

Conference on European Economic Integration (CEEI) 2024 The euro in CESEE

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Speakers' CVs



Joshua Aizenman joined the faculty at USC in 2013, where he serves as the Dockson Chair in Economics and International Relations. Joshua also serves as a Research Associate for the National Bureau of Economic Research, and occasional Special Issues co-editor for the Journal of International Money and Finance. Other affiliations have included teaching and research positions at UC Santa Cruz (served as a Presidential Chair of Economics), Dartmouth (served as the Champion Professor of International Economics), Hebrew University of Jerusalem, University of Chicago GSB, University of Pennsylvania, and serving as co-editor for the Journal of International Money and Finance (2010 - 2021). Consulting relationships include the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, and the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.



Michał Brzoza-Brzezina is Professor at SGH Warsaw School of Economics and Economic Advisor at Narodowy Bank Polski (National Bank of Poland). His research interests include macroeconomics, monetary economics and business cycle theory. His research papers were published in the Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Money Credit and Banking, Journal of International Money and Finance, Journal of Monetary Economics and European Economic Review among others.



Bogdan Căpraru is a Professor of Finance and Banking at Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Romania. He is also an associate senior researcher at National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy. Since July 2019 he has been a member of the Romanian Fiscal Council, nominated by the Romanian Association of Banks, and since September 2023 he has been elected Vice Chair of the Network of EU Independent Fiscal Institutions.

He published in high ranking academic journals and he has various editorial expertise as an editor in chief and member editorial board. He is a columnist for main national media and invited speaker by prestigious national and international institutions.



Petar Chobanov is the Deputy Governor in charge of the Banking Department and a Member of the Governing Council of the Bulgarian National Bank. He holds a Master's degree in Macroeconomics and a PhD in Finance, Money Circulation, Credit, and Insurance. His qualifications include:

- Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy, IMF and Joint Vienna Institute;
- Monetary and Financial Stability Policies, International Monetary Fund;
- International Visitor Leadership Program: "The US Financial System and the Global Economy," U.S. Department of State.

His career began as a Chief Expert Analyst at the Bulgarian National Bank. In 2005, he became the Executive Director of the Agency for Economic Analysis and Forecasting. Four years later, he was appointed Chairman of

the Financial Supervision Commission. From 2013 to 2014, he served as Minister of Finance. After that, he became a Member of the Committee on Budget and Finance and the Committee on Education and Science. Since 2013, he has been an Associate Professor teaching International Finance.



Philipp Heimberger is Economist at wiiw, where he leads the macro research group. He holds a PhD in economics from the Vienna University of Economics and Business. His main research interests are in macroeconomics, public finance and international economics. His work focuses on the macroeconomic implications of fiscal policy and fiscal rules, the political economy of public debt and the euro area's institutional framework.



Robert Holzmann is an Austrian economist, Governor of the Austrian Central Bank and member of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank (since 2019), and elected member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (since 2014). He holds honorary positions at the South-Western University in Economics and Finance, Chengdu, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur and University of New South Wales, Sydney. Before his return to academia in 2011, he held various positions at the World Bank including for 12 years Sector Director and acting Senior Vice President. Before joining the World Bank in 1997 he was academic in Austria and Germany, and senior economist at the IMF and OECD.

He has published 41 books and over 200 articles on financial, fiscal and social policy issues. He has travelled to over 90 countries in the world.



Deniz Igan is the Chief of the IMF Research Department's World Economic Studies Division. Between 2021 and 2024, she was the Head of Macroeconomic Analysis at the Bank for International Settlements. Prior to that, she held various positions at the IMF, including as co-editor of the IMF Research Perspectives, an advisor to the editor for the IMF's Finance & Development magazine, and a recurring contributor to the Global Financial Stability Report, the World Economic Outlook, and the IMF-FSB Early Warning Exercise. Her research interests include macro-financial linkages, financial crises, real estate markets, and the political economy of financial regulation. Her work has been published in

academic journals including policy-oriented volumes and presented widely in conferences and workshops. Deniz is a CEPR Research Fellow, an EUI Young Policy Leaders Fellow, and an expert panelist at Zillow's House Price Expectations Survey. She also serves as Vice President in the SUERF Management Council. Deniz holds a PhD from Princeton University.



Peter Kažimír has been the Governor of the National Bank of Slovakia since June 2019 and, in this capacity, a member of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank. Prior to assuming the role of Governor at the central bank, he served as Finance Minister from 2012 to 2019. During this period, in the latter half of 2016, as part of the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the European Union, he officially represented the European Union and the Eurogroup at the G20 and G7 meetings.



Melanie Koch is a senior economist at the Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe Section of the Österreichische Nationalbank. Previously, she was a research associate in the International Economics department at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin). She was a visiting research scholar at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Banca D'Italia. Her work revolves around behavioral aspects of household finance with a special focus on emerging markets. Melanie studied economics at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and holds a Ph.D. from the Berlin School of Economics and the DIW Graduate Center.



Eduardo Levy Yeyati is Full Professor of Economics and Public Policy at Universidad Torcuato Di Tella and founder and Faculty Director of its Center for Evidence-Based Policy (CEPE). He is also a Senior Fellow at Brookings, Chief Economic Adviser at AdCap, and Principal Researcher at CONICET. In the past, he was the Dean of the School of Government at UTDT, Senior Advisor at the Office of the Chief of Staff and Director of Argentina 2030 (Argentina's Presidential Secretary for Strategic Thinking), Board Director at the Bank of Investment and Trade Credit (BICE), Head of Latin American Research and Emerging Markets Strategy at Barclays Capital, Senior Financial Sector Adviser for Latin America and the Caribbean at the World Bank, and Chief Economist and Monetary and Financial Policy Manager of the Central Bank of Argentina, among other positions. Pro bono, he was the founding President of the National Council of Production, and the President of the think tank CIPPEC. He has taught at Harvard's the Kennedy School of Government, LSE's School of Public Affairs, and Barcelona's Graduate School of Economics. His research on emerging markets finance and economic development is ranked #1 among economists in Argentina by Google Scholar and RePEc. His editorials and blogs have appeared in Americas Quarterly, VoxEU, Project Syndicate, the Financial Times, El País (Spain) and La Nación (Argentina), among other media. His latest essay is *Automatizados: Life and work in times of AI* (published by Editorial Planeta). He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania, and a BSc in Engineering from Universidad de Buenos Aires.



Piroska Nagy Mohácsi is Visiting Professor at the the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and academic partner at Macroeconomic Advisory Group, New York. Previously she was Interim Director and Programme Director at the Institute of Global Affairs (IGA) at the LSE's School of Public Policy between 2021-2015. Prior to that she was Director for Policy at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) (2008-2015), where she led policy research, macroeconomic forecasting, and co-created and co- led the Vienna Initiative, a public-private crisis management and coordination platform in emerging Europe. She also worked in senior

positions in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (1986-2008) on surveillance and country programs in Russia, other former Soviet Union countries, Asia and Africa. She was Senior Adviser at Fitch Ratings in 2003-04 and visiting scholar at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem in 1996-97.

Piroska is the author of several books, including on the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the rise of of the nationalistic Russian entrepreneurial class, titled *The Meltdown of the Russian State* <https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/usd/the-meltdown-of-the-russian-state-9781858988207.html>. Her current research interest includes central banking in emerging markets <https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/breaking-down-success-how-emerging-market-central-banks-have-outperformed-fed-and-ecb>; the political economy of the euro in emerging Europe; central bank digital currencies (CBDC) <https://www.project-syndicate.org/onpoint/cbdcs-have-become-a-political-imperative-by-piroska-nagy-mohacsi-2023-06>; and the financial innovation-financial resilience nexus <https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/cryptocurrencies-challenge-status-quo>.



Thu Nguyen is Deputy Director of the Jacques Delors Centre. She leads the think tank's work on institutional questions of EU policy. In her own work, she mainly focusses on EU institutional reform, rule of law, democracy and economic governance. She is also the host of the Jacques Delors Centre Podcast "EU to go – der Podcast für Europapolitik". Before joining the Centre, Thu was Assistant Professor of EU and comparative constitutional law at the Faculty of Law at Maastricht University. She holds a PhD in EU constitutional law from Maastricht University and was a re:constitution Fellow 2019-2020. She studied European Law in Maastricht, Rennes and the College of Europe in Bruges. Thu has given evidence on the subject of EU institutional reform and EU economic governance in various committee hearings in the German Bundestag and

European Parliament. In January 2023, she was appointed by the German government to the Franco-German expert group on EU institutional reforms.



Christiane Nickel is Deputy Director General of the Directorate General Economics at the European Central Bank (ECB). Prior to this she held various positions within the Directorate Economics including Head of the Prices and Costs Division, Head of the Output, Demand and Labour Markets Section and Head of the Fiscal Analysis Section. Previous to the European Central Bank she joined the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, London U.K. as a Senior Economist and worked at the International Monetary Fund, Washington D.C. as an Economist. Christiane holds a PhD in Economics from Wissenschaftliche Hochschule für Unternehmensführung Koblenz – Otto Beisheim

Graduate School and a Diploma in Economics from the Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main. She has published several journal articles on euro area and international macroeconomics.



Birgit Niessner has been Director of the OeNB's Economic Analysis and Research Department since October 2021. Before that, from 2007 to 2021, she held various positions in risk management and research at Erste Group and Raiffeisen Bank International. During this period, Birgit Niessner was also on a six-month secondment as Senior Economist at the EIB's Research Department. Birgit Niessner holds a PhD in Economics from Vienna University of Economics and Business as well as a Master's degree in Development Studies from the London School of Economics and a Master's degree in Social Anthropology from the University of Vienna.



Irena Radović, PhD, currently serves as the Governor of the Central Bank of Montenegro, with a distinguished background in international economics and business. As a Chevening Scholar, she obtained a master's degree in international relations from the University of Cambridge and a master degree in economic sciences at the Consortium for Research and Continuing Education Economics in Italy. She holds a PhD in economic sciences and academic experience in the international economy and EU's monetary policy. Governor's Radović career includes roles as Montenegro's ambassador to France and UNESCO, Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Montenegro, and Executive Director of Montenegro's Investment and Development Fund, where she led key reforms to strengthen financial stability and promote sustainable economic development.

Recognized for her contributions, Dr. Radović has received the French Legion of Honor in 2022, the Order of Knight of the Order of Saint Charles in 2014, as well as the Gold Medal of the Universal League for the Public Good. In 2023, she was named a G100 global leader at the World Economic Forum in London, where she received the "Woman of the Decade" award for advancing financial inclusion and women's economic empowerment. She speaks English, French, and Italian and uses Spanish, German and Albanian.



Dorothee Rouzet. A graduate of the Ecole Normale Supérieure (Ulm) and the Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration Économique (ENSAE), Dorothee ROUZET holds a doctorate in economics from Harvard University. She began her career as an economic analyst for the Danube-Balkans region at the French Treasury, assigned to the Sofia Economic Mission (2006-2007), before becoming a lecturer in macroeconomic theory and capital markets at Harvard University (2008-2011).

An economist in the Trade in Services Division of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) from (2012-2017), she became senior economist in the office of Laurence BOONE, then Chief Economist of the OECD (March 2017-March 2020).

In March 2020, she was appointed macroeconomic adviser in the office of Bruno LE MAIRE, Minister for the Economy and Finance. Since June 2022, Dorothee Rouzet has been Chief Economist France at Citigroup. She was also a guest lecturer at ESCP Europe (2015-2017) and the University of Paris I (2017-2018).



Catherine R. Schenk FRHS, FRSA is the Professor of Economic and Social History at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of St. Hilda's College Oxford. After her undergraduate and master's degrees at the University of Toronto, she completed her PhD at the London School of Economics. She has held academic posts at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, Royal Holloway University of London, University of Glasgow and University of Oxford. She has also been visiting professor at Hong Kong University, Nankai University in China and Goethe University Frankfurt. In addition to her academic work she has an avid interest in current policy-making and has been a visiting researcher at the Hong Kong Institute for Monetary Research, the International Monetary Fund, the Bank of England and the Bank for

International Settlements and a research fellow at Chatham House. She is currently a Fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research and Visiting Academic at the Bank of England. She is the author of several books and many journal articles on the evolution of the international monetary system over the past century as well as research on the development of bank regulation and supervision. Her current project, funded by the European Research Council, explores the evolution of the global payments system from 1870-2000, with a particular emphasis on the changing pattern of cross-border correspondent banking and the governance of the architecture of global payments.



Jasmina Selimović has been the Chair of the Governing Board/ Governor of the Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina since January 2024. She has been born in Sarajevo, where she graduated from the Faculty of Economics, as well as postgraduate studies in Business Economics, with Actuarial Science and Insurance as major course. Having prepared her doctoral dissertation in the field of actuarial science in the USA, she defended it at the Faculty of Economics in Sarajevo.

Since 2004, she has been engaged at the Faculty of Economics in Sarajevo, at the Departments of Finance and Quantitative Economics, where she teaches, as a full professor, in the first and second cycle of studies. She performed the duties of Deputy Head of the Department of Finance, Vice Dean for Teaching and International Cooperation, and in 2018 she was elected to the position of Dean of the Faculty. In 2022, she renewed the four-year mandate.

She is a member of a number of professional associations in the country and abroad. She is active in global organizations for accreditation of business schools and universities (AACSB and EFMD), being also engaged as an international accreditation expert at quality assurance agencies in EU countries. She has attended numerous training courses in the country and abroad, especially the study visit and guest lectures at the University of Nebraska, USA and at the University of Istanbul, Turkey.

She is the author and co-author of several books and monograph chapters and also numerous scientific and professional articles. She participated in many international and domestic conferences and projects. She is a licensed permanent court expert in the field of economics, certified internal auditor for banks and financial institutions, and certified actuary.

From 2011 to 2015, she was a member of the Advisory Group of the Fiscal Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina (as a representative of the Prime Minister of the Federation of BiH). From 2018, she was an independent member of the Supervisory Board of Raiffeisen Bank BiH. Since 2021, she has been the President of the Board of Directors of Health Insurance Institute of Sarajevo Canton.



Martin Summer is head of the economic research section at the Austrian Central Bank (OeNB). Before he joined OeNB in 2000 he worked as a lecturer at University of Vienna, University of Birmingham and the University of Regensburg. He has also worked as a visiting researcher at the Bank of England and the Financial Markets Group of the London School of Economics in 2004. His research interests are the Digitalization of Money and Finance, Banking Regulation and Systemic Risk Financial Stability and Financial Economics. Martin holds a PhD. in economics from the University of Vienna.



Natia Turnava has been the First Vice-Governor and Acting Governor of the National Bank of Georgia since June 2023. She is a member of the Board of the National Bank of Georgia from June 2022. Prior to joining the NBG Board, in 2019-2022 Natia Turnava held the position of Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, having been a Deputy Minister in 2018-2019. Prior to that, she was the Deputy Executive Director of the Partnership Fund for five years. In 2006-2013, Natia Turnava was a member of the Board of Directors of Georgian Industrial Group (GIG), Ltd; General Director and a Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Georgian International Energy Corporation Ltd. Earlier, in 2000-2005, she served as the First Deputy Minister of Economy of Georgia. An economist by profession, she holds a Ph.D. in economics. She also took her Master's degree in Business Administration at the University of Cumbria, Great Britain, in 2014. During her career, she has been engaged as a lecturer by several higher educational institutions in Tbilisi.



Vitas Vasiliauskas is the Executive Director of the IMF Office of the Nordic-Baltic Constituency, a position he has held since January 2023. A national of Lithuania, Vitas earned his PhD in Social Sciences (Law) from Vilnius University in 2004. His extensive career includes serving as an Adviser to the Prime Minister of Lithuania (2021-2023) and Chairman of the Board at the Bank of Lithuania (2011-2021). He has also held key roles in the Ministry of Finance, including Vice Minister and Director of the Tax Department, during the EU negotiations he was responsible for the taxation chapter. Vitas is a seasoned academic, having lectured at Vilnius University for over two decades with his academic interest in public finances and tax law. His contributions extend to significant positions within the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund, reflecting his deep expertise in financial law and public finance.



Boris Vujčić became Governor of the Croatian National Bank In July 2012 for a six-year term of office and was re-appointed for another six-year term of office in July 2018. On July 2024 he was re-appointed for the third term of office.

He has been a Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Vienna Initiative 2.0 since 2016, a member of the General Council of the ECB and a member of the General Board of the ESRB since 2013. Since 1 January 2023. Governor Vujčić is a member of the Governing Council of the ECB.

Mr Vujčić won recognitions as the best governor in Central and Eastern Europe by Emerging Markets magazine in 2018, as well as the best world governor by The Banker (Financial Times) in 2019, and in 2021, he was rewarded with the Lamfalussy Award for lifetime achievement in the field of finance.

Boris Vujčić holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Zagreb. He has been an associate professor at the Zagreb Faculty of Economics since 2003. At the Zagreb Faculty of Science, Department of Mathematics, he has lectured as visiting professor since 2004.



Eva Zamrazilová was born on 8 May 1961 in Prague. She graduated from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Economics in Prague, where she later lectured on statistical theory and economic statistics. She then worked as a researcher at the Forecasting Institute of the University of Economics in Prague, at the Economic Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and at the Research Institute for Labour and Social Affairs. In 1990 she completed her postgraduate studies at the Statistics Department of the Faculty of Economics at the University of

Economics. In the 1990s she co-authored numerous papers on the transformation of the Czech economy and went on a number of short-term research stays in other countries. In 1994–2008 she was involved in the preparation of macroeconomic analyses and forecasts in the Team of the Chief Economist at Komerční banka. In 2008 she became a member of the CNB Bank Board. After her mandate expired in 2014, she worked as the Chief Economist of the Czech Banking Association. In 2017 the Chamber of Deputies appointed her as Chairperson of the Czech Fiscal Council at the government's proposal. In 2022 she joined the advisory team for the preparation of the pension reform established by the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs. She has a long publication record in Czech and international journals, specialising in macroeconomic equilibrium, the convergence process in transition economies, economic policy, the labour market and budget responsibility. She also gives presentations at conferences.

She became a member of the CNB Bank Board on 1 July 2022 and has also served as CNB Deputy Governor since this date.