

Kastryčnicki Ekanamičny Forum

Harvesting ideas for sustainable development

Opening of the conference



Dmitry Golukhov
Deputy Minister of Economy of the Republic of Belarus



Pavel Daneyko
General Director (CEO) of The Institute for Privatization and Management

Panel 1. Market trends of main trading partners: challenges and opportunities for Belarus

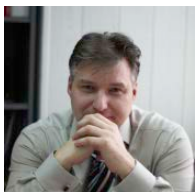
Following the 2011 currency crisis, exports for a short time became the main engine of economic growth in Belarus. However, soon the price benefits that Belarus received after the 2011 devaluation and a decline in wages disappeared. The situation on the foreign markets has deteriorated as well: economies of main trading partners are in recession, or stagnate, or are close to one of these states. This is a significant challenge for the development of Belarusian exports and creates additional difficulties for the financing of the trade deficit. Economic effects of the integration initiatives in which Belarus participates remain debatable. This section of the conference will focus on the situation in the global economy and possible scenarios for the development of economies of Belarus' score non-energy trading partners.



Moderator:
Dr. Irina Tochitskaya
Academic Director of The Research Center of the Institute for Privatization and Management



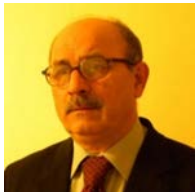
Speaker:
Prof. Marek Dąbrowski
Professor of Economics, CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research fellow



Speaker:
Sergey Pukhov
Senior researcher at the Institute "Development Center" NRU "Higher School of Economics"



Speaker:
Dmytro Boyarchuk
Executive Director CASE Ukraine



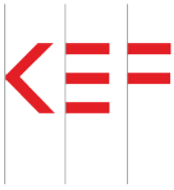
Comment:
Alexander Wasilewski
Official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Poland



Comment:
Mikhail Chepikov
Assistant Professor, Belarusian State University (BSU), Economics Department



Comment:
Alexei Pikulik
PhD, academic director of Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies (BISS)



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Panel 2. Limitations and opportunities for Belarusian socio-economic policy

Belarus has exhausted its traditional economic growth factors, which is confirmed by a number of recent studies. At the same time, the current economic stagnation and slow economic growth create additional challenges: businesses already face the lack of qualified workforce. In the absence of growing labor productivity and salaries, labor market conditions, aggravated by migration, will deteriorate further. After the 2011 currency crisis, inflation and devaluation expectations have grown significantly, which diminishes the effectiveness of monetary policy and makes the currency market particularly vulnerable to internal and external shocks. These challenges require rather harsh and rapid measures, which will unavoidably affect household welfare. This sets new objectives for social policy – to support the most vulnerable groups of population and develop the mechanism for the social integration of those who will lose jobs as a result of economic policy changes. Issues and challenges for economic and social policy in Belarus will be discussed during this section.



Moderator:
Alena Sheremet (Andreeva)
Editor of TUT.BY-TV



Speaker:
Dzmitry Kruk
Researcher in BERO



Speaker:
Kateryna Bornukova
Senior Researcher in BERO



Speaker:
Dr. Natalya Mironchik
Head of Monetary Policy and Economic Analysis Directorate of the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus

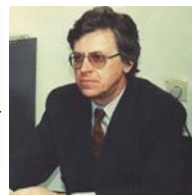


Speaker:
Dr. Uladzimir Valetka
Senior Researcher, CASE Belarus



Speaker:
Gleb Shymanovich
Economist in the Research Center of the Institute for Privatization and Management

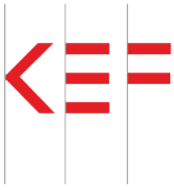
Comment:
Yury Seliverstov
Head of the Budget Policy General Directorate of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus



Comment:
Mikhail Kovalev
PhD, prof., Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Belarusian State University



Comment:
Kiryl Haiduk
PhD, Economist for Belarus in World Bank



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Panel 3. Limitations and development opportunities for Belarusian regions

Issues related to the development of Belarusian regions are often considered as secondary against the backdrop of macroeconomic challenges. In fact, Belarusian companies name macroeconomic and institutional problems among top impediments for business development, which can be handled only by the national government. However, Belarusian regions were affected differently by the crisis, they are adapting differently to internal and external market challenges, and they have individual peculiarities in functioning of the labor market, financial market, etc. In this section, conference participants will discuss competitive advantages and weaknesses of Belarusian regions as well as reform ideas that could further release the potential of each region and soften negative regional consequences of the restructuring of government companies and tightening of macroeconomic policy.



Moderator:
Sierz Naurodski
President, CASE Belarus



Speaker:
Dr. Igor Pelipas
Senior Researcher, Head of the Supervisory in The Research Center of the Institute for Privatization and Management



Speaker:
Dr. Vladislav Zaytsev
Head of the Regional Centre for the Gomel Region of The Economy Research Institute of the Ministry of Economy



Speaker:
Dzmitry Babicki
Senior Researcher in CASE Belarus



Speaker:
Alexander Chubrik
Director of The Research Center of the Institute for Privatization and Management



Comment:
Georgy Badei
Chairman Emeritus of Business Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers by name of professor Kunjavsky



Comment:
Julia Dzingailo
Program Analyst in UNDP Belarus



Comment:
Andrei Zayats
Head of department of the Center of System Analysis and Strategic Research of NAS of Belarus, assistant professor of budget and finance of foreign trade in BSEU

Closing remarks and presentation of the KEF-2014 concept



Andrey Mitskevich
Chairman of the Association of European Business



Pavel Daneyko
General Director (CEO) of The Institute for Privatization and Management