



## **Economy at the Trial of Flexibility and Resilience**

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Business Conference Portorož “Economy at the Trial of Flexibility and Resilience” will be held on 12 and 13 November, 2020 as online/virtual event.**

Today, the European economy, including Slovenia's, is more vulnerable than in recent months: Brexit first shocked the system, its consequences as yet not entirely clear, then came Covid-19, which has turned the world upside down, including interfering with supply chains. The world is even more complex today than it was previously, when we were primarily focused on the USA, Asia, platforms, Trump, trade wars, Brexit, indebtedness and the low price of money, ageing populations, climate change, and the likelihood of recession: factors which on the one hand enhance globalisation, on the other localisation.

The new reality has brought a great deal of uncertainty; it is a test of our ability to adjust and recover after a shock and embrace the changed reality, which has opened up opportunities for new work methods, business models, digital transition, and market channels and new business responses to change. It is only with more intelligence, business innovation, robotisation, investment in infrastructure and greater flexibility politically and economically, including monetary policy, that we will be able to compete with the rest of the world.

In the past, such crises always delivered societal change. In this context, we should ask ourselves if we can remain unchanged. Is a Chinese type state an appropriate alternative or should we maintain the European social model which has not addressed the question of who will pay. From this perspective, Society 5.0 is interesting as it builds on the technological innovation of the fourth industrial revolution in terms of new types of work, work-leisure balance and company organisation, moreover, and is based on the idea of a new global order with less inequality and a more just distribution of negative externalities; furthermore, we must not forget about climate change. The situation will probably never be the same as before the crisis and this will test our ability to adjust and recover after the shock and adapt to the changed reality. To do this, we primarily need to develop a successful way out and trust in it.

Business Conference Portorož will introduce several Slovenian and foreign role models and practical examples on how to find the right way through this complex maze in the short-, medium- and long-run.

## Programme

### Thursday, 12th of November 2020

- 12.00–12.15 Conference opening
- 12.15–13.00 Introduction: **European and Slovenian companies caught between the US, China and viruses. How to be resilient and ahead of time? What are the European, including Slovenian, markets of the future?**
- **Sandra NAVIDI**, Founder and CEO of BeyondGlobal; formerly worked closely with Nouriel Roubini
- Moderator: Peter FRANKL, CEO and Editor-in-Chief, Časnik Finance
- 13.00–13.10 Break
- 13.10–13.45 Online activation: **An example of company's response to changes (system resistance)**
- **Lily YANG**, Vice President, People, GC, WeWork
- Moderator: Miha ŠKERLAVAJ, PhD, Full Professor, School of Business and Economics, University of Ljubljana
- 13.45–14.00 **Transforming for growth: Plans of Iskratel's new owner**
- **Željko Puljić**, MSc, CEO of Iskratel, a member of S&T AG
- 14.00–14.20 **Owing to changed consumer habits, the financial services market transformation accelerated by the entry of new market players will lead to a new finance industry model.**
- **Dr. Rainer SCHAMBERGER**, CMO, Bankart
- 14.20–14.30 **Active break with athlete Maruša Mišmaš and refreshments with E-branjevka smoothie (vitamins of the day)**
- 14.30–15.30 **New business models at the trial of flexibility and resistance, how fast and resistant are our companies.**
- Roundtable discussion with guests:
- **Andrej OROŽEN**, CEO and Co-founder, Dewesoft
  - **Vinko FILIPIČ**, Member of the Management Board, Post of Slovenia
  - **Robert LJOLJO**, President of the Management Board of Lek and President of Novartis in Slovenia
  - **Jan DOBRILLOVIČ**, Co-founder and CEO, Beeping
- Moderator: Prof. Dr. Tjaša REDEK, The Faculty of Economics of the University of Ljubljana
- 15.30–16.00 **Which EU means are available for funding projects for green and digital transformation of companies and how to approach them?**

- **Francesco FERRERO**, Head of European Investment Bank (EIB) office in Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **Ana STANIČ**, E&A Law Limited, UK
- **Sandra DAMIJAN**, PhD, Researcher, The Faculty of Economics of the University of Ljubljana, partner and Head of Advisory, Grant Thornton Advisory

16.00–16.50

### **Europe, Slovenia and South-East Europa in year 2021**

16.00–16.40 **Velimir BOLE, M. Sc., EIPF, Ljubljana**

16.40–16.50 Discussion with guest leads:

**Prof. Dr. Janez PRAŠNIKAR**, the Faculty of Economics of the University of Ljubljana

16.50–17.40

### **Top Managers' View on their Operations in 2021**

Roundtable discussion with guests:

- **Zmago SKOBIR**, Managing director, Fraport Slovenia
- **Matjaž ČEMAŽAR**, Chairman of the Management Board, Domel Holding
- **Tomaž GORNIK**, Founder and Executive Director of company Better

Moderators: Peter FRANKL, CEO and Editor-in-Chief, Časnik Finance and Mojca KUNŠEK, CEO, AJPES

17.40-17.45

Refresh time with Monologue gin and tonic cocktail

17.45–18.15

**Solemn award ceremony of Časnik Finance for exceptional achievement in economy.**

18.15–18.30

**Discussion with master chef Tomaž Kavčič, Chef of renowned Gostilna pri Lojzetu – mansion Zemono**

## **Friday, 13th of November 2020**

9.00–9.55

**Research of The Faculty of Economics (SEBLU): The influence of epidemic COVID-19 on Slovenian economy**

- **Nika Drobnič, Peter Suhodolčan and Julija Barbič**, students of IMB Programme, The Faculty of Economics of the University of Ljubljana
- **Prof. Dr. Matjaž Koman**, The Faculty of Economics of the University of Ljubljana

9.55–10.10

**Active minutes with athlete Maruša Mišmaš and entertaining conversation with Anamarija Lampič, Slovenian cross-country skier**

- 10.10–11.00 **How have Slovenian consumers changed? Are we returning to our roots or heading into a completely new reality because of the healthcare and technology disruption? Tectonic shifts or minor Covid-19 disruption corrections?**
- Roundtable discussion with guests:
- **Adrian JEŽINA**, CEO, Telemach
  - **Zooullis MINA**, CEO, Pivovarna Laško Union (PLU)
  - **Gregor ROVANŠEK**, Executive Director, Sava
  - **Karmen PANGOS**, Managing Director, Žito
- Moderator: Prof. Dr. Marko PAHOR, The Faculty of Economics of the University of Ljubljana
- 11.00–11.45 **The Resilient Organisation: How Can you Make Your Company Fit for a New Future? Three pillars of resilience (strategic, operational, and psychological). How to make companies fit for the new reality?**
- **Julian BIRKINSHAW**, Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship and Deputy Dean of Executive Education and Digital Learning at the London Business School
- Moderator: Prof. Dr. Miha ŠKERLAVAJ, The Faculty of Economics of the University of Ljubljana
- 11.45–12.00 **Discussion: How a modern bank can contribute to the company's resilience**
- **Anita STOJČEVSKA**, CEO, SKB
- Moderator: Peter FRANKL, CEO and Editor- in-Chief, Časnik Finance
- 12.00–12.25 **Covid, climate and digitalisation – the way forward for EU businesses**
- **Debora REVOLTELLA**, Director of the Economics Department of the European Investment Bank
- 12.25–12.50 **Concluding discussion: Debureaucratisation of Slovenia**
- **Ivan SIMIČ**, president of the Government Strategic Council for Debureaucratization
- Moderator: Peter FRANKL, CEO and Editor- in-Chief, Časnik Finance
- 12.50 The end of conference