

Eastern Partnership External Relations Workshop: “Connectivity in EU’s Wider Eastern Neighbourhood”

29 November 2019, Vienna

**Austrian Central Bank (OeNB),
Otto-Wagner Platz 3, 1090 Vienna**

Programme

9:30 Registration

10:00 Welcome

Thomas M. Buchsbaum, Special Envoy on Eastern Partnership, Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

10:10 Opening

Lawrence Meredith, Director for Neighbourhood East, European Commission, DG Near (tbc)
Hannes Swoboda, President, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

10:30 Panel I: The development of the EAEU and the EU, and effective multilateralism

This panel will compare the very different stages of institutional and integrational development of the EAEU and the EU as well as the respective goals and prospects of the two integrations. The present development stage of the EAEU / Eurasian Economic Commission will be commented from the perspective of the EU’s / European Commission’s own history of development.

How effective are the multilateral processes within the EAEU and the EU – including the EaP’s multilateral track - and how are relations between both institutions and third party international institutions designed and implemented?

Chair: Alexandra Dienes, Research Associate, FES ROCPE, Vienna

Speakers:

Dirk Schübel, Head of division Eastern partnership bilateral, Directorate EASTEuropean External Action Service, Brussels

Andreas Stadler, Austrian diplomat and political scientist, Vienna

Andrea Hofer, International Relations Specialist, Austrian Central Bank (OeNB)

Ekaterina Dyachenko, Court of the Eurasian Economic Union, Minsk

12:30 Lunch break

13:30 Panel II Macro-economic aspects and effects of EU-EAEU cooperation and potential integration

This panel will discuss potential effects of integration, focusing on economic growth, trade and foreign direct investments. It will review the existing model-based theoretical and empirical evidence of integration effects using the experience of Central and Eastern Europe, AA/DCFTA countries as well as the remaining EaP countries.

Chair: Peter Havlik, Economist, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

Speakers:

Nathaniel Young, Principal Economist, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), London

Diana Galoyan, Head of International Economic Relations, Armenian State University of Economics, Yerevan

Viachaslau Yarashevich, Leading researcher, International University "MITSO", Minsk

Valeryi Pyatnycky, Vice President, Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB), Thessaloniki, and former Chief Negotiator of AA/DCFTA

Amat Adarov, Economist, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

15:00 Coffee break

15:30 Panel III Sectoral connectivity, including infrastructure, energy and labor markets issues

Transport infrastructure and energy, together with mobility, are among the priority areas identified at the EaP Brussels Summit in November 2017. Whereas energy infrastructure and transit traditionally represent one of the key challenges for EU-EAEU economic relations, the issues related to labour market developments are becoming increasingly important on the background of migration, labour market shortages and remittances in both the EU and EaP countries.

Chair: Michael Landesmann, Senior research associate and former Scientific director, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

Speakers:

Hermine Vidovic, Economist, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

Yuri Shcherbanin, Head of Laboratory, Institute of Economic Forecasting (IEF), Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), Moscow

Igor Burakovsky, Director, Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting IPCR, Kyiv

Johannes Leitner, Head of Competence Center for Black Sea Region Studies at the University of Applied Sciences BFI Vienna

17:00 Closing remarks