

## Seminar Programme

# European Diaspora – Exploring Opportunities for its Involvement in Economic Development of Countries in South-East Europe and Their Accession to European Union

FH Joanneum, Graz

3-4 April 2006

## DAY ONE

08.00 – 09.00 **Registration**

09.00 – 10.00 **Official Opening**

**Mr Michael Azodanloo-Melzer**, Provincial Government of Styria

**Professor Gerhard Apfelthaler**, Head, Department of International Management, FH Joanneum, Graz

**Professor Wolfgang Benedek**, World University Service – Austria, Graz

**Mr Cameron Archer**, First Secretary, Australian Embassy, Vienna

**Dr Steve Bakalis**, Outreach Director, European Diaspora Research Network in Australia

**Mr John Gage**, Deputy Director, National Europe Centre, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

**Professor Ron Adams**, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

10.00 – 10.30 **Morning Coffee Break**

10.30 – 12.00 **Session One: Challenges of Economic Development and EU Accession in South-East Europe – Economic Perspective**

Chair: **Professor Lino Briguglio**, University of Malta, Valletta, Malta

Discussant: **Mr John Gage**, Deputy Director, National Europe Centre, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

*Development, Integration and Fragmentation in Southeastern Europe*

- **Professor George Petrakos**, Director, South and East European Development Centre, University of Thessaly, Volos, Greece (Professor Petrakos is unable to attend the seminar and his paper will be presented by **Mr John Gage**)

*The effect of migration on sending countries: What do we know and what can we do?*<sup>1</sup>

- **Dr Theodora Xenogiani**, Economist, Development Centre, OECD, Paris, France

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<sup>1</sup> A joint paper prepared by Professor Louka T. Katseli and Dr Theodora Xenogiani of the OECD Development Center and Professor Robert E. B. Lucas of Boston University.

12.00 – 13.30 **Lunch Break**

13.30 – 15.00 **Session Two: Challenges of Economic Development and EU Accession in South-East Europe – Practitioner Perspective**

Chair: **Dr Steve Bakalis**, Head, International Business Education and Research Unit, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

Discussant: **Mr Hariz Halilovich**, University of Melbourne, Australia

- *The Role of Economic Development in Reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina*  
**Mr Vince Gamberale**, Country Director, CHF International, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and **Ms Amela Malicbegovic**, Director, Regional Development Agency for Central Region, Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- *Diaspora remittances, their use and economic development of the Republic of Macedonia*  
**Dr Seadin Dzaferi**, Deputy Director, Agency for Emigration, Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Skopje, Macedonia
- *Entrepreneurship and SMEs in Bosnia and Herzegovina*  
**HE Dr Zdravko Todorovic**, the former Bosnia and Herzegovina Ambassador to Australia, Banjaluke, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- *Diaspora initiatives: Reflections and recommendations*  
**HE Dr Mirza Kusljagic**, Bosnia and Herzegovina Ambassador to the United Nations, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- *Business engagement of diaspora communities in SE Europe*  
**Ms Mirsada Musur**, Honorary Australian Consul and Director of PrismResearch, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and **Mr Zoran Kostovski**, Honorary Australian Consul, Skopje, Macedonia

15.00 – 15.30 **Afternoon Coffee Break**

15.30 – 17.00 **Session Three: Challenges of Economic Development and EU Accession in South-East Europe – Academic Perspective**

Chair: **Professor Biljana Sekulovska-Gaber**, University of Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, Macedonia

- *Romanian diaspora in Europe – past, present, influence*  
**Professor Paul Rinderu**, Department of Quality Management, University of Craiova, Craiova, Romania
- *The diaspora dimension in the current economic environment and reform process in Serbia-Montenegro*  
**Dr Milorad Filipovic**, Associate Professor, Department for Economic Policy and Development, Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade, and **Mr. Vladimir Stankovic**, Deputy Director, The National Bureau of Statistics, Belgrade, Serbia

- *Unemployment, emigration and EU integration of the Republic of Macedonia*  
**Professor Verica Janeska**, Senior Research Associate, Institute of Economics, University of Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, Macedonia
- *Challenges of economic development and EU accession in the migration area: Regional perspective*  
**Dr Aleksandar A. Pejovic**, MARRI Regional Centre, Skopje, Macedonia

17.00 Housekeeping announcements and arrangements for Day Two

19.00 for 19.30 **Conference Dinner**

## DAY TWO

08.30 – 10.00 **Session Four: The Involvement of Returnees and Diasporas in Economic Transformation and Accession to EU**

Chair: **Professor Graeme Hugo**, Federation Fellow and Director, the National Centre for Social Applications of GIS, University of Adelaide, Adelaide

- *The Maltese diaspora experience and its Role in Malta's economic and social development*  
**Professor Lino Briguglio**, University of Malta, Valletta , Malta
- *Slovenian accession to the EU and Slovenian communities outside Slovenia*  
**Professor Matjaz Klemencic**, Chair of History, University of Maribor, and President of Scientific Council, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- *Some innovations and network effects of Greek diaspora entrepreneurship: 1750-2000<sup>2</sup>*  
**Dr Ioanna Minoglou**, Department of Economics, University of Economics and Business, and Greek Economic History Association, Athens, Greece
- *The phenomenon of immigration and diaspora - The case of Latin America*  
**Dr Jacobo Ramirez**, Assistant Professor, Department of Management-DAF, ITESM-Campus-Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico

10.00 – 10.30 **Morning Coffee Break**

10.30 – 12.00 **Session Five: European Diasporas in Australia – Potential for Their Involvement in South-East European Development**

Chair: **Mr John Gage**, Deputy Director, National Europe Centre, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

- *The significance, scale and functions of diaspora: a demographic perspective*

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<sup>2</sup> A joint paper prepared with Professors George Bitros of the Athens University of Economics and Business.

**Professor Graeme Hugo**, Federation Fellow and Director, the National Centre for Social Applications of GIS, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia

- *South East European diasporas in Australia and the enlargement of European Union*

**Dr James Jupp**, Director, Centre for Immigration and Multicultural Studies, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

- *The role of diaspora communities in economic development: Macedonians in Australia*

**Professor Biljana Sekulovska-Gaber**, University of Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, Macedonia, and Visiting Fellow, National Europe Centre, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

12.00 – 13.30 **Lunch Break**

13.30 – 15.00 **Session Six: Challenges of Institutional Transformation and Expatriate Engagement – Issues for Discussion**

Chair: **Ms Nina Taso**, MA, World University Service - Austria, Graz, Austria

- *Capacity-building in Bosnia-Herzegovina: The symbolic value of EU accession*  
**Professor Ron Adams**, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia
- *Utilising diaspora social capital in EU accession: The Bosnia-Herzegovina case*  
**Mr Hariz Halilovich**, University of Melbourne, Australia
- *Croatian accession to the EU and Croatian ‘overseas’ diasporas*  
**Dr Dubravka Mlinaric**, Researcher, Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, Zagreb, Croatia
- *The role of altruism as a pathway towards the development of diaspora entrepreneurial networks in the Balkans: Evidence from Australia*  
**Dr Steve Bakalis**, Head, International Business Education and Research Unit, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

15.00 – 15.30 **Afternoon Coffee Break**

15.30 – 17.00 **Session Seven: Challenges of Institutional Transformation in South East Europe – Initiatives and the Way Forward**

Chair: **Dr Jurg Hofreiter**, Honorary Consul of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Styria, Austria

- *Migration, asylum seekers and refugees: MARRI regional initiatives and projects*  
**Dr Aleksandar Pejovic**, MARRI Regional Centre, Skopje, Macedonia
- *EU Projects in the Western Balkans*  
**Mr Adi Kovacevic**, WUS – Austria and **Dr Martin Neubauer**, FHJ, Graz

- *The EU citizenship and its possible impacts on the future development of European integration: The perspective of migrants and diasporas*  
**Professor Mitja Zagar**, Director, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

17.00 – 17.15 **Short Break**

17.15 – 17.45 **Discussion Panel: The Way Forward**

- Chair: **Professor Ron Adams**, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia
- **Professor Graeme Hugo**, Federation Fellow and Director, the National Centre for Social Applications of GIS, University of Adelaide, Adelaide
- **Mr Adi Kovasevic**, Executive Director, World University Service, Graz-Austria
- **HE Dr Mirza Kusljagic**, Bosnia and Herzegovina Ambassador to the United Nations
- **Dr Martin Neubauer**, Research and Development Manager, Department of International Management, FH Joanneum, Graz

17.45 – 18.00 **Closing Remarks**

**Professor Gerhard Apfelthaler**, Head, Department of International Management, FH Joanneum, Graz

**Mr Adi Kovasevic**, Executive Director, World University Service - Austria, Graz

**Dr Steve Bakalis**, Outreach Director, European Diaspora Research Network in Australia

**Mr John Gage**, Deputy Director, National Europe Centre, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

18.00 **Conference ends**