

THE NEW REFORM AGENDA OF THE NEW EU MEMBER STATES

International Conference

List of speakers and moderators

19 October 2009 (Monday)

**Radisson Blu Grand Hotel, Alexander Hall, 2nd floor
Sofia, Bulgaria**

Assya Kavrakova is the Director of the European Policies and Civic participation Program at the Open Society Institute – Sofia.

She has a Master's degree in Law and a Master's degree in European integration from St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia. She has worked as Public Policies and Outreach Director at the Democracy Network Program (DemNet) of the United States Agency for International Development. She was also the Executive Director of Transparency without Borders Association, the national branch office of Transparency International. Assya Kavrakova is a Fellow of German Marshall Memorial Fellowship, USA and a Fellow of the International Fellowship Programme, Brussels. She is the author of the Bulgarian chapter of the reports "TV across Europe: Regulation, Policy, Independence 2005" and "TV across Europe: Follow-up reports 2008" –of the OSI EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program, publications available at www.mediapolicy.org

Ms. Kavrakova is leading the analytical and research activity of the European Policies Initiative at the OSI – Sofia (www.eupi.eu). Assya Kavrakova is a member of the Advisory Board of the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation.

Georgi Stoytchev has more than 15 years of experience in NGO and media management and professional journalism. He has been executive director of the Open Society Institute – Sofia since 2005. Before joining OSI-Sofia he served for 8 years as director and editor at the Bulgarian service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague, Czech Republic. He started his professional career as a newscast anchor and editor at the Bulgarian National Television in 1992. Georgi Stoytchev holds a master degree in Philosophy from the St. Kliment Ohridski Sofia University.

Simeon Djankov, Vice Premier And Minister Of Finance .

Educational background:

Secondary education: Language High School, Lovech

Higher education: Master's degree and PhD in International Commercial and Financial Relations, University of Michigan

Professional background:

Mr. Djankov was a chief economist on finance and private sector affairs at the World Bank from 1995 until his election as Bulgarian Minister of Finance. He worked on the countries mostly threatened by the crisis worldwide. He participated in various programs

of the Bank on privatization, corporate governance, regional reforms in North Africa, East Asia and other regions around the world. Mr. Djankov was a principal author of the annual review of the World Bank - World Development Report 2002. He is an author of more than 70 specialized articles in the most prestigious economic journals in the world - Quarterly Journal of Economics, American Economic Review, Journal of Finance, Journal of Financial Economics, Journal of Public Economics. He is creator of the annual Doing Business report, the top-selling /in more than 100 000 copies/ publication of the World Bank Group. He is ranked among the 100 Most Cited Economists in the world. He established a think-tank at Harvard University.

Theodore Ahlers, Director Strategy and Operations, Europe and Central Asia Regio, The World Bank

Theodore Ahlers, a U.S. national, joined the Bank in 1985 as an Economist in the West African Country Programs Department. Since then, he has held several positions in the Middle East and North Africa, Africa, and Europe and Central Asia Regions. From 1997-2000, Mr. Ahlers served as Country Director for Benin, Niger and Togo. In June 2000 he was appointed Operations Director in the Office of the Vice President in Africa Region. From October 2002 until July 2007, he served as Director of the Maghreb Department (Algeria, Libya, Malta, Morocco and Tunisia) in the Middle East and North Africa (MNA) Region. Mr. Ahlers was appointed Director of Strategy and Operations for the ECA Region on August 1, 2007.

Mr. Ahlers attended Tufts University, Fletcher School, and holds a Ph.D in development economics.

His pre-Bank experience includes research and policy advisor positions in Madagascar, Cameroon and Haiti.

Orsalia Kalantzopoulos, a Greek national, assumed her position as Senior Advisor to the World Bank's Vice President for Financial and Private Sector Development in June 2009, during a critical period of the global financial and economic crisis. In her current role, she is supporting the Bank's overall strategy for responding to the financial crisis with a special focus on Middle Income Countries and the EU member states.

From January 2008 to May 2009, Orsalia served as Director for Central, Europe and the Baltic Countries where she spearheaded lending and technical cooperation programs for eleven advanced middle income economies—ten EU member countries and Croatia. During this period, she revived dialogue with countries with declining portfolios, delivered large reform-linked budget support operations in countries hit by the global financial crisis and strengthened the World Bank's partnership with European institutions. Most recently, she developed a multi-donor trust fund to finance technical cooperation activities for EU member countries.

Prior to that, Orsalia was the Country Director and Regional Coordinator for Southeast Europe for five years, where she was in charge of the Bank's country relations and policy dialogue, programs and projects in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo and coordinated the Bank's Southeast Europe regional agenda with the European Commission. During Orsalia's five year tenure in Southeast Europe, the Bank developed effective programs across countries and sectors and implemented regional programs in environment, energy, communicable diseases, education, secondary roads, railroads and climate adaptation.

Orsalia started her career at the World Bank in 1984 as an Economist in the Trade Policy Division of the Development Research Department and in 1985 was selected as a member of the 1986 World Development Report core team on Trade and Pricing in Agriculture. Between 1986 and 1993, Orsalia had successive assignments as Sector Economist and Senior Country Economist for countries in Francophone Africa and South Asia Regions. In May 1993, Orsalia was selected as Assistant to the Managing Directors in the Executive Offices and following the 1995 Presidential transition she was promoted

to Advisor to the Managing Director for Operations and Strategy. In 1997, Orsalia was selected as Country Director for the Caribbean, in the Latin America and Caribbean Region. During her five year tenure in the Caribbean, Orsalia re-established the country dialogue and lending with all Caribbean client countries and initiated the Caribbean Regional Disaster Mitigation Program. Orsalia holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania, where under Nobel Laureate Professor Lawrence R. Klein she wrote a Dissertation on International Trade and Econometrics applied to the multi-country Project Link. She also holds two masters degrees in Regional Development as well as Economic Theory from the University of Pennsylvania. She graduated magna cum laude in Economics from the Athens School of Economics. Prior to joining the Bank, Orsalia was a fellow in the Economics Research Unit at the University of Pennsylvania, an economist at the United Nations Secretariat and a Senior Economist with General Motors Corporation. Orsalia is fluent in English, French, Greek and Spanish.

Gyula Toth joined UniCredit in August 2005. In the last couple of years UniCredit EEMEA Economics and FI/FX Research became one of the most recognized teams in the region, evidenced by the latest #1 position in the 2009 Euromoney Survey. Previously he worked for three years at the National Bank of Hungary (the Financial Stability division). Recent awards include a #1 position in the 2009 Euromoney Emerging Market Sovereign Research category and #3 in the 2009 Institutional Investor's Macro Economics/ Emerging EMEA Markets category.

Ivo Prokopiev is one of the Bulgarian business leaders, having strong public commitments. He has been recently reelected Chairman of the Confederation of Employers and Industrialists in Bulgaria, the largest and most representative association of the Bulgarian business whose members produce around 60% of the country's GDP. In his capacity of Chairman of the Confederation, Prokopiev plays a key role in the tripartite social dialogue and in the efforts to enhance the business climate in Bulgaria. Ivo Prokopiev is Chairman of the Management Board and CEO of Alfa Finance Holding. He is also co-owner and Chairman of the board of directors of EconoMedia AD, the second biggest publishing house in Bulgaria and the biggest business media publisher in the country. EconoMedia is publishing the leading business daily newspaper in Bulgaria – Dnevnik, and the leading business weekly – Capital. Ivo Prokopiev is one of the founders of *TRANSFUSE*, a network comprising business and political leaders in the Balkans. He is a Deputy Chairman of the Union of Publishers in Bulgaria. He also is a member of: the Board of the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA), the Board of the European Newspaper Publishers' Association (ENPA) and of the International advisory board of Unicredit Group.

Tonny Lybek, a Danish citizen, is the IMF's representative in Romania and Bulgaria since March 31, 2009. He joined the IMF in 1992, where he has worked on a broad range of issues, among others, monetary policy, banking supervision, payment systems, central bank legislation and published papers on central bank governance. In the IMF, he has worked in the Fiscal Affairs Department (1992-93), European II Department (1993-94), Monetary and Capital Markets Department (MCM: 1994-2007), and European Department (2007-). In 1986, he graduated from Århus University in Denmark. After teaching for a year, he worked in the Danish Central Bank (Danmarks Nationalbank) for five years, mainly on international reserve management and monetary policy.

Marek Dąbrowski, born in 1951, Professor of Economics, President of the CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research in Warsaw, Member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for the Economy in Transition in Moscow, Member of the Executive Committee of the Association of the Comparative Economic Studies (ACES, 2007-2009), one of the founders and former Member of the Executive Committee of the European Association for Comparative Economic Studies (EACES, 1995-1996; 2003 – 2006),

Member of the Scientific Committee of the European Journal of Comparative Economics, and Member of the Consulting Board of the 'Economic Systems' journal. Former First Deputy Minister of Finance (1989-1990), Member of Parliament (1991-1993) and Member of the Monetary Policy Council of the National Bank of Poland (1998-2004). From the end of 1980s he has been involved in policy advising and policy research in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Egypt, Georgia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Syria, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Yemen and in a number of international research projects related to monetary and fiscal policies, financial crises, international financial architecture, EU and EMU enlargement, perspectives of European integration, European Neighborhood Policy and political economy of transition. Consultant of the World Bank and UNDP. Author of several academic and policy papers, and editor of several book publications.

Kalin Hristov is deputy governor elect of the Bulgarian National Bank (his term starts on October 23 2009). He joined Bulgarian National Bank in 1997 as expert in the Research Department, between 2001 and 2003 he was advisor to the deputy governor and since 2003 – advisor to the governor. In March 2009 Kalin Hristov was elected chairman of the board of the Bulgarian Macroeconomics Association.

He graduated University of National and World Economy in Sofia and was teaching Economics and Monetary Theory there between 1997 and 2004. He is author of research papers and co-author of several books in the field of monetary economics and currency boards.

Georgi Angelov is the senior economist of the Open Society Institute – Sofia since 2006. Before that he was researcher at the Institute for Market Economics in Sofia. He became deputy chairman of the board of the Bulgarian Macroeconomics Association in March 2009. Member of the consultative council of the Bulgarian National Bank, member of the Euro Team. Coordinator of the Macro Watch initiative of the OSI-Sofia. He graduated University of National and World Economy in Sofia. Coauthor of the books "Bulgaria in International Rankings", "Anatomy of Transition" and "State Against the Reforms". Often published and cited in the media. He is mainly interested in tax and fiscal policy, economic reforms and development.

Yordanka Fandakova, Minister of education, youth and science

Education: 35th Russian Language School, Sofia

University of Sofia, majored in Russian language and literature

Professional experience:

27 July 2009: Minister of Education, Youth and Science

5 July 2009: MP, 41st National Assembly

2005-2009: Deputy Mayor of Sofia with portfolio education, culture, sports and prevention of addictions

1998-2005: principal of Vladislav Gramatik Secondary School for foreign languages No 73, Sofia

1985-1998: teacher at Vladislav Gramatik Secondary School for foreign languages No 73, Sofia

Further qualifications:

Teacher II Grade, A.S. Pushkin Institute, Moscow

Business Administration

Trainer Director in a program of the Ministry of Education and Science and the French Cultural Institute

Education Management – project of the Ministry of Education and Science, Goethe-Institut and KulturKontakt – Austria

School for Politics,

Languages: Russian, English

Latchezar Bogdanov is born in Sofia, Bulgaria in 1976. He studied in the University of National and World Economy and got his MA in 1999. In 1996 he started to work as researcher at the Institute for Market Economy in Sofia, a leading NGO and think-tank. Since 1999 he coordinated business environment and deregulation projects with the Institute. Became founder and board member of the Bulgarian Society for Individual Liberty (2003) and founder of the Bulgarian Economic Association (2003). In 2004 he co-founded Industry Watch Group Ltd. – a private economic research and analysis company. The major fields of his work include tax and fiscal policy analysis, public-private partnerships and privatization, analysis of the real estate market, assessment of macroeconomic risks. Regular contributor to political and business press and electronic media in Bulgaria. Co-author of four books.

Boryana Gotcheva is a Senior Social Protection Specialist in the World Bank division for Europe and Central Asia. She has been with the World Bank for 10 years working on social protection issues in the new EU member states, Central Asia, and most recently, in the Western Balkans. The main focus of her work are safety nets in middle- and high-income countries. Before joining the Bank, she used to work for the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations in Bulgaria, the European Commission and UNDP. Boryana has a PhD in International Economics and numerous post-doctoral specializations in the USA, Canada, UK and other EU member states.

Boyan Zahariev, Program Director, Open Society Institute - Sofia
Governance and Public Policies Program
Education Policies

EXPERTISE

Education

Social Integration of Disadvantaged Groups

Local Community Development

EDUCATION AND SPECIALIZATIONS

International Relations, Moscow Institute of International Relations, 1990

Master of Linguistic and Cultural Sciences, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", 1995

Specialization "Accounting and Accounting Software", Technical University, Sofia, 2000

Specialization "Economics and Business Administration", Master's Program, SU "St.

Kliment Ohridski" and Erasmus University, Rotterdam, 2001

David Král graduated from the Law Faculty at Charles University in Prague. He has been the director of EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy since 2000. He lectured at the Metropolitan University in Prague and at Charles University – Faculty of Social Sciences and is a certified trainer on EU affairs for the Czech public administration. During the work of the Convention on the Future of Europe and the Intergovernmental Conference 2003/2004 he was a member of advisory groups of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister, and member of an advisory group on foreign relations to the Vice-Premier for EU affairs before and during the Czech EU presidency in 2009. He served on the Board of PASOS (Policy Association for an Open Society), gathering think-tanks and policy institutes from Central and Eastern Europe and Newly Independent States. His main areas of expertise in Europeum include the EU constitutional and institutional issues, EU enlargement, EU external relations, Common Foreign and Security Policy and transatlantic relations.

Florian Fichtl, a German citizen, is the Resident Representative of the World Bank Office Sofia. Florian Fichtl joined the Bank in 1994 as consultant in the Western Africa Department, Populations and Human Resources Division, working on education and social protection projects.

Florian Fichtl was subsequently promoted to Senior Social Protection Specialist, guiding Bank support to countries emerging out of conflict, including Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

While working on Sierra Leone and Ethiopia, Florian Fichtl spearheaded new financing and coordination mechanisms to facilitate the support of the Bank and international community to critical demobilization and reintegration programs.

In April 2003, Florian Fichtl was appointed Country Manager for Eritrea with residence in Asmara, guiding the Bank's assistance strategy with a strong emphasis on health, education, infrastructure and rural development; and focusing the policy dialogue on fiscal transparency and macro-economic stability.

Prior to joining the World Bank, Florian Fichtl worked as Associate Program Adviser for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and the United Nations Industrial Development Association (UNIDO) in Kingston, Jamaica. Florian Fichtl holds graduate degrees in Economics from Columbia University, New York, and Sociology from the Free University of Berlin, Germany.

Ivan Krastev, Chair of the Board, Programme Director, Political Research, Center for Liberal Strategies.

Ivan Krastev, political scientist is Chairman of Board of the Centre for Liberal Strategies. He is a member of the Board of the European Council on Foreign Relations (ecfr.eu) and a Council member of the International Institute for Security Studies IISS - London. Krastev is the editor-in-chief of Foreign Policy Bulgaria and associated editor of Europe's World . His latest books in English are *The Anti-American Century* (co-editors with Alan McPherson), CEU Press, 2007 and *Shifting Obsessions: Three Essays on the Politics of Anticorruption*, CEU Press, 2004.

Balint Molnar is the Deputy Director of Freedom House Europe. Before joining Freedom House in 2006, Mr. Molnar worked as the Development Manager of the London-based Media Diversity Institute, where he was responsible for fundraising, donor outreach, and program development. Previously, Mr. Molnar worked in Canada as a Senior Program Specialist for the Ottawa Jewish Community Council. Mr. Molnar was also Development Director and Senior Communications Manager for the Budapest Holocaust Memorial Center, Hungary's national Holocaust institute. In this position he was responsible for securing state and private funding for the establishment of the institute, which was opened to the public in 2004. Between 1997 and 1999, Mr. Molnar worked as a News Editor at the Israeli Broadcasting Authority's Kol Israel Radio, and over the years his analysis and op-ed pieces were published in a number of publications, including the *Jerusalem Post*, the *Ottawa Citizen*, *Transitions Online*, *The Forward*, and *JTA Global News*. Mr. Molnar earned his BA in Political Science and International Relations from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and his MA in International Relations and European Studies from Central European University. He speaks fluent Hungarian, English, and Hebrew and intermediate German and some Spanish.

Adam Jasser

"Adam Jasser is Director of programmes and board member of demosEUROPA – Centre for European Strategy since April 2009. Until then he was Editor for Central Europe, Balkans and Turkey for Reuters, the leading global news and information provider. In 2001-2004, Adam was Reuters Bureau Chief in Frankfurt and in 1998-2000 in Helsinki. Earlier, he was desk editor in London and head of economic reporting in the Warsaw bureau. He is the author of numerous articles and analyses on foreign affairs, politics, business and economy. He graduated from the English department at the Warsaw University in 1991".