# THE CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPEAN FORUM

14 - 15 JANUARY 2025

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

WHERE CEE MARKETS THRIVE

# POST-EVENT REPORT





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# **AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Key Topic Coverage**

The Central and Eastern European Forum celebrated its 30th anniversary this January in Vienna. The Forum welcomed a record-high attendance of 2,020+ people from 54 nations, demonstrating its central role in CEE markets.

- Central and Eastern Europe: regional overview
- Funding the state, a sovereign borrowers session
- Rebuilding Ukraine
- Investment opportunities
- The preparation phase: implications of EU candidacy
- Growth, Change, Opportunities. Forces shaping CEE's banking sector
- Resilience in M&A?
- Private Equity
- Central Banks after the storm
- Sustainability data: climbing the reporting mountain
- Energy and Sustainable Investing
- 3 things to watch for 2025





# **AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS**





25
IMPACTFUL SESSIONS













# **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**





ROBERT HOLZMANN Governor of the Austrian Central Bank, Member of the Governing Council of the European Central



Vice President for Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, IFC





Government of Georgia



State Secretary, Chancellery of the Prime Minister, Government of Romania



JEAN-CHRISTOPHE LALOUX Director General, Operations, European Investment Bank



SIEGFRIED RUHL Hors Classe Adviser, Directorate-General for Budget, European Commission



MILAN KRATINA CEO, Accolada



MARTIN GALSTYAN Governor, Central Bank of



GABOR PETO Capital Markets Director, Futureal



SILVIA TARDIA ESG Advisory, M Corporate & Investment Banking Division, Intesa Sanpaolo



ARIANE DI IORIO Director, Financial Institutions Group, Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)



LÁSZLÓ FAZEKAS Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, MVM Group



GOKCE CELIK Serrior CEE Economist, UntCredit



KRISTOFOR PAVLOV Chief Economist, UntCredit Bulbank



PAVEL SOBISEK Chief Economist, UniCredit CZ&SK



EDWARD RANDOLPH Investment Director, Amber Infrastructure



MARKUS STIX Managing Director, Austrian Treasury



TINA ŽUMER Vice Governor, Bank of Sloventa



JANA HARVEY Senior Portlolio Manager, Emerging Markets, BlueBay Asset Management



ISTVÁN SZÁSZI CEO, Bosch Hungary and Adriatic region



Associate Portfolio Manager, Brandywine Global Investment Management



IGOR HRZIC Investment Director, CEE Equity Partners



JASMINA SELIMOVIĆ Governor, Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina



IRENA RADOVIĆ Governor, Central Bank of Montenegro



STANISLAVA TANEVA Head of Corporate Bank for Central Europe & Country Officer for Bulgaria, Citi



VERONIKA SPANAROVA Managing Director, Country Officer and Banking Head for Hungary, Citi



JOHANNES POCKRANDT Managing Director and Head of Government Atlairs for Europe and the UK, Cttl



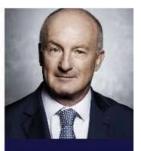
BORIS VUJČIĆ Governor, Croattan National Bank



FRANCIS MALICE Managing Director, Financial Institutions, EBRD



PILAR SOLANO Head of Central and South Eastern Europe Department, BIB



GARY MAZZOTTI
CEO and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, EP Infrastructure



ANTON HAUSER Senior Fund Manager, Emite Asset Management



STEFAN DÖRFLER Chief Financial Officer, Erste Group



FRITZ MOSTBÖCK Head of Group Research, Erste Group



JURAJ KOTIAN Head of CEE Macro Research, Erste Group



LAURIE MCAUGHTRY Head of Capital Markets, Euromoney



SOFIA CERQUEIRA Head of Sustainability, Euromoney



DARIA SHKUT Research Analyst, Emerging Markets Debt, Fidelity



BORISLAV KOSTADINOV Director, Finance in Motion



MALGORZATA KRZYWICKA Associate Director, Sovereign Ratings, Fitch Ratings



Managing Director, GlobalCapital



ZOLTÁN KURALI Chief Executive Officer, Government Debt Managemen Agency of Hungary (AKK)



VITALIY VAVRYSHCHUK Head of Macro Research, ICU



JOSHUA ZAKKAI Director Sustainable Markets and ESG Advisory, ING



PAOLA PAPANICOLAOU Chief of International Banks Division, Intesa Sampaolo



KEMAL SIKIRIC Managing Partner, Invera Equity Partners



FRANCESCA COCKCROFT
Product Director, Invisso



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Managing Partner, MCI Capital,
and President of the
Management Board, MCI Capital
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ALEKSANDAR DRAGICEVIC Principal, MolEuropa



KAROL CZARNECKI Director, Public Debt Department, Ministry of Finance, Republic of Poland



MARJAN DIVJAK Director General, Ministry of Finance, Skowesia



YURIY BUTSA Government Commissioner for Public Debt Management, Ministry of Financis, Ukraine



STEFAN NANU Head of Treasury and Public Debt Department, Ministry of Public Features, Romania



PETAR CHOBANOV
Deputy Governor, National Bank of Bulgarta



ANCA DRAGU Governor, National Bank of Moldova



ANITA ANGELOVSKA-BEZHOSKA Governor, National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia



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MARTIN BLUM Head of Deak Strategy and Capital Markets Development, Ratifielsen Bank International



LARYSA BONDARIEVA Corporate and Markets Board member, Ratfletsen Bank Ukratne



PAULA DUNIN-WASOWICZ, Director - Debt capital markets/Sustainable Bonds, Societe Cenerale



STANISLAS LECAT
Head of Europe Financial Sponsors
and Head of CEE and Greece
Financial Institutions, Societe
Cenerale



HENRY BURDON Economist, Tellimer



JOHN F. MORAN Serior Advisor to the Chief Operating Officer, Ukraine Initiatives and Risk Mitigation, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)







Head of Sectors and M&A,



MAURO GIORGIO MARRANO Senior CEE Economist, UniCredit



ESZTER GÁRGYÁN CEE FX Strategist, UniCredit



ZSOLT BECSEY Chief Economist, UniCredit Bank



ANCA MARIA NEGRESCU Senior Economist, UniCredit Bank





Chief Economist, UniCredit CZ&SK



HRVOJE DOLENEC Chief Economist, Zagrebačka



FRANZ HOERHAGER Chief Executive Officer, Acou



TIMOTHY ASH Senior EM Sovereign Strategist Emerging Markets , BlueBay Ar



Managing Director, Central and South Eastern Europe, EBRD



**GEOFF GOTTLIEB** Resident Representative for CEE,



Editorial Consultant to, Invisso



**JULIA WÖRZ** Head of the Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe Section,



Co-Head Emerging Markets Active Fixed Income, Vanguard





NATIA TURNAVA First Vice-Governor & Acting

Interested in speaking opportunities for next year? Get in touch with us:



Francesca Cockcroft **Product Director** E: francesca.cockcroft@invisso.org T: +442077798082

## **TESTIMONIALS**



92%

#### SATISFACTION RATE

It gives a fresh update at the beginning of the year on important market developments in the region, you hear different perspectives, make new contacts and exchange news with old friends.

Julia Wörz, Head of the Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe Section, Oesterreichische Nationalbank

# Why is this event valuable for you to attend?

We Asked... You Said



By far the most important capital markets event covering the CEE/CIS region. It was a great opportunity to engage not only with the existing partners but also to explore potential new collaborations including syndicated loans discussions.

Levent Mor, Loan Syndications, OPEC Fund



More and more companies/issuers are joining this event.

Günther Artner, Erste Group



events for CEE capital markets players, good start of the business year (catch-up), interesting panel discussions, networking, business information, meeting with clients on effective and cost effective basis.

One of the best business

Istvan Agoston, Head of Financial Institutions and Custody, Raiffeisen Bank Hungary



an excellent opportunity to get in touch with everyone at the beginning of the year

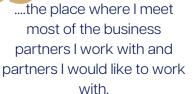
Debora Revoltella,
Director of the Economics Department, EIB



Regional annual hub for stakeholders to come together and "speed date", very efficient and productive. Panels are also very interesting and up-to-date.

Pars Ayaz, Syndications Officer, IFC





Fatos Krasniqi, CEO, PriBank



Extremely efficient gathering for the region with wide presence of banks and service providers.

Siyana Nikolova, Head of ALM, Eurobank Bulgaria

# SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEWS



Anca Dragu
Governor
National Bank of
Moldova



Anita Angelovska-Bezoska
Governor

National Bank of the Republic
of North Macedonia



Franz Hoerhager
Chief Executive Officer
Accession Capital Partners



Irena Radović
Governor
Central Bank of Montenegro



Geoff Gottlieb
Resident Representative for CEE
IMF



Jürgen Rigterink First Vice President EBRD



Martin Galstyan
Governor
Central Bank of Armenia

Interested in a dedicated interview next year? Get in touch with us:



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#### FEEDBACK FROM

# **OUR DELEGATES**



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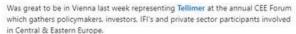
While Central and Eastern Europe has had an exceptional run in recent years, rising input prices at home and weak demand abroad pose challenges to its export-led growth model.

Geoff Gottlieb, the IMF's Senior Regional Representative for the IMF Office for Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe, took part in a discussion on the outlook for the region's economies at the Central & Eastern Europe Forum in Vienna this week https://theceeforum.com/.

Valerie Brunner Debora Revoltella Charlotte Ruhe Invisso Toby Fildes Francesca Cockcroft Sebastian Sosa Maciei Onoszko







On our panel we chatted about:

- Trump tariff scenarios and their possible impact
- The challenging rates and FX backdrop for emerging market economies
- Implications of an end to the war in Ukraine on the CEE region and beyond
- If growth in CEE can decouple from sluggish growth in Western Europe

Thanks to Invisso, richard kemmish, Pilar from EIB and Will from Capital Economics! #ceeforum #tellimer





Vladimir Vano • 1st

Chief Economist, Keynote Speaker, Board Member, Top 100 Linkedin Cr...

6d . 3

Martin Blum of Raiffeisen Bank International AG opening the first ever genAl workshop at Invisso's Central and Eastern European Forum 2025 on Using GenAl to Remain Ahead of CEE Central Bank Policy along with Barnabas Virag. Deputy Governor of Magyar Nemzeti Bank. Nick Eisinger of Vanguard. Geoff Gottlieb of International Monetary Fund & Bernhard Pfann of #RBI at Hilton #Vienna #Austria.





Bernhard Pfann - 1st

Senior Data Scientist - Raiffeisen Bank International AG

As a data scientist, it's not every day that I get to trade the dark mode of my code editor for the bright spotlights of a conference hall.

Therefore it felt gratifying to present and discuss some of our work on a panel during last week's #CEEForum in Vienna, alongside policymakers and investors.

Thank you, Martin Blum, for putting me on the spot!



#### FEEDBACK FROM

# **OUR DELEGATES**



European Investment Fund (EIF) 93,842 followers + Follow ···

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ICYMI: EIF experts joined the CEE Securitisation Summit 2025 in Vienna to explore the future of #securitisation in the CEE region and in Europe

As the EIF head of securitisation Georgi Stoev confirms, Europe is a world leader in synthetic securitisation and the CEE region is booming, but traditional #ABS suffer.

We also touched base on the legal and regulatory landscape, covering topics such as the divergent EU and UK frameworks, the current regulatory constraints on pan-European structures, and the evolution of the STS regime 

"The securitisation market can play a crucial role in advancing the #CapitalMarketsUnion." remarked Alessandro Garelli.

Cyril du Boispean, CFA provided some key messages on securitisation at the EIF: Over the last eleven years (2013-2024), €110bn of SME loans have been unlocked thanks to the EIF and EIB securitisation activity, benefiting over 750,000 SMEs for this period.

✓ We aim to make securitisation more accessible, sometimes by being the first investor in new jurisdictions - Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria or Norway are recent examples.

Thanks to Francesca Cockcroft and Invisso for organising this event and see you next year! 6





Sven Haase • Following Capital Markets: Business Development at CSC - Leaders in Capital Mar... Visit my website

1w . 3

Time for securitisation in the CEE.

Looking forward to attending the CEE Securitisation Summit 2025 in Vienna next week. Let me know if you're attending (maybe we also find time for a run).

Increased interest in capital optimisation strategies and already a large and growing base of active and potential issuers from 30+ countries, together with core and potential investors in the region make this summit a must-go event.

At CSC Global Capital Markets we support Securitisation, ABS, and more general Structured Finance / DCM activities with a broad range of Corporate Services, Agency & Trustee Services, Escrow and Loan Agency.

CEE Securitisation Summit 2025 Key Themes:

- > SRT: leading the way
- ➤ Legal and regulatory environment
- ➤ Unlocking the potential for ABS. What do we need? How do we get it?
- ➤ The evolution of private capital
- ➤ A-Z of Securitising Trade receivables
- ➤ Understanding investor needs
- ➤ The private investor v the public investor
- ➤ CEE Banking sector analysis
- > The role of securitisation in supporting climate transition

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Vladimir Vano - 1st

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1w • Edited • 🔊

Insightful, informative and competent discussion about local bond market development in Ukraine by Larysa Bondarieva, Corporate and Markets Board Member of the Raiffeisen Bank Ukraine at Central and Eastern European Forum 2025 by Invisso in Vienna. Austria.



















# PRESS COVERAGE



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# THANK YOU

#### Conclusion

A record 2,020 delegates joined us in Vienna to kick-start the financial year, with attendees from 54 different countries convening under one roof to meet with old friends and to forge new relationships.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors, speakers and attendees for supporting the 2025 Forum and for making it such a great success.

#### Save the Date!

We look forward to working with you all again soon, and to seeing you back in Vienna on 13-14 January 2026.

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