# Course on Structural Reforms

**Joint Vienna Institute**

**In Cooperation with JVI Partners**

**Vienna, August 29 - September 9, 2016**

**PROGRAM**

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### Monday, August 29

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<th>Time</th>
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| 8.30 a.m. - 9.00 a.m. | Registration and Administrative Session  
Ms. Tania Bredniakova, Program Officer, Joint Vienna Institute (JVI) |
| 9.00 a.m. - 9.30 a.m. | Opening Session  
Mr. Martin Schindler, Deputy Director, JVI |
| 9:30 a.m. - 10.00 a.m. | Quiz |
| 10.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. | L-1 Structural Reforms, Competitiveness, and Impact on Economic Growth  
Mr. Maksym Ivanyna, Economist, JVI  
- Definition of structural reforms and competitiveness  
- Transmission channels to growth  
- Reform gaps and priorities |
| 2.00 p.m. - 3.30 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 |
| 4.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. | W-1 Indicators of Structural Reforms  
Mr. Ivanyna; Mr. Alexei Miksjuk, Junior Economist, JVI; and Mr. Schindler |

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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.
### Tuesday, August 30

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<tr>
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| 9.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. | L-3     |          | Methodologies for Assessing Competitiveness                          | Ms. Julia Wörz, Head of Unit, Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB)           | - Trade and competitiveness  
- Global interconnectiveness  
- Real effective exchange rates |
| 2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.   | L-4     |          | Identifying Policy Priorities: The OECD’s Annual Structural Policy Surveillance | Mr. Alain de Serres, Head of Division, 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 |

### Wednesday, August 31

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| 9.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. | W-2     |          | Workshop on Implementing the Framework: Going for Growth              | Mr. de Serres; Mr. Miksjuk; and Mr. Schindler                                | - Matching indicators with performance  
- Application to CESEE countries  
- Selected country examples |
| 2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.   | L-5     |          | Public Sector Reform: The Example of Austria                         | Mr. Benedikt Gamillscheg, Advisor; Ms. Monika Geppl, Advisor; (both) Federal Ministry of Finance of Austria | - Budget reform, design, stakeholders, medium-term expenditure framework  
- Cash vs. accruals budgeting and accounting  
- Performance budgeting (incl. gender budgeting)  
- Outlook, next steps, general discussion |

### Thursday, September 1

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| 9.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. | W-3     |          | Ranking Reform Priorities                                           | Mr. Ivanyna; Mr. Miksjuk; and Mr. Schindler                                  | - Estimating reform gaps  
- Identifying priorities  
- Heat maps |
2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. L-6 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
- Measuring financial sector reform development
- Financial sector liberalization

Friday, September 2

9.00 a.m. - 10.30 p.m. L-7 Capital Account Liberalization
Mr. Schindler
- Measuring capital account openness
- Pros and cons of capital account liberalization
- The IMF’s institutional view

11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. L-8 SME Financing
Mr. Aron Gereben, Economist, European Investment Bank (EIB)
- Challenges and opportunities
- Bank lending survey
- Credit guarantee schemes

2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. L-9 The Role of Infrastructure and the Bottlenecks in Investment Finance
Mr. Atanas Kolev, Economist, EIB
- Structural reforms, infrastructure, and growth
- Financing infrastructure

Monday, September 5

9.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. L-10 Labor Market Policies
Mr. Schindler
- Labor markets developments in the region
- Labor market policies and reforms
- Equity vs. efficiency
11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. L-11 **Youth Unemployment**
Mr. Johannes Koettl, Senior Economist, Social Protection and Labor; and Ms. Gallina A. Vincelette, Lead Economist and Program Leader for the Western Balkans; both World Bank
- Recent development
- Policy measures
- Reform progress and challenges

2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. W-4 **Workshop on Labor Markets**
Mr. Miksjuk and Mr. Schindler

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**Tuesday, September 6**

9.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. PP-1 **Preparation of Participant Presentations**
Mr. Miksjuk and Mr. Schindler
- Three groups: structural reforms in selected areas in Central Europe, Southeastern Europe, and Central Asia/Caucasus

11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. L-12 **Trade Reform**
Mr. Maarten Smeets; Head, Technical Assistance Coordination, Partnerships and Internship Programmes Section; and Mr. Mustapha Sadni Jallab, Coordinator of the WTO Chairs Program; both Institute for Training and Technical Co-operation (ITTC), World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Tariffs and non-tariff barriers to international trade
- Key areas of reform and expected benefits
- The role of trade agreements

2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. C-1 **Case Study on Trade Liberalization in a CEE Country**
Mr. Smeets and Mr. Sadni Jallab
### Wednesday, September 7

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<tr>
<td>9.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.</td>
<td>L-13</td>
<td><strong>Guest Lecture: Implementing Structural Reforms—The Experience of Georgia</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mr. Alex Aleksishvili, Chairman of Policy and Management Consulting Group (PMCG), former Minister of Economic Development and Minister of Finance, Georgia&lt;br&gt;- Initial situation&lt;br&gt;- Reform priorities&lt;br&gt;- Implementation challenges&lt;br&gt;[Joint lecture with IMF Course on Macroeconomic Management in Resource-Rich Countries.]</td>
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<td>11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.</td>
<td>PP-2</td>
<td><strong>Selected Country Case Studies: Participant Presentations</strong>&lt;br&gt;Three participants&lt;br&gt;- Bulgaria&lt;br&gt;- Iran&lt;br&gt;- Ukraine</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.</td>
<td>PP-3</td>
<td><strong>Preparation of Participant Group Presentations</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mr. Miksjuk and Mr. Schindler&lt;br&gt;- Three groups on structural reforms in selected areas in Central Europe, Southeastern Europe, and Central Asia/Caucasus</td>
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### Thursday, September 8

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<td>9.00 p.m. - 10.30 a.m.</td>
<td>PP-4</td>
<td><strong>Participant Group Presentations</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mr. Miksjuk and Mr. Schindler</td>
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<td>11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.</td>
<td>L-14</td>
<td><strong>Key Challenges in the Energy and Utility Sector</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ms. Elcin Akcura, Principal Power and Energy Economist, EBRD&lt;br&gt;- Sector restructuring, unbundling, privatization&lt;br&gt;- Key elements of a functioning energy market&lt;br&gt;- Re-balancing the energy mix&lt;br&gt;- Case studies and discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.</td>
<td>L-15</td>
<td><strong>The Role of Corruption and How to Overcome It</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mr. Ivanyna&lt;br&gt;- Measuring corruption&lt;br&gt;- Impact on growth&lt;br&gt;- Overcoming corruption</td>
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Pension Reform
Mr. Markus Knell, Economics Department, OeNB
- Demographic trends in the transition countries
- Options for reforming existing pension systems
- Recent developments in funded schemes

Friday, September 9

9.00 a.m. - 10.30 p.m. L-17 Europe 2020: Europe’s Growth Strategy
Mr. Gaetano D’Adamo, DG, ECFIN, European Commission (EC)
- Objectives
- National Targets
- Country Actions

11.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. Quiz

12.00 p.m. - 1.00 p.m. Concluding Session

Last updated: August 10, 2016