

## **/ PRODUCTIVITY** **A CHALLENGE TO THE SLOVENIAN ECONOMY**

Discussion with domestic and foreign experts:  
Wednesday, 14 June 2017, Ljubljana (Hotel Union)

*What are the possible ways for Slovenia to reduce its productivity gap with more developed countries?*

*How is productivity linked to the size and ownership structure of enterprises?*

*Are small countries faced with greater obstacles to productivity growth?*

*What role does economic policy play in enhancing productivity?*

These are some of the questions we will attempt to answer at the international conference **Productivity – a challenge to the Slovenian economy**. Besides **Aleš Delakorda**, a representative of IMAD, the discussion will feature **Polona Domadenik** (Faculty of Economics, Ljubljana), who wrote a paper on the topic of productivity for the European Commission, **Uroš Rosa**, executive director of the Akrapovič, **John Maher** (National Competitiveness Council, Ireland), **Peter Gal** (OECD) and **Robert Stehrer** (Wiener Institut für Internationale Wirtschaftsvergleiche).

### **/ PROGRAMME:**

8:30–9:00	Welcome to participants – registration
9:00–9:15	Keynote address: <b>Zoran Stančič</b> , Head of the European Commission Representation in Slovenia, and <b>Boštjan Vasle</b> , Director IMAD
<b>9:15–9:35</b>	<b>Introductory session</b> <b>Boštjan Vasle</b> , IMAD : <i>Key challenges to the Slovenian economy – fiscal policy and productivity</i>
<b>9:35–11:15</b>	<b>Discussion: Productivity – a challenge to the Slovenian Economy</b> Participants: <b>Aleš Delakorda</b> , IMAD <b>Polona Domadenik</b> , Faculty of Economics, Ljubljana <b>Uroš Rosa</b> , executive director of the Akrapovič <b>Peter Gal</b> , OECD <b>Robert Stehrer</b> , Wiener Institut für Internationale Wirtschaftsvergleiche <b>John Maher</b> , National Competitiveness Council, Ireland
<b>11:15–11:30</b>	<b>Summary of key findings</b>

You are also invited to participate in the active discussion on Twitter: #sloizzivi

## **/ PARTICIPANTS:**



**Boštjan Vasle**, Director IMAD, graduated from the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, in 1994 and completed a Master's Degree in monetary policy at the Central European University in Budapest in 1997. He had started his professional career at the Ministry of Finance, worked as an analyst at the Institute for Macroeconomic Analysis and Development and assumed its leadership in 2007.



**Zoran Stančič**, Head of the European Commission Representation in Slovenia, joined the European Commission in 2004 as Deputy Director-General in the Directorate-General Research. In the period from 2009 to 2015 he was Deputy Director-General in the Directorate-General Communications Networks, Content and Technology. From 2000 to 2004 he served as State Secretary for Science at the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (Slovenia). Before 2000 he worked as Deputy Director of the Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) and established himself as a prominent researcher. He gave guest lectures at several faculties of the University of Ljubljana and was a research fellow or visiting professor at the Sorbonne, the University of Trieste, the Boston University and the University of Reading. He started his professional career as a research assistant at the Department of Archaeology, University of Ljubljana.



**Aleš Delakorda** has been with IMAD since May 2015 as Senior Economist in the Department of Macroeconomic Analysis and Economic Policy. His main fields of interest are fiscal and structural policies. Before joining IMAD, he was employed in the Analysis and Research Department of the Bank of Slovenia. Among other duties he was a member of the Working Group on Forecasting and of the Monetary Policy Committee of the ESCB. He is the author of analytical papers and published contributions from the fields of monetary policy transmission channels, exchange rate, investment and saving behaviour and of fiscal policy.



**Polona Domadenik** is a Full Professor in Economics and Vice-Dean for Finance at Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, and member of Management Board at Slovene Research Agency. She earned her PhD in Economics in 2003 at Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana. In last 15 years she published several papers in refereed journals (Journal of Business Ethics, International Journal of Manpower, Journal of International Business Studies, Review of Comparative Economics and others) discussing the problems of corporate governance, enterprise restructuring, firms' labor demand, labor market institutions and youth unemployment in transition economies.



**Uroš Rosa** graduated and made his Ph.D. at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty for Mechanical Engineering. He started his career as a researcher collaborating on R&D projects with automotive suppliers. He started his career in Akrapovič as project manager for automotive projects, followed by leading the Research and testing department later the Technical sector as Technical director followed by the role of CEO since November 2012. While working at Akrapovič he attended the MAP program at INSEAD Business School in Fontainebleau, France. Under his leadership, the company has evolved significantly with increasing revenues, profitability, product innovation and people development.



**Peter Gal** has been working at the OECD, in Paris, since 2011, currently in its Economics Department. His previous work experience includes the research departments of the International Monetary Fund and the Central Bank of Hungary. His research interests include various topics in the fields of productivity, labor- and capital market frictions at the firm, sector and macroeconomic level. His list of publications includes several articles on issues related to the productivity, innovation, employment, capital and financial constraints, structural reforms and policy reports. He holds an MPhil in Economics from the Tinbergen Institute in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and an MSc in Economics from the Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary.



**Robert Stehrer** is Scientific Director at WIIW. His expertise covers a broad area of economic research, ranging from issues of international integration, trade and technological development to labour markets and applied econometrics. His recent work has focused on the analysis and effects of internationalisation of production and value added trade on economic performance and labour markets. He has published in leading journals in these fields and has been working on numerous projects funded by European Research Framework Programmes as well as for international and national clients.



**John Maher** is a Senior Policy Analyst in the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and head of research for the National Competitiveness Council. The National Competitiveness Council reports to the Prime Minister, on key competitiveness issues facing the Irish economy and offers recommendations on policy actions required to enhance Ireland's competitive position. Prior to this, John worked for the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and the Minister for Labour Affairs. John was deputy head of research in the National Consumer Agency and has also worked as a policy analyst in labour market policy. John has a graduate and post graduate degrees in Communications and holds a Masters degree in Economic Policy from Trinity College Dublin.