

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS



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DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRACY

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Development Ecosystems in V4: the New Role for Civil
Society Organisations and Business Beyond 2015



WELCOME SPEECH



Lenka Surotchak, Director of the Pontis Foundation

Lenka graduated from Comenius University in Bratislava in Journalism and also from New York University in Management. After working for a couple of years in the Slovak Press and Information Service and Slovak Television she started at the Slovak National Agency for Foreign Investment and Development (SNAZIR). Since then her career has been linked with NGO sector and philanthropy. In 1995 she held the position of program officer at the Foundation for a Civil Society (FCS) in Slovakia and since 1998 she has been Chief Executive Officer of FCS in New York focusing on management, supervising and fundraising for the Foundation's programs in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Balkans. Lenka is currently Director of the Pontis Foundation. She led the foundation through the process of institutional restructuring, developing a new programmatic and donor portfolio, created a corporate philanthropy strategy and provided supervision in the establishment of the Business Leaders Forum in Slovakia, Democratization and Development Abroad portfolio and interactive donor platform. She also carried out training in different areas of transitional know-how, institutional capacity building, internal NGO management, cross-sectoral cooperation, building up corporate donor strategies for different target groups in Slovakia, the Balkans and the Middle East.

OPENING REMARKS



Peter Burian, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic

He has lifelong experience in the field of diplomacy as well as domestic politics. After graduating from Oriental Studies at St. Petersburg State University (Russia), he worked for the diplomatic mission of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in Lebanon from 1987 till 1989. Later, after completing his education at the Diplomatic Academy in Moscow (Russia), he worked at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington (USA), where he eventually became Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in 2008. He has served in numerous foreign and domestic posts related to international security and diplomacy and was appointed Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations. He has served in his current position since April 2012.

PLENARY SESSION: Enhanced Cooperation of the V4 countries: coordination in development

Peter Hulényi, Director of the Department of Humanitarian and Development Aid, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic

He is a career diplomat and has been working for the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MFEA) for almost 20 years. A graduate from the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava (Master in Automatic Control Systems) and the Comenius University (Bachelor in Journalism), he held various diplomatic positions at the MFEA headquarters and abroad. He was posted as second secretary to the Slovak Embassy in Ottawa and as deputy head of the Slovak Mission to OSCE in Vienna, he also served as head of the Economic Cooperation Unit and as director of the Diplomatic Academy of the MFEA. Seconded by the UNDP and the Canadian International Development Agency CIDA, in 2002, he was entrusted with building the foundations of an institutional and strategic framework for the Slovak official development assistance (ODA) system. After completing this task he became the first director of the newly established Development Aid Department at the MFEA. Since 2002 his professional career has been closely linked with SlovakAid, being a member of ODA Steering Committees, Project Commissions and the Supervisory Board and closely cooperating with SlovakAid partner countries. He has broad publication activities in the area of development cooperation.



Ádám Zoltán Kovács, Deputy State Secretary for international cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

Since 2012 Ádám Zoltán Kovács has served as the head of Department of International Relations of the Ministry of Rural Development of Hungary. Before holding this position he worked as an expert on international relations and CEO of a company focusing on trade and tourism. He studied international relations at the Zsigmond Király College and subsequently finished his master degree in regional and environmental economy at the Szent István University in Gödöllő, Hungary.



**Ivan Jukl, Director General of the Economic Section,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic**

He started his studies at the Czech Technical University in Prague in the field of economy and management of energy systems and continued in various programs and trainings in France, the UK, Japan and Denmark. He has held his current position of Director General of the Economic section at Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic since 2012. Prior to that he was CEO of Czech Trade Promotion Agency. Between 2000 and 2006 he served at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Denmark as commercial counselor. He started his career at Vatech EZ where he held different positions including Head of international relations department.

**PLENARY SESSION: Sustainable Development
Goals: From Quantity to Equality and Quality**



**Ingrid Brocková, Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the Slovak Republic to the OECD**

Ingrid Brocková became Permanent Representative and Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the OECD in October 2011. She was nominated from the position of Director of the Department of EU Policies at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, where she had worked since May 2009. During the years 2001-2008 she was Country Manager of the World Bank in the Slovak Republic. Prior to that, she had been working at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic since 1993 holding various positions, including assignment at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington (1996–2000). Throughout all years of her professional career she has dealt with international public economic policy. Ingrid Brocková graduated from The Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies John Hopkins University in Washington, USA and the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava, Slovakia.



**Martin Heather, Policy Officer in the European
Commission**

Martin Heather is a Policy Officer in the European Commission for the Directorate-General (DG) Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid, where he works on the post-2015 sustainable development framework and particularly on peace and security, growth, industrialisation, jobs and disaster risk reduction issues. Martin is a seconded national expert from the UK Departmental for International Development (DFID) where he has worked for eleven years in a wide variety of roles, including: leading and managing a fragile states and conflict policy team, including working on post-2015 issues; holding a corporate role in the cross-Government UK Stabilisation Unit; a programme management and policy role in Afghanistan; and

a policy role in a Ministerial Private Office. He holds a Master's in Development Administration and Planning from the University of Bristol and a degree in International Relations from Aberystwyth University.

Jeroen Verheul, Ambassador for Trade and Development of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Jeroen Verheul has lifelong experience with development cooperation and foreign affairs. Since 1985 he has worked for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands where he has held various positions related to his expertise working in different countries such as Ethiopia, Cameroon, Zambia and France. He recently started as Ambassador at large for Aid and Trade solving different issues such as integrating and synergizing aid and trade agendas and preparing the Netherlands presidency of the EU in 2016. Before joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs he worked at the European Parliament where he was in charge of conducting a study into the role of the European Union in enhancing coordination of development cooperation. He obtained his Master's degree in Public Administration.



Ida McDonnell, Policy Analyst at the Review and Evaluation Division, OECD

Ida joined the peer review division in 2008 where she has been the lead analyst for eight peer reviews of DAC members' development co-operation. The most recent reviews she worked on are Ireland, Australia and Switzerland. Ida has contributed to a number of OECD studies on civil society and development as well as to Managing Aid: Practices of DAC members (OECD, 2008). Before 2008, Ida was a policy analyst at the Development Centre of the OECD (from 2000-2008) and contributed to one of the Centre's flagship annual publications The African Economic Outlook; she co-authored the publication "Public opinion and the fight against poverty" (2003) and co-ordinated the OECD-DAC informal network of Development Communicators (2004-2008). In 2003-2004, Ida was an attaché for development at the Permanent Representation of Ireland to the OECD and UNESCO; during Ireland's Presidency of the EU. Ida holds a Masters of Development Studies, from University College Dublin (1999) and a BA in European Studies (economics and politics) from the University of Limerick (1997).





ROUNDTABLE A: V4 partners in development cooperation



Simon Lightfoot, Senior Lecturer in European Politics, University of Leeds

Before he came to Leeds in 2005, Simon worked at Liverpool John Moores University. His PhD was awarded in 2002 from Nottingham Trent University. He has been a visiting fellow at the National Europe Centre, Australian National University and the Corvinus University of Budapest. He is co-organiser of the EADI Working Group 'Development Aid of the Non-DAC Donors'. He has an interest in learning and teaching issues. In 2009 he won the Political Studies Association's Bernard Crick Prize for Outstanding Teaching and was awarded a full University Teaching Fellowship. In 2013 Simon won the prestigious award of National Teaching Fellow from the UK Higher Education Academy. He is co-editor of 'Development Policies of Central and Eastern European States' (with Ondrej Horký-Hluchán) and 'Teaching Politics and International Relations' (with Cathy Gormley-Heenan).



Patryk Kugiel, Analyst at the International Economic Relations and Global Issues Programme, Polish Institute of International Affairs, Poland

He graduated from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, majoring in International Relations and Comparative Religion Studies. He also studied in La Sapienza University, Facolta di Studi Orientali in Rome and did his M.Phil. in South Asian Studies at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. Since 2008 he has been a research fellow at the Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM) in Warsaw, where he is responsible for research on South Asia and international development cooperation. His areas of expertise include Poland's development cooperation system, European development cooperation policy, V4 countries cooperation on development issues as well as development challenges in Asia and Africa.



Zsuzsanna Végh, Research assistant at the Center for EU Enlargement Studies, Central European University in Budapest, Hungary

Zsuzsanna Végh has been research assistant at the Center for EU Enlargement Studies of the Central European University in Budapest since 2012. Her research interests include foreign policy of the European Union and the V4 countries, with particular attention to the EU's Eastern neighborhood. More recently she has also been focusing on the international development policies of the Visegrad countries as part of their foreign policy. Since 2011, she has been cooperating with the European Council on Foreign Relations as national researcher of the European Foreign Policy Scorecard. Zsuzsanna holds a Master in international relations and Euro-

pean studies from the Central European University (2012) and a Master in international studies from the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest (2011).

Ondřej Horký-Hlucháň, Head of the Research Department, Institute of International Relations in Prague, Czech Republic

His main research interest concerns the development policy of the Czech Republic and other Central and Eastern European countries. He is the author of the book „Czech Development Cooperation: Discourses, Practices, Cleavages“ (SLON) and the co-editor of the book „Development Policies of Central and Eastern European States: From Aid Recipients to Aid Donors“ (Routledge). Among others he has been involved in policy advising and programme evaluations for the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has taught at Charles University and at the University of Economics, Prague where he obtained his PhD degree in 2010.



Anne-Marie Callan, Ambassador of Ireland to the Slovak Republic

Anne-Marie Callan is Ambassador of Ireland to the Slovak Republic. From 2011 – 2013, she was a Deputy Director in the Development Cooperation Division of Ireland’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade with responsibility for cooperation with civil society organisations and volunteering. From 2009 to 2011, Anne-Marie was Chargé D’Affaires of Ireland’s diplomatic mission in Sierra Leone and managed Ireland’s development programme in Sierra Leone and Liberia. Prior to her departure to Sierra Leone, Anne-Marie held the position of Deputy Director in the Development Cooperation Division of Ireland’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade with responsibility for Zambia, Zimbabwe, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Balkans. Anne-Marie was Deputy Permanent Representative to the OECD and Deputy Permanent Delegate to UNESCO in Paris from 2002 to 2006. She was elected Vice Chair of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee in 2005. Anne-Marie has held various roles in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Office of the Revenue Commissioners since beginning her career in 1986. She holds a Master’s Degree in Peace and Development Studies from the University of Limerick and a Bachelor of Business Studies from Dublin City University.





ROUNDTABLE B: Future of global education: paradigm shifts and conceptual changes



Ivana Raslavská, Program Director, Democratisation and Development Abroad

Ivana Raslavská has been program director of the democratisation and development department since 2011. She finished her PhD. at the Faculty of International Relations, University of Economics in Bratislava in 2008. Her main professional interests are development cooperation and global education and in the past she also worked actively with teachers, students and youth on intercultural issues and global citizenship topics. In addition, Ivana has worked as lecturer at the Comenius University and the Economic University in Bratislava and given lectures on development. She is still active as trainer and expert in project management and strategic programming.



Helmut Hartmeyer, Head of Department Funding Civil Society, Austrian Development Agency

He is also a senior lecturer at the Institute for International Development at the University of Vienna with a focus on Global Education and Education for Sustainable Development. He is responsible for the coordination and funding of civil society programmes and projects in the field of development cooperation and development education, communication and global learning. He is Chair of the Austrian Strategy Group Global Education and of the Global Education Network Europe (GENE).



Ivar Štaffa, General Director, International Cooperation and European Affairs Division, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic

Ivar Štaffa's life is linked with international relations and cooperation in the field of education and culture. After his graduation at University in Trnava in Political sciences he started his professional career at Government Office of the Slovak Republic in the protocol department. Since then he worked for different departments of Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic. He holds his current position of director of the Department of European Affairs and Lifelong Education since 2013. He is member of the Committee on Education of Council of the European Union where he is responsible for creation of National Reform Programme and cooperation with the European Commission on the specific recommendations within the field of lifelong education and recognition of the non-formal education results.

Cezary Kościelniak, Tenure at Department of Social Science, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

Dr. Cezary Koscielniak is a tenure at Department of Social Science in Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland. His research focuses on the transformation of knowledge institutions and the role of universities in the development of societies and regions. He has served as expert to the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland in areas of higher education policy, education for sustainable development, and religion in public life. In 2012 he edited the book „Freedom, Equality, University“.



Tereza Čajková, Project Coordinator Teachers: Agents of change, People in Need

In the Educational Program Variants the leading project “Teachers: Agents of Change” is focused on the support of global education at university level in the Czech Republic and Poland. Tereza is the representative of the Czech Forum for Development Cooperation (FoRS) in Development Education and Awareness Raising Forum of the European confederation of Relief and Development NGOs CONCORD. Previously head of Program of global education at ADRA in the Czech Republic, she has experience in teaching global education at pedagogical faculties.



THE SLOVAK NGDO PLATFORM ROUNDTABLE C: Policy Coherence for Development – a new challenge for V4 countries

Andrea Girmanová, Project Manager, Slovak NGDO Platform

Andrea Girmanová has been working on Slovak and European development policy and awareness raising activities within the Slovak NGDO Platform since 2011. She graduated in Economic Diplomacy at the Faculty of International Relations, University of Economics in Bratislava. She spent part of her studies at the European University Viadrina in Germany and University of Liège in Belgium with a focus on development and population. As a volunteer she was involved in the projects of local NGOs in India (women empowerment, HIV/AIDS prevention) and Ethiopia (children in difficult situations, income generating activities). Apart from in the non-governmental sector, she has gained valuable experience in development cooperation through internships at the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic at the EU and the European Parliament.





Jan Bazył, Executive Director, Grupa Zagranica, Poland

He has been working with Grupa Zagranica since 2011. Grupa Zagranica – currently consists of 61 member organizations – works towards better involvement of Polish NGOs in development cooperation, acting as an advocate of the sector’s interests towards external partners, building competence of NGOs as well as promoting internal cooperation within the sector to increase its effectiveness. Jan holds a Master’s degree in economics from Warsaw University (Poland) and a Master’s degree in environmental and resource economics from University College London, UK.



Katarína Šrámková, Policy Officer, Czech Forum for Development Cooperation

Katarína Šrámková currently works as Policy Officer at FoRS – Czech Forum for Development Cooperation. She’s been working in the development field since 2008, when she joined the Czech development NGO NaZemi (at that time known as Society for fair trade) as lecturer and co-author of global development education programmes. During the period 2009 – 2013 she worked as project coordinator in NaZemi’s Corporate responsibility programme. In 2013, during a six-month stay, she acted as Junior Liaison Officer at TRIALOG in Brussels at the European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs – CONCORD Secretariat. Katarina studied European Studies and International Relations at Masaryk University in Brno and holds European Master’s Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation.



Réka Balogh, Policy Officer, HAND, Hungary

Réka graduated in 2003 as cultural anthropologist at the Eötvös Loránd University of Sciences in Budapest. After spending one year in India carrying out research work and having been involved also in community development projects of Indian NGOs she decided to continue working in the development field even after returning to Hungary. Since 2003 she has been working for the umbrella organisation of Hungarian development NGOs, HAND Association in various capacities. From 2013 she has contributed to achieving the advocacy goals of the Hungarian NGOs as policy officer of HAND responsible for the topic of Policy Coherence for Development among other issues.

ROUNDTABLE D: Effective tools for civic participation to engage in public policy in the Western Balkans

Iliina Nesik, Project and Communication Manager, Balkan Civil Society Development Network, Macedonia

Iliina Nesik has considerable international experience as the holder of a Master's degree on Strategic Communications and Public Relations from the European Studies Centre in Nancy and by being active in several organizations in France, the Balkans and Germany. Her area of expertise includes EU Integration Process, lobbying and advocacy, communications, campaigning and organization of high level international events as well as project management. As part of her job portfolio she has previously had responsibilities in drafting official documents for the representation of Macedonia in the Council of Europe and currently she is monitoring relevant EU policies (in line with civil society development) and undertaking communication with EU institutions. Additionally, she was working on research that BSCDN conducted in the past 2 years related to civil dialogue and donors' strategies and practices as well as monitoring of the EU relevant policies to civil society. International development has also been a aspect of her work; she participated in major global processes (Open Forum for Development Effectiveness, Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation).



Tamara Resavska, Project Coordinator at Metamorphosis Foundation, Skopje

She holds a Masters Degree in Communications from the Institute for Sociological, Political and Juridical Research at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje and Bachelors Degree in Communication sciences from South East European University in Tetovo. She coordinates the Open Educational Resources Initiative and works on Online Privacy Projects. She has participated in several research projects on the topics of Transparency, Accountability and e-Participation, Privacy Policy, Free access to public information, Children's safety and privacy on the Internet. She is also a social media trainer.



Marko Aksentijević, Program Director, Mikroart, Serbia

His current work focuses on urban development, urban resource management and democratization. He has been active in Serbian civil sector for over 10 years on subjects of forced migration, youth education and political populism. Since 2009, he is actively involved in issues of development of the city and citizens' participation in the process of urban development. He co-launched and has been part of a variety of initiatives aimed at fostering citizens' participation in urban development and initiating dialogue between citizens, social activists, urban developers, architects and city officials about development of the city.





ROUNDTABLE E: CSR and economic development



Michal Kišša, Program Manager, Business Leaders Forum, Pontis Foundation

Michal works in the Business Leaders Forum/Pontis Foundation as a Program Manager for the Support of Corporate Responsibility (CR) in Slovakia. He was also a lecturer of corporate responsibility at the Comenius University and he participated in the translation of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) into the Slovak language.

He is a certified trainer of GRI and he contributes to the bimonthly Newsletter BLEF. He also collaborated in the creation of publications How to be successful? Responsible business, in an e-learning program on the topic of responsible business and participated in the creation of a draft of the National CSR Strategy.

He also participated in workshops and trainings and provided consultations for Slovak Telekom, drogerie-markt, Orange, VUB, Slovnaft, New World Resources, ZSE and others.

He studied English and political sciences with specialization in European Studies in Nitra and completed a 9-month internship in Spain.



Melissa Whellams, Principal, Avanzar Consulting, Canada

As well as other Avanzar principals, Melissa Whellams has a background in international development and international business, graduating from International Development Studies with a focus on CSR at Saint Mary's University in 2006. Based in Calgary she is a CSR specialist with expertise in local community development and stakeholder engagement in extractive industries, particularly in developing countries. She has worked on numerous projects with international oil and gas and mining companies such as AngloGold Ashanti, Barrick Gold, Rio Tinto, Shell, Nexen, Goldcorp, Cameco in the areas of stakeholder engagement, social risk assessment, human rights impact assessment, stakeholder mapping and analysis, CSR training for employees, social management systems and CSR performance measurement. Melissa has also assisted a number of extractive companies to develop CSR policies, strategies and programs in North America, Latin America, Africa, Asia, Europe and Australia.



Melina Heinrich, Senior Private Sector Development Specialist at the Donor Committee for Enterprise Development, UK

She has been working in the Donor Committee for Enterprise Development (DCED) since 2010. The DCED is the global forum for currently 23 donor and UN agencies working with the private sector to create economic opportunities for the poor – by sharing experience and agreeing on effective practice. Melina Hein-

rich has been responsible for research, knowledge management and coordination across a range of private sector development approaches and themes. She authored several DCED publications, including on lessons learnt and good practice in donor partnerships with business. Melina studied Political Science, Development Economics and International Law at the University of Bonn/Germany, the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva/Switzerland.

Georg Schoen, Venture Coordinator Austria & CEE, Ashoka, Austria

Georg Schoen works for Ashoka – the global association of the world’s leading social entrepreneurs. He supports social entrepreneurs across Central Europe to maximize their impact and helps building ecosystems for social entrepreneurship by creating alliances with the public, private and not-for-profit sector. Georg studied at the University of Vienna, the Vienna University of Economics and the Vienna University of Technology. He has worked for think tanks and research institutes in Central America and Austria, and published widely on topics related to sustainable development and social change. Georg was UNDP Environment Programme Officer in Macedonia, and set up the UNDP Black Sea Climate & Business (CLIMBIZ) Initiative. The CLIMBIZ Initiative launched the first regional Scaling Challenge for social and environmental entrepreneurs in this region, supporting ventures from Serbia to Azerbaijan to scale-up.



Gunther Schall, Head of Unit Private Sector and Development, Austrian Development Agency

Gunter Schall works at the Austrian Development Agency, the operational unit of the Austrian Development Cooperation. As head of the “private sector and development” unit he is in charge for both private sector development in ADA’s partner countries and ADA’s business partnership program. Prior to that, he worked as a Policy Advisor for the Federation of German Industries (BDI). Dr. Schall holds a PhD of the University of Freiburg.





ROUNDTABLE F: Democracy Assistance: How to Ensure that the EU Plays a More Active and Principled Role in Supporting Democracy, Freedom and Human Rights in a Changing Geopolitical Climate



Miriam Lexmann, Director of EU Office, International Republican Institute

Miriam was actively involved in the Slovak civil society movement during the years of post-communist oppression in the late 90's. She brought her expertise to the international level, when working for the Council of Europe on civil society development programmes. Her primary focus was mainly on the former Soviet Countries and the Western Balkans. After Slovakia joined the EU Miriam served as the Permanent Representative of the Slovak Parliament to the EU. Following her advisor position in the European Parliament, she joined the International Republican Institute as the Director of its EU Office in Brussels. She is Member of the International Board of the Transatlantic Christian Council and actively involved in the Slovak non-profit sector. Miriam holds a Master degree in Philosophy and is a PhD candidate at the Institute of European Studies and International Relations at the Comenius University in Bratislava.



Jerzy Pomianowski, Executive Director, European Endowment for Democracy, Brussels

After two years as Deputy Foreign Minister of Poland, Jerzy Pomianowski is leading the newly founded European Endowment for Democracy, as its Executive Director since January 2013. Prior to leading the Polish Foreign Service's democratisation agenda, Pomianowski worked for the joint international initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD): Partnership for Democratic Governance. As its Director (2008-2011), he supported countries destabilised by armed conflict or natural disasters. This followed his work as Director General of the Polish Foreign Service (2005-06) and his launch of Poland's Development Cooperation and Aid (2006-08). Pomianowski began his career as a civil servant in 1990, just after the fall of communism, first in the Ministry of Education, and then in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After being in charge of Poland's relations with Asia, Middle East and Africa, he was Ambassador to Japan from 1997-2002. From 1980-89, Pomianowski was an active member of the democratic opposition in Poland. He was a board member of the Independent Students' Association and co-founder of the students' independent publishing house during his Sociology studies at University of Warsaw.

Indre Bulavaite-Andrejeve, Head of Swedish International Liberal Centre, Vilnius Office

Indre Bulavaite-Andrejeve has been working with SILC since 2010 and is leading Swedish International Liberal Centre Vilnius Office with its multi-party Belarus programme, targeting gender equality, election observation, policy dialogue, social media and active youth participation. Indre holds an MA degree in Southeast European Studies at Political Science Department of University of Athens and ever since has always been interested in conflict resolution, transition, human rights and democracy assistance around the globe. Her earlier professional experience includes formal and non-formal education, social entrepreneurship and human rights education and international cooperation under Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC of the European Commission) programmes. Her interests extend to innovative projects that stipulate creative thinking, local problem solving and bring use for local society. She is also a member of a Steering Committee of the OESS and ESSYB scholarship schemes platform.



Laima Liucija Andrikiénė, Former Member of the European Parliament

She was a Member of the European Parliament (2004-2014): EPP-ED Group Coordinator in the EP Subcommittee on Human Rights (2007-2009), Vice President of the EP Subcommittee on Human Rights (2009-2012). Member of the EP International Trade Committee (2009-2014), Committee on Budgets (2004-2009), Committee on Foreign Affairs (2004-2014), Subcommittee on Human Rights (2004-2014). Co-Chair of the EURONEST PA Committee on Social Affairs, Education, Culture and Civil Society (2011-2014). Member of the Lithuanian Parliament (Seimas) (1990-2000): Signatory of the Act of Restoration of Independence of Lithuania (March 11th, 1990); Chair of the Lithuanian parliamentary delegation to the Baltic Assembly, Chair of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly (1998-2000). Minister of Industry and Trade of the Republic of Lithuania (1996); Minister of European Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania (1996-1998). She has a degree in Economics and Mathematics from the University of Vilnius (1980); Doctorate in Economics (1986); Associate Professor (2004). She is also the director of the Institute of EU Policy and Management, Dean of the Faculty of Public Management of the Law University of Lithuania (2002-2004).





THE INTERNATIONAL VISEGRAD FUND ROUNDTABLE G: V4 and Eastern Partnership: What small scale assistance can give to small countries?



Balázs Jarábik, Associate Fellow, Central European Policy Institute, PACT

Balázs Jarábik was a civic activist in Slovakia in the nineties; from 1999 he worked with the Pontis Foundation on civil society development projects in the Balkans and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). He also consulted international organizations, governments and the European Parliament on issues connected to Central and Eastern Europe and has written extensively about the region. Working for a Pact, a US NGO in Kyiv, Ukraine over the past six years he has helped to develop and supervise the largest civil society support program in Eastern Europe. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Central European Policy Institute (CEPI) in Bratislava and an Associate Fellow at FRIDE, a pan-European think tank based in Madrid and Brussels.



Eka Tkeshelashvili, President, Georgian Institute for Strategic Studies

Until recently Eka Tkeshelashvili has been the Vice Prime-Minister, State Minister of Georgia for Reintegration. She previously served as the National Security Adviser to the President of Georgia and as the Secretary of the National Security Council of Georgia. Earlier she held the position of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia. She also served as the Prosecutor General of Georgia and the Minister of Justice of Georgia. Mrs. Tkeshelashvili also held the position of the Chairperson of Tbilisi Appeals Court. Mrs. Tkeshelashvili has master's degree in International Human Rights law from Notre Dame Law School (USA), certificate in human rights lawyering and human rights advocacy from Oxford University (UK), Diploma in Law from Tbilisi State University.



Karla Wursterová, Executive Director, International Visegrad Fund

Karla Wursterová is the Executive Director of the International Visegrad Fund. The mission of the International Visegrad Fund is to promote development of closer cooperation among the Visegrad Group countries – the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. Ms. Wursterová has been the head of the fund since August 2012. She served as Second Secretary at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Prague (2005–2009) and held the position of Director of the Department for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid at the Slovakian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2009–2012). She graduated in Business Management at the University of Economics in Bratislava and Ecole Nationale d'Administration Publique in Paris.

Krzysztof Stanowski, Executive Director, Solidarity Fund, Poland

From 2007–2010 he held a position of Deputy Minister of Education and from 2010–012 was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. He graduated of History at the Catholic University in Lublin. During the communist era he was regional leader of underground Solidarity and political prisoner. Since 1989 he co-founded and led various non-governmental organizations including Education for Democracy Foundation and Zagranica Group. He also served as a member of Steering Committee of the Civitas International (1975–2000) and the World Movement for Democracy (2000–2007). He is considered to be experienced international trainer and educator active in Poland, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. He is author of educational programs and publications on NGO management and civic education. In recognition of his social and educational activities he was presented with Mongolian “North star” medal as well as Polish Order of Polonia Restituta.



Vladislav Kulminski, Political Adviser to the Prime Minister, Government of the Republic of Moldova

Prior to this Vladislav worked with United Nations Development Programme in Moldova as a Programme Manager for the ‘Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme’ which aimed to coordinate confidence building measures between Moldova and the Transnistrian region. As a John Smith Fellow in 2010 his action plan was to implement a new long-term strategy to help resolve the conflict. In his previous position he was able to do this by coordinating and managing a ‘Confidence Building Measures Programme for Moldova and the Transnistrian region’ in an environment where few meaningful contacts between the sides existed or were functional. He also led a team of sectoral experts in designing, planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating joint projects in a range of conceptually diverse areas. Through this he was able to negotiate with and involve a wide range of stakeholders, experts and officials from both sides to promote joint programs, remove obstacles to implementation and fine-tune programme activities which would match the development priorities of both sides in this “frozen conflict” environment.





THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC ROUNDTABLE H: Innovation for Developments



Kristína Mikulová, Head of Development Cooperation and International Financial Institutions, International Relations Section, Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic

Kristina Mikulova currently works at the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak republic as head of development cooperation department and member of Startup Task-force. Kristina has a PhD in political science and Master's degree in Russian and East European studies from Oxford University. Prior to her arrival in Slovakia she worked as a consultant for the World Bank and UNDP. In her publications she examines the role and weight of knowledge and norms in foreign and development policy of new donors. Kristina likes travelling and she is dedicated to creative writing. Between 2008 and 2013 she worked as a freelance correspondent for The Economist.



Marko Tomicic, Senior Consultant for Delta Partnership, WYG Group in Nairobi

He has extensive experience in the government, as well as the non-profit and private sectors, acquired around the globe. His specialties include qualitative and quantitative analysis of governance-related issues worldwide, transparency and accountability, political research and analysis, public finance, political economy, foreign aid, as well as oil and gas sector in Sub-Saharan Africa. In the course of his rich career, Marko has worked as a diplomat on the Croatian Foreign Service, consultant for EU institutions, resident country representative for Rwanda for National Democratic Institute (NDI), researcher and analyst for International Budget Partnership (IBP) and manager of projects for Global Integrity in Washington, as well as the senior research fellow and governance specialist for the Institute of Economic Affairs in Nairobi. He is the author of a number of governance publications. Marko has contributed to creation and implementation of the world's most renown governance assessment tools, such as the Open Budget Survey, Global Integrity Report, Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance, State Integrity Investigation (in all 50 US states), and the Kenya City Integrity Project. Marko began his career as parliamentary assistant in the German Parliament.



Milica Begovic, Innovation Specialist, UNDP Regional Centre for Europe and the CIS

Previously, she was the Economy and Environment Team Leader in UNDP Montenegro. She supported Montenegro as it moved towards a low emission market economy in a way which promotes the well-being and prosperity of communities and their environment and local economies. She designed strategic programmes that promote the efficient use of energy and renewable sources of energy to assist

the country in strengthening the resilience of its ecosystems economy and communities. She also designed disaster risk reduction programmes, worked to increase the competitiveness of small- to medium-sized enterprises working in and around protected areas, connect businesses across borders, and supported national and local partners with the management of protected areas. Prior to joining UNDP, Ms. Begovic Radojevic worked for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, followed by a posting at the UN as a coordination officer. Ms. Begovic Radojevic is a Montenegrin national and holds a PhD in political science, a Master’s degree in Political Science and Bachelor’s degree in ICT and communications from the University of Alabama, USA.

Nana Tsiklauri, Head of International Relations and Donor Coordination Division, Ministry of Justice of Georgia

Nana Tsiklauri joined Public Service Development Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia in August 2013 as the Head of International Relations and Donor Coordination Division. Since then she became actively engaged in establishing partnerships with various international organizations and donor agencies working in the Governance domain. She is also intensely involved in the design and implementation of various projects and initiatives of the agency aiming at improving public service delivery in Georgia with a strong citizen-centric approach and focus on public service innovation. Before joining PSDA she has been working with a number of international agencies and local NGOs in the field of development cooperation in various domains. Over the last years she has focused on Decentralization and Local Governance issues, agile Governance models and citizen-centric public services. As part of the ongoing projects she is actively involved in initiatives aiming at introducing innovations into the way public services are designed and delivered, e-skills development, design thinking and policy making and application of behavioral insights to inform public policy.



Ellen de Vreede, Partnership Officer at CGAP/World Bank Group

Ellen de Vreede is a partnerships officer responsible for the engagement with partners for the World Bank Group’s (WBG) Vice-Presidency for Leadership, Learning and Innovation (LLI). Prior to joining the World Bank Group in 1994, Ellen worked as a liaison/partnerships officer in the Prime Minister’s Office in the Netherlands and at Royal Dutch Shell.

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