, the Vienna Economic Forum has turned into a good tradition as of our annual appointment schedules.”

Dr. Martin BARTENSTEIN, Federal Minister of Economy of the Republic of Austria
in the year 2007, Member of the Honorary Committee of Vienna Economic Forum





2008

Vienna Economic Forum – Chisinau Meeting

20–21 February 2008



Vienna Economic Forum – Becici Meeting

14–15 April 2008

Montenegro, Hotel Splendid Becici



2008

Vienna Economic Forum – Tirana Meeting

8–9 June 2008



Vienna Economic Talks – Pleven Meeting, in cooperation with many representatives of municipalities and decision-makers on municipality level of different Bulgarian cities
 30 June–1 July 2008, Pleven, Bulgaria



2008

5th Jubilee Vienna Economic Forum

10–11 November 2008





2009

Vienna Economic Talks – The Financial Market Crisis: Effects and Implications for South-Eastern Europe

27 February 2009

“It was also in 2004 that the Vienna Economic Forum was established as a vehicle for promoting economic development and investment opportunities in Southeastern Europe and the Black Sea region. Much has happened since then. The Vienna Economic Forum will continue to play an important role in the region.”

Prof. Ewald NOWOTNY, Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank,
Member of the Governors Committee of Vienna Economic Forum



Vienna Economic Talks – Pristina Meeting

25–26 March 2009



2009

Vienna Economic Talks – Sarajevo Meeting

27–28 September 2009



6th Vienna Economic Forum

9–10 November 2009



Pushing
BOUNDARIES
is easier when there
AREN'T ANY

When you're working across borders, you need a law firm that can advise you anywhere in the world. Our Vienna office connects Austria to global markets.

Chambers Global calls us 'an imposing force in the region'. We understand the countries' legal, business and cultural environments, and we work with the best local firms to get you the right legal team for all your business needs.

Our worldwide experience and local know-how will make sure you're ready for any deal, dispute or disposal. Freshfields will be there for you, whenever and wherever you need us.



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- Treasury Lösungen

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HYPO NOE

2010

Vienna Economic Talks – Meet Bosnia and Herzegovina in Vienna

11–12 March 2010



Vienna Economic Talks – Sofia Meeting

25–26 April 2010



Vienna Economic Talks – Chisinau Meeting

24–25 June 2010

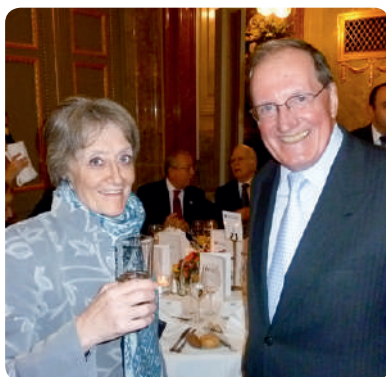


2010

7th Vienna Economic Forum

8–9 November 2010





2011

Vienna Economic Talks – Istanbul Meeting

22–23 May 2011, Palais Yeniköy and Sakip Sabanci Museum



Vienna Economic Talks – Meet Kosovo in Vienna

24–25 October 2011



2011

8th Vienna Economic Forum

20–21 November 2011, Palais Niederösterreich, Vienna





2012

Vienna Economic Talks – Sofia Meeting

3–4 April 2012



Vienna Economic Talks – Meet Turkey in Vienna

18–19 June 2012



2012

9th Vienna Economic Forum

18–19 November 2012, Palais Niederösterreich, Vienna





2012

9th Vienna Economic Forum

18–19 November 2012, Palais Niederösterreich, Vienna



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- Expected to be one of the fastest growing economies of the OECD members with an annual average growth rate of 4.7% (2014-2025)
- 17th largest economy in 2015, over \$1.6 trillion GDP at PPP (IMF 2016)
- A population of 80 million, with half under the age of 31
- Highly competitive investment incentives as well as exclusive R&D support
- Around 800,000 university and higher education graduates per year



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2013

Vienna Economic Talks – Croatia in the European Union

16 September 2013, Vienna

Vienna Economic Talks – Meet Montenegro in Vienna

7 October 2013, Vienna



10th Jubilee Vienna Economic Forum

24–25 November 2013, Palais Niederösterreich, Vienna



2014

Vienna Economic Talks – Building Bridges in a Challenging Time

28 April 2014, Vienna

Vienna Economic Talks – Business and Investment Forum Albania

12 May 2014, Vienna

Vienna Economic Talks –Chisinau Meeting 2014

10–11 June 2014, Chisinau





2014

11th Vienna Economic Forum – Vienna Summit 2014

24 November 2014, Palais Niederösterreich, Vienna



2015

Vienna Economic Forum – Tirana Talks 2015

27–28 May 2015, Tirana



2015

Vienna Economic Forum – Tirana Talks 2015

27–28 May 2015, Tirana





photos © Thomas Ebner / MonitorTV



2015

Vienna Economic Talks – Investments and Regional Cooperation

18 June 2015, Vienna

12th Vienna Economic Forum

23 November 2015, Palais Niederösterreich, Vienna





2015

12th Vienna Economic Forum

23 November 2015, Palais Niederösterreich, Vienna



G20 WAIPA Conference on Foreign Direct Investments – Istanbul 2015



photos © WAIPA

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THE GARDEN PARTIES

- at the Bulgarian Residence, Summer 2002
- in Haus Wittgenstein
- at the Diplomatic Academy Vienna



THE SOCIAL SUMMER EVENTS OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM



THE GARDEN PARTIES



THE SOCIAL SUMMER EVENTS OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM



THE GARDEN PARTIES



THE SOCIAL SUMMER EVENTS OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM

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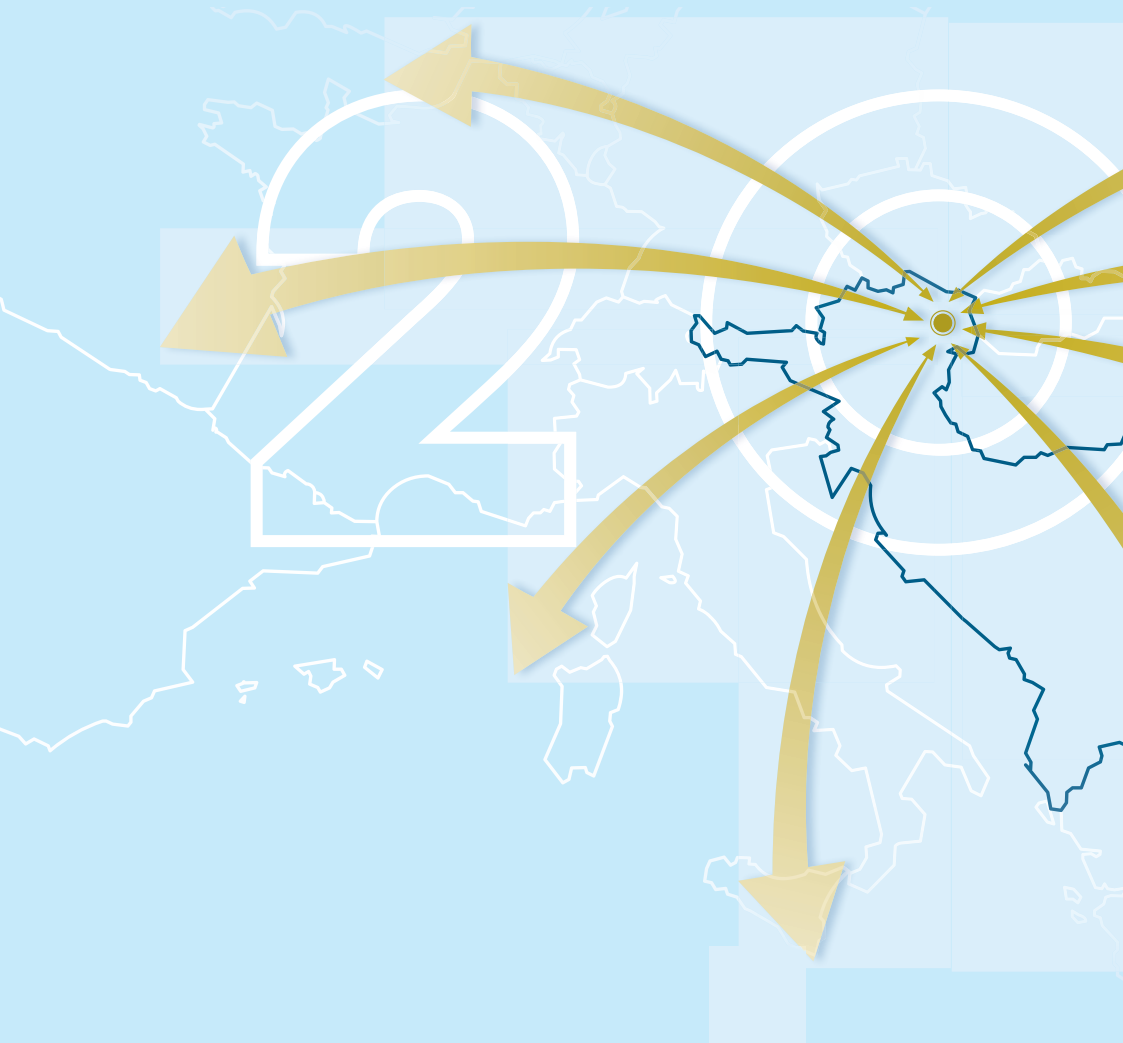
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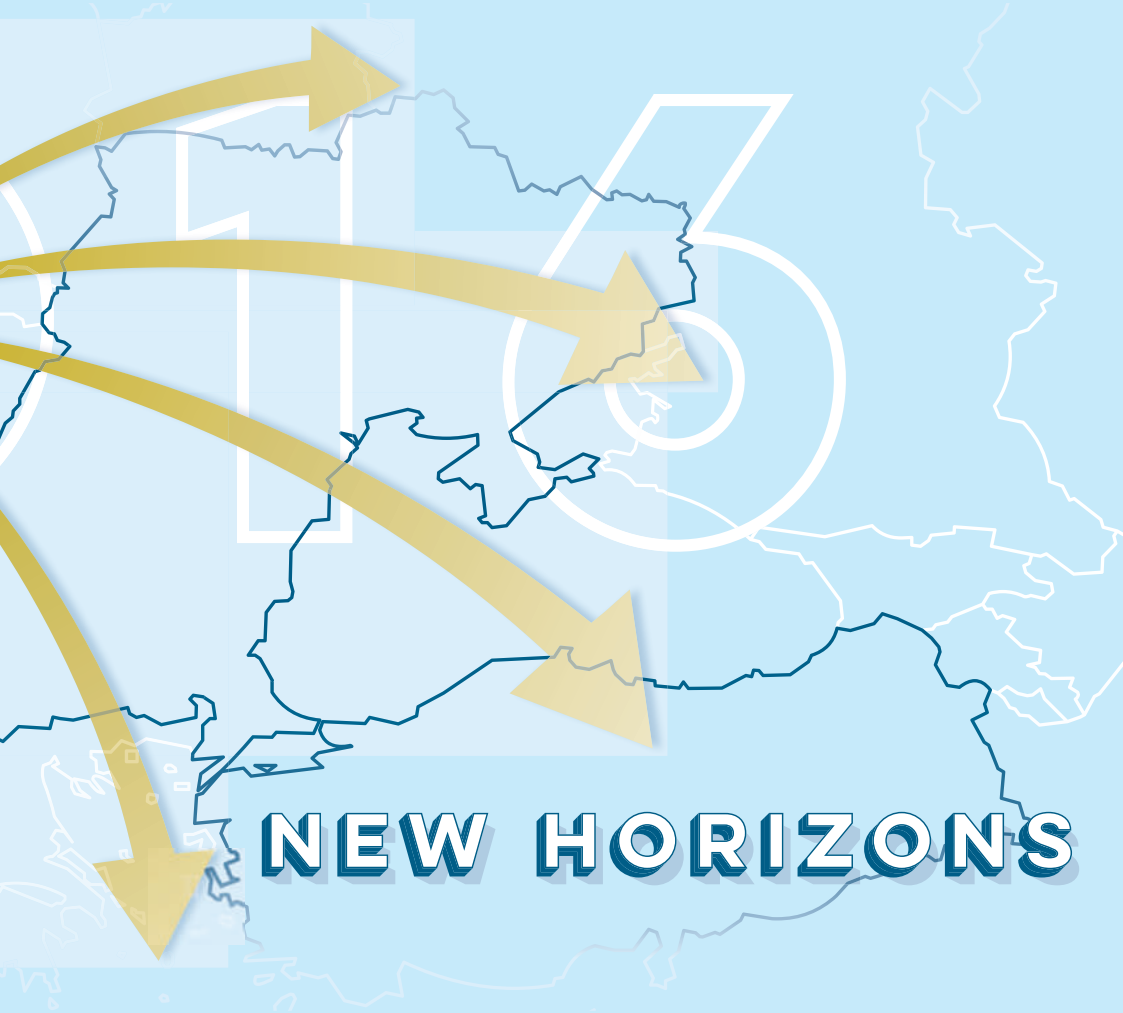
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VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM





NEW HORIZONS



15TH JUBILEE-GARDEN PARTY

“Culinary and musical journey through the partner countries of Vienna Economic Forum”

17 June 2016, in the Garden of the Diplomatic Academy, Vienna

On 17 June the Board of Vienna Economic Forum invited together with the Members of Vienna Economic Forum-Ambassador Committee – the Ambassadors of the Member Countries of Vienna Economic Forum to the 15th Traditional Garden Party-“Meeting of the Friends between the Adriatic and the Black Sea”.

The “Culinary and musical journey through the countries of the region” with the participation of the member countries of the Vienna Economic was organized at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. The words of welcome at the jubilee event came from founding father and honorary member of Vienna Economic Forum Dr. Herbert Stepic.

The member countries have spared no effort to impress the guests with their country-specific culinary delights. The artistic performance was, as in previous years, the highlight of the evening and the guests enjoyed the performances of artists from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Turkey and Bulgaria. The folk dances of the region have animated many of the guest to join the dance.

The Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Elena Kirtcheva and numerous Vienna Economic Forum-Board members were very pleased to welcome members, partners and friends of Vienna Economic Forum.

The great number of participants enjoyed the good atmosphere, the culinary delights and musical pleasure. The unique atmosphere was also in this year again a proof of how much connects the people of the region from the Adriatic to the Black Sea.

PHOTO GALLERY



Traditional Family Foto with Ambassadors of the Vienna Economic Forum Member Countries



*KR Ing. Otto Musilek,
Vienna Economic Forum Arbitrator*



*Dr. Herbert Stepic, Senior Advisor to the Board,
Raiffeisen Bank International AG,
Founding Member of Vienna Economic Forum
with members of the Vienna Economic Forum
Ambassadors Committee*



Good atmosphere ...



... and lovely conversations



Prof. Evgenyi Chevkenov, President of the Vienna Economic Forum Culture Committee with Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva

GOOD ATMOSPHERE ...



... VARIOUS DELICACIES ...



... AND CULTURAL PROGRAM ...



Bulgarian dance group

... OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM MEMBER COUNTRIES



H.E. Ambassador Roland Bimo introducing Albanian musicians



Dr. Johann Sollgruber, Representation of European Commission in Austria with Irena Sokolova, Member of the Bulgarian Parliament

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13TH VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM – VIENNA FUTURE DIALOGUE 2016

Excellently pragmatic oriented, attended by high-ranking representatives

21 November 2016, Novomatic Forum, Vienna



With friendly support of:



13TH VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM – VIENNA FUTURE DIALOGUE 2016

For 13th time, on November 21st, the November-Edition of **Vienna Economic Forum** – THE European economic platform based in Vienna, brought together with great interest, high-ranking representatives and visionaries of economy, politics and diplomacy of the region, of Europe and other continents at the **Novomatic Forum**.

At the official opening the CEO of Novomatic AG, the host **Mag. Harald Neumann** and the **Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva**, together with the President of Vienna Economic Forum, the **former Vice-Chancellor Dr. Erhard Busek** and with **Mag. Othmar Karas**, member of the European Parliament and former Vice-President of the European Parliament, greeted high-level participants of **37 Countries** in the world.

This year the focus of the **13th Vienna Economic Forum – Vienna Future Dialogue 2016** was dedicated on **investment climate and the investment strategy** in the region of the Vienna Economic Forum and beyond, with the persuasion that only by investment and demand of infrastructure projects could be ensured that the region develops and continues to play an important role. For that many actors need to be mobilized - from the public sector to the international financing institutions, from the investment and commercial banks to law offices and private investors.

In her opening speech, **Secretary General Amb. Dr Elena Kirtcheva** pointed out that these days the **market conditions** in many countries in the world, in Europe and the region are influenced by political **uncertainty**. In quite a few of the Vienna economic Forum countries **elections are impending**; in others – **complicated government formations**; somewhere the **government resigned**, somewhere else there is talk of **early elections**. She stressed that after 25 years of constructing a peaceful and undivided Europe with good and intensive economic development, today we are facing **actual efforts of political division of zones of influence**, which we know from the times of the Cold War. According to a European-wide survey, **72% of adolescents feel European**, the Secretary General appealed to the presidents of the investment agencies and the high-level representatives of the governments to be responsible in their work to mediate and facilitate this feeling – **to be European** – also in the **regional economy**.

The first session that was moderated by the Executive Director of **World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) Mr. Bostijan Skalar**, focused on the topic "Investment Strategy in the Region and Worldwide – Cooperation is on Demand!", where the perspectives of investment agencies and other representatives of the public sectors were presented.

Pragmatically oriented depictions by the Secretary General of Regional Cooperation Council **Mr. Goran Svilanovic**, the president of WAIPA **Mr. Arda Ermut**, H.E. **Arlind Zeqiri**, Minister of Foreign Investments of Macedonia, the president of the **Serbian Association of Economists Mr. Aleksandar Vlahovic**, **Dr. Gabriel Lansky**, Partner at Lansky, Ganzger + Partner, Board Member of the Vienna Economic Forum, **Mr. Jin Liqun** President of the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)**, based in **China**, **Mr. Damir Novinic**, Managing Director of the Agency for Investments and Competitiveness of **Croatia** and member of the Vienna Economic Forum Investment Agency Committee and **Mr. Gordan Milinic**, Director Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of **Bosnia and Herzegovina (FIPA)** and member of the Vienna Economic Forum Investment Agency Committee, were followed by lively discussions.

In the **Second Plenary Sessions**, investments in regional infrastructure in the present, turbulent times were discussed, which are also focus of the **European Fond for Strategic Investments (EFSI) and of the “Juncker Plan”**. By moderation of **Dr. Claus Raidl**, President of the Austrian National Bank, with Introductory Statement of the **Gouverneur Prof. Dr. Ewald Nowotny** and Main Statement of the **Director of European Fond for Strategic Investments (EFSI) Mag. Wilhelm Molterer**, the speakers, among them **DI Peter Umundum**, Member of the Board of the Oesterreichische Post AG and Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum, **H.E. Sokol Dervishaj**, Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of **Albania**, **Mr. Emmanuel Forest**, CEO of BOUYGUES Europe SA, **Belgium** and Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum, **Mr. Ingo Bleier**, Head of Group Corporates, Erste Group Bank AG, Austria and **Mr. Holger Muent**, Director, Western Balkans, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (**EBRD**) based in **London**, targeted the search for pragmatic solutions for the Balkans, as well as for other countries of the Vienna Economic Forum Region that are far behind in the demand of provided resources.

Further critical points, for the region unavoidable, were emphasized and in a lively discussion it was determined that a **genuine, relevant and big impulse** for the further development of the regional economic cooperation could be given by Vienna Economic Forum from its headquarter in Vienna.

At the end of the panel discussions, at the traditional **Vienna Economic Forum-Award Ceremony**, the nomination of **Canon CEE GmbH** as **Cooperation Partner of the Year 2016** was announced, the **Vienna Economic Forum-Award 2016** was received by the CEO of Canon CEE GmbH **Mag. Hermann Anderl**, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum.

The President of the Serbian Association of Economists **Mr. Aleksandar Vlahovic**, **Vienna Economic Forum President Dr. Erhard Busek** and **Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** for the collaboration and organisation of **Vienna Economic Talks – Belgrade Meeting 2017**.

At the following **VIP-Reception** at Salon Aichinger & Salon Lugmayr on the second floor of Novomatic Forum all invited distinguished guests **expressed** their **thanks** in celebratory atmosphere to the long-time president of Vienna Economic Forum **Dr. Erhard Busek**, who is leaving his position as president but will be remaining **honorary president of Vienna Economic Forum** and thus will continue supporting future Vienna Economic Forum activities.



PROGRAM

21 NOVEMBER 2016

LOCATION

Novomatic Forum, Friedrichstraße 7, 1010 Wien

12:30–1:15 p.m. **REGISTRATION**

1:15 p.m. **FAMILY PHOTO (by invitation)**

1:30 p.m. **OPENING of 13th Vienna Economic Forum – Vienna Future Dialogue 2016**

Moderation and opening

Amb. Dr. Elena KIRTCEVA, *Secretary General of Vienna Economic Forum*

Welcome Address

Mag. Harald NEUMANN, *CEO, NOVOMATIC AG*
Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum

Introductory Statement

Dr. Erhard BUSEK, *President of Vienna Economic Forum*
Former Vice Chancellor of Austria

Main Statement

Mag. Othmar KARAS, *M.B.L.-HSG, MEP*
Former Vice-President of the European Parliament

2:00–4:00 p.m. **FIRST PLENARY SESSION**

INVESTMENT STRATEGY REGIONAL AND WORLDWIDE – COOPERATION IS ON DEMAND!

Moderation

Mr. Bostjan SKALAR, *Executive Director*
World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)

Introductory Statement

Mr. Goran SVILANOVIC, *Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council, Sarajevo*
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Strategic Partner of Vienna Economic Forum

Main Statements

Mr. Arda ERMUT, *President, World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) and Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey (ISPAT)*
Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum

Participants in the Discussion

H.E. Arlind ZEQRIRI, *Minister of Foreign Investments, Macedonia*

Mr. Aleksandar VLAHOVIC, *President, Serbian Association of Economists*

Dr. Gabriel LANSKY, *Partner at Lansky, Ganzger + Partner, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum*

Mr. Jin LIQUN, *President, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), based in China*

Mag. Birgit REITER-BRAUNWIESER, *Regional Manager South East Europe*
Austrian Business Agency (ABA)

Mr. Damir NOVINIC, *Managing Director*

Agency for Investments and Competitiveness of Croatia

Member of Vienna Economic Forum, Member of World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)

Mr. Gordan MILINIC, *Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina*
Member of Vienna Economic Forum, Member of World Association of
Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)

Q AND A SESSION

with the Audience (led by the Moderator)

4:00–4:30 p.m. **Networking Coffee break**
 hosted by the Board of Vienna Economic Forum and DenizBank AG

4:30–6:30 p.m. **SECOND PLENARY SESSION**

INVESTMENTS IN REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE – HOW TO BE MORE PRAGMATIC

Moderation

Dr. Claus RAIDL, *President, Oesterreichische Nationalbank*

Introductory Statement

Prof. Dr. Ewald NOWOTNY, *Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank*

Main Statement

Mag. Wilhelm MOLTERER, *Managing Director of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), based in Luxembourg, Former Vice-Chancellor of the Republic of Austria*

Participants in the Discussion

DI Peter UMUNDUM, *Member of the Board of Österreichische Post AG, Austria*
Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum

H.E. Mr. Sokol DERVISHAJ, *Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Albania*

Mr. Emmanuel FOREST, *CEO, Bouygues Europe SA, Belgium,*
Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum

Mr. Ingo BLEIER, *Head of Group Corporates, Erste Group Bank AG, Austria*

Mr. Holger MUENT, *Director, Western Balkans,*
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), based in London, UK

Q AND A SESSION

with the Audience (led by the Moderator)

CONCLUSIONS

Mr. Bostjan SKALAR, *CEO*

World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)

Dr. Claus RAIDL, *President, Oesterreichische Nationalbank*

followed by

FESTIVITY AWARD CEREMONY

Nomination of CANON CEE GmbH as COOPERATION PARTNER OF THE YEAR 2016
and signing of MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between

VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM and SERBIAN ECONOMISTS ASSOCIATION

VIP RECEPTION (by personal invitation only)

hosted by the Board of Vienna Economic Forum and Sopharma

9:00 p.m. **END of 13th Vienna Economic Forum – VIENNA FUTURE DIALOGUE 2016**

PHOTO GALLERY



*Event Venue
Novomatic Forum, Vienna*



*Mr. Emmanuel Forest, CEO, Bouygues Europe SA,
Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum
and Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva
greeting the participants*



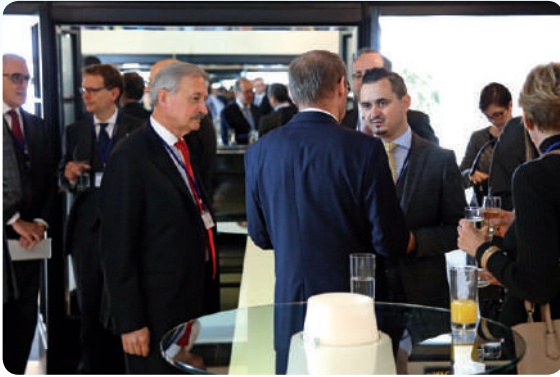
Members and Partners of Vienna Economic Forum coming together...



at the Welcome Reception



H.E. Mr. Sokol Dervishaj, Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of Albania and H.E. Mr. Arlind Zeqiri, Minister of Foreign Investments of Macedonia



Lively discussions ...



... before the official Opening





Dr. Ognian Donev, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Executive Director, Sopharma PLC, Vice-President of Vienna Economic Forum, meets other participants before the Opening



Mag. Othmar Karas, Member of the European Parliament



*H.E. Ambassador Loretta Zakareviciene,
H.E. Ambassador Roland Bimo,
H.E. Mr. Sokol Dervishaj, Minister of
Transport and Infrastructure of Albania*



Dr. Erhard Busek, President of Vienna Economic Forum and Mag. Harald Neumann, CEO, Novomatic AG, Vice-President of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Ognian Donev, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Executive Director, Sopharma PLC, Vice-President of Vienna Economic Forum, Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva, Dr. Klaus Liebscher, former Governor of Oesterreichische Nationalbank, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum with Diplomats from the Embassies in Vienna



Mag. Heinz Messinger, Managing Director, AME International GmbH, Financial Referent of Vienna Economic Forum and Dr. Karl Stoss, CEO, Casinos Austria AG, CEO, Oesterreichische Lotterien Ges.m.b.H.



Good conversation at the welcome reception ...

DI Peter Umundum, Member of the Board, Oesterreichische Post AG, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum and Mr. Arda Ermut, President, World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) and President of Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey (ISPAT), Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum



Visions are on demand



Dr. Milan Parivodic, Principal Attorney at law, Parivodic Advokati/Lawyers, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum and Ms. Polina Christova, Executive Director, Head of Group Financial Institutions and Business Support HYPO NOE Gruppe Bank AG, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum



DI Peter Umundum, Member of the Board, Oesterreichische Post AG, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum and Mag. Hermann Anderl, Managing Director Canon CEE GmbH, Vice-President of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Willibald Plesser, Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Klaus Liebscher, former Governor of Oesterreichische Nationalbank, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum



Planning future activities ...



Dr. Ognian Donev, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Executive Director, Sopharma PLC, Vice-President of Vienna Economic Forum and Members of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum: Dr. Gabriel Lansky, Partner, LANSKY, GANZGER + partner, Dr. Willibald Plesser, Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, Mag. Stefan Szyszkowitz, Member of the Board of EVN AG, Amb. Victor Jackovich, President Jackovich International LLC, Ms. Polina Christova, Executive Director, Head of Group Financial Institutions and Business Support, HYPO NOE Gruppe Bank AG



Dr. Gabriel Lansky, Partner at LANSKY, GANZGER + partner, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum and H.E. Mr. Arlind Zeqiri, Minister of Foreign Investments, Macedonia



Preparations for the Family Photo

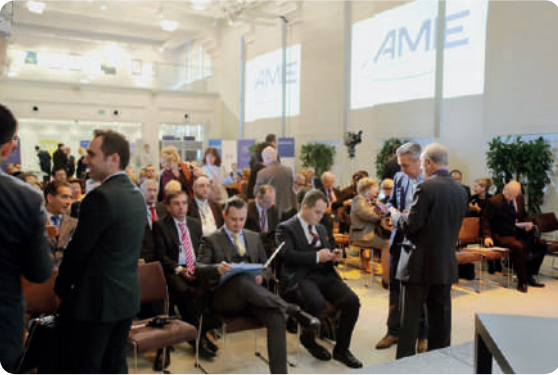




Family Photo – 13th Vienna Economic Forum – Vienna Future Dialogue 2016



Members of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum come together



Exchange of thoughts ...



Question and Answer Session



The audience ...

OPENING OF THE 13TH VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM – VIENNA FUTURE DIALOGUE 2016

Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva



*Dr. Erhard Busek, former Vice-Chancellor of the
Republic of Austria, President of
Vienna Economic Forum*



*Mag. Othmar Karas, Member of the
European Parliament*



The Podium



First Plenary Session: „Investment Strategy Regional And Worldwide – Cooperation Is On Demand!“

Mag. Othmar Karas, Member of the European Parliament



Mr. Bostjan Skalar, CEO, World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), Moderator of the First Plenary Session



Dr. Claus Raidl, President, Oesterreichische Nationalbank



Mag. Wilhelm Molterer, Managing Director of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), Mr. Emmanuel Forest, Prof. Dr. Ewald Nowotny, Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank, Member of the Honorary Committee of Vienna Economic Forum



Mag. Marika Levena, Member and Arbitrator of Vienna Economic Forum



*Dr. Claus Raidl, DI Peter Umundum,
H.E. Mr. Sokol Dervishaj, Minister of Transport
and Infrastructure of Albania*



Mr. Gordan Milinic, Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Member of Vienna Economic Forum, Member of World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)



Introductory statement by Prof. Dr. Ewald Nowotny, Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank, Member of the Honorary Committee of Vienna Economic Forum



*... at the Second Plenary Session:
„Investments In Regional Infrastructure –
How To Be More Pragmatic“*



Mr. Holger Muent, Director, Western Balkans, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), based in London, UK



Mr. Ingo Bleier, Head of Group Corporates,
Erste Group Bank AG



Mr. Damir Novinic, Managing Director, Agency
for Investment and Competitiveness of Croatia,
Member of Vienna Economic Forum, Member
of World Association of Investment Promotion
Agencies (WAIPA)



Mr. Arda Ermut, President, World Association
of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) and
President of Investment Support and Promotion
Agency of Turkey (ISPAT), Member of the Board of
Vienna Economic Forum



Practically oriented statements ...



Active participation ...



Dr. Johann Sollgruber, European Commission Representation in Austria, Member of the Honorary Committee of Vienna Economic Forum



Question and Answer Session



Discussion with the audience



Dr. Milan Parivodic, Principal Attorney at law, Parivodic Advokati/Lawyers, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum



Mag. Wilhelm Molterer, Managing Director of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)



Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Serbian Association of Economists and Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Erhard Busek, former Vice-Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, President of Vienna Economic Forum, was elected as Honorary President of Vienna Economic Forum



Vice-President of Vienna Economic Forum Dr. Ognian Donev congratulated Dr. Erhard Busek on behalf of the whole Board of Vienna Economic Forum with a replica of a Thracian Golden Rhyton, part of The Panagyurishte golden treasure, decorated with scenes and heroes from Greek mythology



DI Peter Umundum, Member of the Board of Oesterreichische Post AG, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum surprised President Dr. Erhard Busek with a special personal stamp of Austrian Post

H.E. Ms. Loretta Zakareviciene, Ambassador of Lithuania, Member of the Ambassadors Committee of Vienna Economic Forum, Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva, Mr. Ahmet Mesut Ersoy, CEO, DenizBank AG, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum



Dr. Willibald Plessner, Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum, Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva, Dr. Günther Rabensteiner, Member of the Board, Verbund AG, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum



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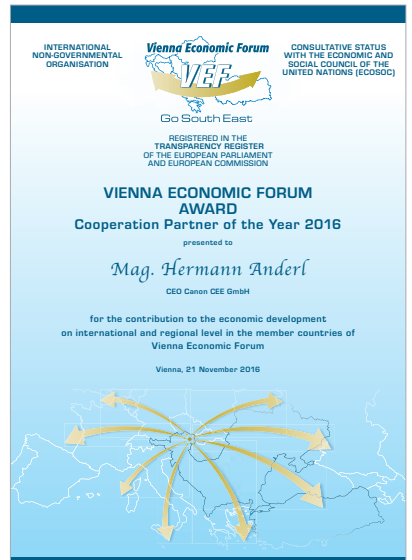
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VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM AWARD COOPERATION PARTNER OF THE YEAR 2016





Mag. Hermann Anderl, Managing Director, Canon CEE GmbH, Vice-President of Vienna Economic Forum receiving the Award "Cooperation Partner of the Year 2016"



Power to the future: VERBUND offers renewable energy and innovative solutions.



VERBUND's run-of-the-river power plant of Freudenau



VERBUND's power plant at Malta

VERBUND is Austria's leading electricity company and one of the largest producers of electricity from hydropower in Europe.

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In these times of radical changes in the energy market VERBUND focuses on its backbone as a renewable supplier and sees strong potential for growth with innovative offers and opportunities for our private and business customers.

Verbund

Am Strom der Zukunft

International for Austria.

Over 80 % of all trading turnover on the Vienna Stock Exchange derives from international trading members.

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General Assembly of Vienna Economic Forum on 14 March 2016



*Visit of the President of the Slovenian Constitutional Court
Ambassador Prof. Dr. Ernest Petric at Vienna Economic Forum*

AN INSIGHT INTO ACTIVITIES OF VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM

General Assembly of Vienna Economic Forum on 14 March 2016

On 14 March 2016, the General Assembly took place. This year's host was **Ing. Wolfgang Hesoun**, General Director Siemens AG Austria and Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum.

Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva presented to the members the numerous activities of Vienna Economic Forum in 2015 and the planned activities for 2016.

President Dr. Busek welcomed the new members of Vienna Economic Forum and different Committees as well as the new Cooperation Partner and Members of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum

- **Mr. Arda Ermut, President**, Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey (ISPAT) and
- **Dr. Milan Parivodic, Owner**, Parivodic Advokatij/Lawyers, Serbia

The Board of Vienna Economic Forum thanks all its members and partners for their continuous support for the excellent development of the numerous activities of Vienna Economic Forum in Austria and abroad and for their valuable trust.

Visit of the President of the Slovenian Constitutional Court Ambassador Prof. Dr. Ernest Petric at Vienna Economic Forum Premises

Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Elena Kirtcheva was delighted to welcome the long-time President of the Slovenian Constitutional Court and former Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia in Austria, **Ambassador Prof. Dr. Ernest Petric**, along with **S.E. Dr. Andrej Rahten, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia** on the premises of Vienna Economic Forum.

Ambassador Dr. Petric, who is longstanding partner in Vienna Economic Forum and an expert in the region, received the badge of honour for his support of Vienna Economic Forum and wished further good and successful development.

The Executive Director of World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) Mr. Bostjan Skalar at a working visit at Vienna Economic Forum

Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Elena Kirtcheva was delighted to welcome the Executive Director of World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) Mr. Bostjan Skalar on Thursday, May 19 2016 to a working visit on the premises of the Vienna Economic Forum.

The focus of the meeting was on deepening of the cooperation between Vienna Economic Forum and WAIPA, particularly in connection with the **13th Vienna Economic Forum – Vienna Future Dialogue 2016** on 21 November 2016, in which the role of the investment agencies of the Vienna Economic Forum region, but also of various other states will be highlighted and a special session for the development of the investment climate will be dedicated.

WAIPA was established in 1995 in Switzerland and has in addition to the headquarters in Geneva a current headquarter in Istanbul. In 2015 Mr. Arda Ermut, President of the Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey who is also member of the board of Vienna Economic Forum was elected as President of WAIPA.



*Mr. Bostjan Skalar receives the
"Special Vienna Economic Forum Decoration"
at a working visit at Vienna Economic Forum*

Working visit of H.E. Arlind Zeqiri, Minister for Foreign Investments of Macedonia

On 21 June 2016, Vienna Economic Forum had the honour and the pleasure to welcome **H.E. Minister Arlind Zeqiri** at the premises of Vienna Economic Forum. Secretary General Amb. Dr Elena Kirtcheva met Minister Zeqiri for a working visit and discussed the further good cooperation between Macedonia and Vienna Economic Forum.

Austria is with 500 Million Euro second most important investor in Macedonia. Among the largest Austrian companies present in Macedonia is the Vienna Economic Forum Cooperation Partner EVN AG.



Working visit of H.E. Arlind Zeqiri, Minister for Foreign Investments of Macedonia at Vienna Economic Forum

Mrs. Gülsüm Azeri, Chairman of the Turkey-Austria Business Council of DEIK, on a working visit to Vienna Economic Forum

The chairperson of the Turkey-Austria Business Council of Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey (DEIK) **Mrs. Gülsüm Azeri, CEO of OMV Petrol Ofisi AS**, was in intensive talks with board members of Vienna Economic Forum from various sectors during a working visit at the premises of Vienna Economic Forum. The already existing very good collaboration, as well as future fruitful cooperation between DEIK and Vienna Economic Forum were discussed.

Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Elena Kirtcheva handed the newly elected Chairman **Mrs. Gülsüm Azeri**, the “Special Vienna Economic Forum Decoration” for the yearlong partnership with DEIK.

DEIK, the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey and Strategic Partner of Vienna Economic Forum, was founded in 1986, as of May 2016 DEIK has around 1,000 corporate memberships and 133 Business Councils.

Dr. Willibald Plessner, Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, Member of the Board of Vienna Economic Forum, Dr. Carsten Wallmann, Head of Strategy & Corporate Development, Oesterreichische Post AG and Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva were pleased to hand the “Special Vienna Economic Forum Decoration” to Mrs. Gülsüm Azeri, Chairwoman of Turkey-Austrian Business Council of Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey (DEIK)



Economic delegation from Laos for working visit at Vienna Economic Forum

On 27 July 2016, **Vienna Economic Forum Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva** was delighted, together with board members and longtime supporters of the Vienna Economic Forum, **Dr. Karl Stoss**, CEO, Casinos Austria AG and Austrian Lotteries GmbH, **Mr. Alexander Tucek**, CEO, Casinos Austria International and **Amb. Victor Jackovich**, President, Jackovich International, to welcome a high-level business delegation from Laos on the premises of the Vienna Economic Forum.

The talks took place on the initiative of the Ambassador of Laos S.E. Mr Phoukhaio Phommavongsa, the delegation was headed by former Prime Minister S.E. Bouasone Bouphavanh, Head of the National Institute for Economic Research, who emphasized the importance of deepening economic relations of companies and institutions from Laos with representatives from the region in our global time.

The members of the delegation, representatives from various provinces and business sectors from Laos have discussed the possibilities of intensified cooperation with Vienna Economic Forum, THE European platform in Vienna for economic initiatives.



Economic delegation from Laos for working visit at Vienna Economic Forum

Law Students of Bucerius Law School – Hamburg visiting Vienna Economic Forum

In the scope of a visit abroad a young group of students of the **Bucerius Law School of Hamburg** under the direction of **Prof. Dr. Axel Kämmerer**, professorship of public law, international law and European law, visited the Vienna Economic Forum.

The **Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Elena Kirtcheva** reported on the goals of Vienna Economic Forum and activities, followed by an animated exchange of ideas with the prospective lawyers. At the adjoining visit at the Law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP the students had the practice-oriented opportunity to come to know about the activities of a law office successful in the region from Vienna Economic Forum Board Member **Dr. Willibald Plessner**.

Bucerius Law School is the first private university of law in Germany with doctorates and post-doctoral rights. It was founded in 2000 by ZEIT-foundation Ebelin and Gerd Bucerius.



At the visit of the law students of Bucerius Law School, Hamburg, with Prof. Dr. Axel Kämmerer, very lively discussions took place, with interest in the practical experiences of Vienna Economic Forum in the development of the regional economy

Memorandum of Understanding between Vienna Economic Forum and New Bulgarian University

The longstanding, excellent cooperation between the **Vienna Economic Forum** and the **New Bulgarian University (NBU)** was raised to a new standard.

On October 26th 2016, **Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Kirtcheva** and the rector of the New Bulgarian University (NBU) **Prof. Dr. Plamen Bochkov** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** by which both parties **agreed on underlining the common goal and willingness** to keep drawing attention to the private economy and business world in Bulgaria and other Vienna Economic Forum-Member Countries to the high standards of present university education.



Memorandum of Understanding between Vienna Economic Forum and New Bulgarian University

Bilateral meeting between Vienna Economic Forum and Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation

The President of **Vienna Economic Forum** former Vice-Chancellor of Austria Dr. Erhard Busek and Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva met on 10 November 2016 with the President of **Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation** Dr. Akkan Suver and his spouse Ms. Mijgan Suver for a bilateral meeting.

Both organisations are longstanding Strategic Partners, and have devoted their common activities to improve the economic and political cooperation in the Balkans, in Europe and Eurasia.



Delegation of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine on a working visit at Vienna Economic Forum

On 11 November 2016, **Ms Maryana Kahanyak**, Advisor to the Minister and Head of Export Promotion Office of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, and **Ms. Kateryna Elishyeva**, Deputy Head of the Export Promotion Unit, accompanied by **Mr. Artem Rybchenko**, Counselor at the Ukrainian Embassy in Vienna, discussed with **Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva** a possible more active future cooperation at a working visit at Vienna Economic Forum.

Both parties defined it as a common goal to draw the attention of the investment possibilities in Ukraine to the Austrian and European business world and to introduce them positively, to motivate investors to look at the Ukrainian market with more trust.



**Vienna Economic Forum Delegation participated actively
at the 20th Eurasian Economic Summit from April 4th to 7th 2017 in Istanbul**



*Dr. Erhard Busek at the Opening of the
20th Eurasian Economic Summit*



*H.E. Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey
Mr. Mehmet Simsek with
Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva*



Dr. Heinz Fischer, former President of the Republic of Austria (2004–2016), Patron of Vienna Economic Forum at the 20th Eurasian Economic Summit



Part of the Vienna Economic Forum Delegation with Dr. Heinz Fischer and Dr. Akkan Suver, President of Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation



H.E. Gjorge Ivanov, President of Macedonia, Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Elena Kirtcheva at 20th Eurasian Economic Summit in Istanbul



H.E. Mr. Bujar Nishani, President of the Republic of Albania, Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva, Amb. Valter Brahim, Diplomatic Advisor to the President of the Republic of Albania



*Secretary General Amb. Dr. Elena Kirtcheva stressed again at the 20th Eurasian Economic Summit that **Cooperation** remains the keyword of Vienna Economic Forum*

Urkunde

13th Vienna
Economic Forum
Vienna Dialogue 2016
21 November 2016

Die Stadt Wien, die Wirtschaftskammer Wien und
das Vienna Convention Bureau danken für die erfolgreiche
Organisation dieser Veranstaltung!

VIENNA
CONVENTION BUREAU

Präsident
der Wirtschaftskammer Wien

Bürgermeister
der Bundeshauptstadt Wien

Präsidentin
des WienTourismus

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VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM IS PROUD TO WORK WITH



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Mr. Nikolay A. PETKOV MA, *CEO, nikoweb.net(works), web Support*



Vienna Economic Talks

Vienna Economic Talks behandelt spezifische Themen, Regionen und Wirtschaftssektoren, die nicht nur für die Mitgliedsländer des Vienna Economic Forum von großem Interesse sind, sondern auch für andere Interessierte in der Region.

Vienna Economic Talks deals with specific topics, regions and economic sectors, which are of great interest not only for the member countries of the Vienna Economic Forum, but also for other interested parties in the region.

FOR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING

Yours,
Vienna Economic Forum Team

“Since its establishment, Vienna Economic Forum brought together distinguished people and initiatives to address matters of regional interest. Through the years, it enabled the region to move together in synergy as we face the challenging times. This joint vision and effort will strengthen regional market and boost economic and social development in the upcoming years.”

Prof. Dr. Vujica LAZVIĆ

*Former Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Policy and Financial System,
Member of Parliament of Montenegro*

VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM

A stylized map of Central Europe and the Balkans is shown in white outlines against a light blue background. A central hub, represented by a small circle with a dot, is located in the Vienna region. From this hub, several thick, golden-yellow arrows radiate outwards in various directions, pointing towards the edges of the map. The arrows have a slight 3D effect with a shadow. The overall design is clean and modern, emphasizing connectivity and regional focus.

“Vienna Economic Forum, which brings together not only policy makers from the countries in the region but also investors and entrepreneurs, is a truly praiseworthy initiative.”

Mr. Boris VUJČIĆ

*Governor of the Croatian National Bank,
Member of the Governors Committee
of Vienna Economic Forum*

“As every year, you have attracted an impressive speaker line-up. Your Forum surely contributes to a better understanding in the region and strengthens Vienna as a hub and gateway to Eastern Europe and Central Asia.”

Mr. Martin KOLMHOFER

Director, CEE Portal, Austria

“We would all agree that Vienna Economic Forum is the right floor to meet various ideas for promoting the economic cooperation between membering countries. This is way broader visions are on demand. This is why I find Vienna Economic Forum goals so topical and needed. I do believe that as we share a ‘common’ Europe and probably some common problems as well, so we share common goals.”

Mr. Bojidar DANEV

Executive President, Bulgarian Industrial Association



A SUCCESS STORY THROUGH THE YEARS

“I would like to congratulate you, once again, to the success of the Forum. The discussions proved most inspiring and attracted so many distinguished personalities who spoke with commitment and enthusiasm.”

Prof. Agni VLAVIANOS-ARVANITIS

*President and Founder, Biopolitics International Organization, Greece,
Strategic Partner of Vienna Economic Forum*



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BEST OF

VIENNA ECONOMIC FORUM

