

EUROPEAN BUSINESS SUMMIT

DARE & CARE: SUSTAINING EUROPE'S AMBITIONS, FINANCING, STAFFING AND GREENING

Brussels, Belgium, March 26 – 27

The 7th edition of the European Business Summit took place on March 26 - 27, 2009 in Brussels under the theme: "Dare and Care: sustaining Europe's ambitions, Financing, Staffing and Greening". In order to sustain its ambitions to be a strong world player - especially in current times of economic crisis - Europe should Dare and Care better. Daring means that Europe needs to become more entrepreneurial. Doing business in the EU must become easier and more rewarding. During the Summit business leaders discussed with high-level decisionmakers, academics and NGOs from around the world on issues like the financial crisis, clean tech innovation, skills, climate change, energy and ageing. The goal was to come up with concrete solutions for a sustainable and ambitious Europe that is really Daring and Caring.

For more: www.businessseurope.eu

VIENNA ECONOMIC TALKS PRISTINA MEETING

INVEST IN KOSOVO - INVEST IN THE REGION

Pristina, Kosovo, March 25 - 26

Vienna Economic Talks – Pristina Meeting was held on 25-26 March 2009 under the patronage of H.E. Prime Minister Hashim Thaci in Grand Hotel Pristina. The meeting welcomed more than 180 participants from 19 countries and also from the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), from the EU International Civilian Office, from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and World Bank.

For more: www.vienna-economic-forum.com

FEU PROPOSED ANTI-CRISIS PROGRAM TO UKRAINIAN GOVERNMENT

FEU presented on March 20, a "National anti-crisis measures" program during its all-Ukrainian conference in Kyiv, which it plans to offer for realization to all government institutions of Ukraine. The program was developed by the FEU in cooperation with the National research centre for industrial development problems at the National Academy of Science of Ukraine. The program foresees three periods for overcoming the crisis: short-term, middle-term and long-term.

The short-term period focuses, first of all, on boosting banks' liquidity and preventing the bankruptcy of systemic banks, supporting the liquidity of systemic enterprises in the real economic sector and preventing their bankruptcy, stabilizing the hryvnia, balancing the state budget and stimulating employment.

The middle-term period is devoted to the fulfillment of an effective industrial policy of import substitution, aimed at filling the market with domestic products, primarily consumer goods, supporting and stimulating small and medium enterprises, and pursuing a state tax policy to boost a number of enterprises in the major industries.

The long-term period, which is aimed, according to the program designers, at preventing further foreign crises impacting Ukraine, foresees an improvement of government, its development as an integral and coordinated system, the elaboration and realization of a strategy and the setting of clear priorities for social and economic as well as scientific and technical development.

The FEU proposed to create a trilateral anti-crisis committee under a 2008-2009 general agreement consisting of representatives of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, national employers associations and professional unions, and parties of the general agreement, who would monitor the program.

TÜSİAD REPRESENTED TURKISH PRIVATE SECTOR AT G20 SUMMIT

TÜSİAD represented Turkish private sector at G20 Summit which took place in London, on March 18. The Event was hosted by TÜSİAD's British counterpart, Confederation of British Industry (CBI) and was attended by British PM Gordon Brown. During the summit, the expectations of private sector representatives were expressed prior to G-20 Leaders Summit which was held on April 2.

5th WORLD WATER FORUM BRIDGING DIVIDES FOR WATER Istanbul, Turkey, March 16-22

Istanbul has been selected as the host for the world's most important international water related event. The 5th World Water Forum took place at Istanbul's Golden Horn Congress & Exhibition Center between 16 to 22 March 2009 bearing its "Bridging Divides For Water" theme with the aim of generating solutions to water-related problems by proposing specific policy changes to improve water management around the world.

World Water Expo Brochure
For more: www.worldwaterforum5.org

ATIB FINALIZED ITS RESEARCHES IN SPHERES OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, FINANCE AND FAIR COMPETITION

ATIB has been implementing a research program since 2008 for improving access of business people functioning in Azerbaijan to information in economic and social spheres and for supporting the country's development priorities. Within this program public discussion of the research work on "Azerbaijan Health Sector: Current Status and Development Perspectives" took place at ATIB office on March 11. Main goals of the study was analysis of the business opportunities in health sector, assessment of current status of health services,

their financing mechanisms and investments and making recommendations to Government and also business community on development perspectives of health sector.

In coming days ATIB will hold public discussions on the researches titled “Azerbaijan Finance Sector Report”, “Current Status of Free Competition in Azerbaijan and Its Impact on National Economy” and “Development Perspectives of Education Sector – Business Relations in Azerbaijan” within its research program. Results of the studies will be published and will be brought to the attention of wider community.

10th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF TIAD

The 10th General Assembly of TIAD was held on March 12, in Bucharest. Ömer Susli was elected as the new President of the Association for 2009-2011 period whereas Ahmet Hamdi Demirel, Ismail Hakkı Tuyun and Mesut Yetişkul assumed the Vice Presidencies.

EESC – ILO JOINT CONFERENCE

"CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE IN THE BLACK SEA REGION AND THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP COUNTRIES"

Brussels, Belgium, March 2 – 3

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) together with the International Labour Organization (ILO), organized a conference on “Civil Society Dialogue in the Black Sea Region and the Eastern Partnership Countries.” Bringing together around 100 representatives of employers’, employees’ and various interests organisations from the EU Member States as well as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine, the Conference provided an opportunity to exchange views on civil society contribution to the Eastern Partnership and the Black Sea Synergy initiatives.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITY SUPPORTS ARMENIA'S GEOTHERMAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

The World Bank’s Vice President for Europe and Central Asia approved on February 24 the Armenia Geothermal Energy Development project. The project, funded by a grant of US\$1.5 million from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund, is the second operation financed under the Geothermal Energy Development Program (GeoFund), a US\$25 million regional program funded by the GEF and implemented by the World Bank jointly with the International Finance Corporation. The objective of the GeoFund is to systematically promote the use of geothermal energy in the Europe and Central Asia region by removing barriers, and allowing for diversification in energy use and an increase in the demand for similar projects.

MEDITERRANEAN INVESTMENT FORUM

Beirut, Lebanon, February 20 – 21

The Mediterranean Investment Forum was held on February 20 - 21, 2009 in Beirut, Lebanon. The Forum was organized by BUSINESSMED and Al-Iktissad Wal-A'mal Group,

in cooperation with a number of regional and international organizations and coincided with the General Assembly of BUSINESSMED. More than 1500 business and investment leaders from Europe and the Mediterranean countries were invited to attend the Forum as well as representatives of Gulf development funds and financing authorities.

For more: www.umce-med.org/site/eng/medinvest2009.html

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
“TURKEY WHERE THE OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND”
Istanbul, Turkey, Feb 11 – 12**

YASED, the International Investors Association of Turkey, was held its biannual conference on February 11 – 12, in Istanbul, entitled “Turkey, Where the Opportunities ABOUND - A Safe Haven For Investment.” The fundamental objective of the conference was to outline the vision and strategy of Turkey, as an outstanding center of investment on the world, on her journey to full EU membership. The best-in-class examples for FDI inflows, emerging international FDI trends, the strategy Turkey should implement and the vision she must adopt for future were analyzed in the Conference.

**EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY WEEK (EUSEW)
Brussels, Belgium, Feb 9 – 13**

Under the umbrella of the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign, the European Commission’s Directorate - General for Energy and Transport, the European Institutions and major stakeholders concerned with sustainable energy put together on the third edition of the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) which took place in Brussels, Belgium, and in other cities across Europe between February 9th and 13th.

For more: www.eusew.eu

**WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM ANNUAL MEETING 2009
Davos, Switzerland, January 28 - February 1**

The World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2009 was held in Davos, Switzerland between January 28 and February 1st, with a record numbers of participants from business, government and civil society. The five day meeting was held under the theme “Shaping the Post-Crisis World” and focused on managing the current crisis and shaping the entire post-crisis agenda, from economic reform to climate change.

For more: www.weforum.org/en/events/AnnualMeeting2009/index.htm

IEA URGES RESUMPTION OF GAS SUPPLIES TO EUROPE

The IEA recently declared its concern about the escalation of the dispute between Gazprom and Naftogaz of Ukraine on the delivery of gas to Europe. Despite the reassuring statements late December by both parties that supply to Europe would not be interrupted, supplies have

now come to a complete halt. This is completely unacceptable, according to the IEA, given that European customers are not a party in this dispute, have long term contracts with fair prices and have made prompt payments. The IEA urged both Gazprom and Naftogaz to resume gas supplies to Europe immediately and reach a prompt, lasting settlement to their dispute. Waiting for negotiations to resume and to be concluded should be no excuse for a disruption to gas supplies to European customers.

**FIRST INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT ON CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
“STRATEGY AND THE BEST PRACTICE OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF EURASIA”
Kiev, Ukraine, January 27**

The First International Summit on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) was held on January 27, in Kiev, Ukraine. The Summit’s main objective was to create a permanent professional platform for leading European and Asian companies to exchange the latest experience gained in corporate social responsibility, to discuss the most pressing issues and trends in the development of CSR and to establish international CSR models and standards.

**IEA WORKSHOP on ENERGY EFFICIENCY DATA, ANALYSIS AND POLICY: THE THREE FACES OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY INDICATORS
Paris, France, January 21-22**

The International Energy Agency together with the EU ODYSSEE-MURE project organized a two-day energy efficiency workshop in Paris, France on 21 and 22 January, 2009. The purpose of this workshop was to share information about best practices relating to indicators development and their use from a policy-making, analytical and statistical point of view. All aspects of energy efficiency indicators, from using the energy balance as a foundation to the development and assessment of efficiency-related policies were discussed.

For more: www.iea.org

**NEW RELEASE – WORLD BANK
POLICY RESEARCH WORKING PAPER
ARE ALL THE SACRED COWS DEAD ? IMPLICATIONS OF THE FINANCIAL CRISIS FOR MACRO AND FINANCIAL POLICIES**

The recent global financial crisis has shaken the confidence of developed and developing countries alike in the very blueprint of financial and macro policies that underlie the western capitalist systems. In an effort to contain the crisis from spreading, the authorities in the US and many European governments have taken unprecedented steps of providing extensive liquidity, giving assurances to bank depositors and creditors that include blanket guarantees, and structuring bail-out programs that include taking large ownership stakes in financial institutions, in addition to establishing programs for direct provision of credit to non-financial institutions. Emphasizing the importance of incentives and tensions between short term and longer term policy responses to crisis management, this paper draws on a large

body of research evidence and country experiences to discuss the implications of the current crisis for financial and macroeconomic policies going forward.

NEW RELEASE - OECD
FINANCIAL MARKET TRENDS No. 95

8 January 2009

The current issue focuses on the causes and policy issues raised by the financial market crisis. It also contains articles on ageing, pensions and financial markets, as well as new statistical releases on household wealth and institutional investors' assets.