

[foundation grants and programs]

greener notebook program results

As part of the *Greener Notebook* program, the Pontis Foundation and DELL will distribute 200 notebooks to 75 non-governmental organizations active in environmental protection. Along with the notebooks, DELL will be handing out manuals on the effective and environment-friendly usage of refurbished notebooks, with recommendations on where notebooks can be disposed of ecologically in Slovakia. The list of successful applicants is posted [here](#).

t-mobile's support of talented handicapped children and youth

Through a grant fund set up at the Pontis Foundation, T-Mobile intends to distribute Sk 1,000,000 (€ 33,193.92) for this purpose. Until 3 November 2008, grants of up to Sk 70,000 (€ 2,323.57) are available for non-profit organizations working with children and young people with sensorial handicaps, but also other non-business entities that will come up with innovative ideas. The full text of the call for grant applications and the project forms are available [here](#).

tesco for healthier cities later this week

The Tesco Stores Slovakia grant fund set up at the Pontis Foundation is preparing another round of the grant program *Tesco for Healthier Cities*. Its aim is to support the enhancement, cleaning and other maintenance of green areas in cities and towns where Tesco stores are located. In this round, the total amount of grant money to be distributed is Sk 1,200,000 (€ 39,832.7). On 24 October 2008, we'll publish the call for grant applications [on our webpage](#).

[corporate responsibility]

pontis foundation assisted in preparation of vúb banka's corporate responsibility report

As the first company in Slovakia, VÚB banka published its corporate responsibility report in compliance with the Global Reporting Initiative Guidelines. Our Foundation's staff cooperated with the bank in preparing the report, and they also performed an external audit of the report's compliance with the Guidelines. More information is available [here](#).

[volunteerism]

ernst & young volunteer event

On Monday, 29 September 2008, in cooperation with the Pontis Foundation, Ernst & Young organized its first volunteers' day titled Community Day. Nearly 80 employees enthusiastically joined a number of manual, administrative and socially oriented activities in seven non-profit organizations in Bratislava. More information about the event and a photo gallery are posted [here](#).

our bratislava 2008 video footage

A few days ago, we published video footage from the 2nd annual corporate volunteerism event [Our Bratislava](#), organized in September by the Pontis Foundation in cooperation with the corporate association Engage. You could read more about the event in our September e-newsletter, and you may now also watch the video [here](#).

[democratization and development abroad — belarus]

criteria lacking for eu's lifting of travel restrictions for belarus

On 13 October, the European Union lifted travel restrictions for the highest Belarusian representatives. The Pontis Foundation sees the basic deficiency of the EU's decision on lifting the travel restrictions in its failure to define clear

upcoming events

17–23 October

Our Foundation's staff will undertake a **monitoring and evaluation trip to Serbia** to assess the results and impact of the project *Support of Sustainability of Serbian NGOs* through utilizing Slovak experience from the area of corporate responsibility.

19–31 October

B92 field trip to the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary, with the aim to prepare **a documentary film on the integration of V4 countries into the EU**. The project is supported by the International Visegrad Fund.

21 October

As part of the project *Visegrad for a European Serbia*, we're organizing **a round-table in Subotica, Serbia, on the topic of EU's Common Agricultural Policies**.

23 October

We're inviting you to the **2nd seminar on how to create corporate social responsibility reports**. More information and the registration forms are posted [here](#).

28 October

For invited guests, we're preparing **the 4th installment of the Balkan Breakfast event**, this time **focusing on Serbian media**.

6 November

For corporate segment representatives, we're preparing **the 1st corporate philanthropy forum** –

criteria that would allow the EU, following a period of six months, to determine whether the situation in Belarus has genuinely improved. You can find more details in our [statement](#).

new economic analysis by biss

The Pontis Foundation's partner in Belarus, the Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies, published a new study in its series of economic analyses that are part of their project focused on supporting a public dialogue on economic reforms. The study deals with perspectives and impacts of the potential entry of Belarus into the oil transit project using the Odessa–Brody pipeline. The project is made possible thanks to financial support from the official Slovak development program Slovak Aid. You may read the most recent analysis in the Russian language on the [BISS webpage](#).

[democratization and development abroad — the balkans]

diploma thesis contest winner returns from croatia study visit

Pavol Szalai returned from a month-long study visit at the Slovak Republic Embassy in Croatia. "This study stay allowed me to get familiar not only with many aspects of diplomacy and the Embassy's everyday operations, but I also gained insight into Croatian politics, economy, media and the non-governmental sector," Pavol says in retrospect. More information is available [here](#).

introduction of 18 ngos to companies in belgrade

On Monday, 29 September 2008, 18 non-governmental organizations introduced themselves to Serbian companies at the NGOs Fair in Belgrade. The event, titled *Partnership for Success*, was organized by the Pontis Foundation in cooperation with the partner organization Smart Kolektiv, Serbian Deputy Prime Minister's team for the implementation of poverty reduction strategies, the American Chamber of Commerce in Serbia, and with the support from other partners. More information about the event and a picture gallery is posted [here](#).

[development aid education]

development aid lectures

This autumn, our Foundation began implementing the *Development Aid Education* project, financially supported by Slovak Aid. The project features lectures on various aspects of development aid for students of five Slovak universities in Bratislava, Banská Bystrica, Trnava, Nitra and Prešov. A schedule of confirmed lectures is posted [here](#).

development aid questions & answers

We've prepared a new Questions & Answers section on development aid on our webpage. We want to use this tool to increase the awareness of our country's international responsibility in terms of development aid. You may visit the Q&A section [here](#). We'd like this section to become your source of fresh and updated information on this topic area. At the address infoservis@nadaciapontis.sk, we'll be grateful to receive your questions and tips on improving and expanding the posted information on development aid.

development aid links

As part of the *Development Aid Education* project, we've also prepared links to web sites of other organizations and entities dealing with development aid. The links feature brief descriptions of their content and are posted [here](#).

*We apologize if this e-mail message inconveniences you.
Please [let us know](#) so we can avoid such a situation in the future.
Thank you!*

Deliberate Donations: More Than Signing the Check. The full program and the registration of participants may be accessed [here](#).

6–7 November
We're co-organizing a panel discussion at the conference titled **Serbia and the EU – Strengthening the European Perspective**, organized by our long-term partner BFPE in Belgrade.

November
For members of the European Parliament, we're preparing **a briefing in Brussels on the developing situation in Belarus following the country's parliamentary elections**, with the participation of Belarusian experts from the fields of economy and international relations.

Continuously
We regularly publish **reports from our target countries** on our web pages. You can access all the news [here](#).

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