

International conference

“Measuring the macroeconomic impact of European Union funds and examining the economic reasoning behind Cohesion policy”

Draft programme

May 29-30, 2008, Riga, Latvia

(Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Strēlnieku street 4a, Soros auditorium)

May 28, 2008

20.00-... Informal dinner

Day 1: May 29, 2008

9.00-10.00 Registration of participants, coffee break

10.00-10.15 Opening of the conference
(Normunds Broks - Minister for Special Assignments for Administration of European Union Funds)

10.15-10.00 EU funds impact on the development of Latvian economy presented by analyzing the results of the macroeconomic midterm evaluation model developed specifically for the Latvian economic situation
(Alf Vanags – director of “Baltic International Centre for economic Policy Studies”)

11.00-11.20 Coffee break

11.20-12.00 Methodologies for EU funds macroeconomic impact assessment applied by other EU countries, including the developed models

12.00-12.30 Press conference

12.00-13.10 Lunch

13.10-13.50 Results of the EU funds macroeconomic impact assessment, analysis and interpretation of the results to other member states

13.50-14.10 Coffee break

14.10-15.10 Discussions

15.30 - City tour, visiting some EU funds projects

19.00 - Dinner

Day 2: May 30, 2008

- 9.30-10.15 Coffee break
- 10.15-12.00 Economic background of the Cohesion policy; optimistic and skeptical views on the contribution of the EU funds to the receiving economy and the value added of this contribution (in terms of the EU budget review debates)
(Andžs Ūbelis - Head of the Managing Authority, Deputy State Secretary of Ministry of Finance)
- 12.00-12.30 Discussions and conclusions
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch

APPLICATION FORM

International conference

“Measuring the macroeconomic impact of European Union funds and examining the economic reasoning behind Cohesion policy”

**May 29-30, 2008
Riga, Latvia**

SURNAME

NAME

ORGANIZATION

POSITION

ADDRESS

COUNTRY

TEL./FAX

E-MAIL

**ATTENDANCE DURING
THE CONFERENCE**

May 28 – informal dinner

May 29 – macroeconomic impact of the European Union funds

May 30 – Economic reasoning behind the Cohesion policy

PLEASE FILL IN AND SEND THE APPLICATION FORM UNTIL **MAY 9, 2008 TO MR **IMANTS TIESNIEKS** E-MAIL: imants.tiesnieks@mfa.gov.lv, TEL. + 32 22 383 119.**



The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Latvia in cooperation with the Baltic International Centre for Economic Policy Studies (BICEPS) and the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga is organizing an international conference on the related themes “Measuring the macroeconomic impact of European Union funds and examining the economic reasoning behind Cohesion policy”. The conference will take place on May 29-30 at the premises of the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga.

The aim of the conference is to facilitate the exchange of experience among economic experts from different EU member states concerning the evaluation of the impact of the EU funds on the economy. The discussion will include: the evaluation methods applied – including modeling methods – the results and their interpretation and their influence on the further decision making process. Academic sector representatives, as well as professionals that work with economic, financial and EU funds issues are welcome to participate in the conference.

Discussion topics:

- EU funds impact on the development of Latvian economy presented by analyzing the results of the macroeconomic midterm evaluation model (further – model) developed specifically for the Latvian economic situation;
- Methodologies for EU funds macroeconomic impact assessment applied by other EU countries, including the developed models;
- Results of the EU funds macroeconomic impact assessment, analysis and interpretation of the results to other EU member states;
- Economic background of the Cohesion policy; optimistic and skeptical views on the contribution of the EU funds to the receiving economy and the value added of this contribution (in terms of the EU budget review debates).

It is a great pleasure to invite you to participate in this conference and contribute to these discussions on the impact of the EU funds. We feel this can contribute to a more efficient Cohesion Policy.

The number of the conference participants is limited. We invite you to delegate two representatives from each Member State by sending the completed application form by **May 9, 2008 at the latest** to e-mail

imants.tiesnieks@mfa.gov.lv. The accommodation costs for participants will be covered for the conference period 28-30 May.

The conference will be held in English. A more detailed conference programme and other information related to the conference organization will be sent to the indicated e-mail of your institution's delegated representative.