



press release

One month to the 9th European Economic Congress

Organisers expect record turnout

Katowice, 11 April 2017 – **The 9th edition of the European Economic Congress is scheduled to take place on 10-12 May 2017 in Katowice. Nearly 100 sessions will bring together several hundred participants, including members of the Polish and the European Parliament, government officials from Poland, Europe and across the world, as well as business people and CEOs of the largest companies. The Congress will also be accompanied by the second edition of the European Start-up Days, a special event designed to bring together start-ups and corporations.**

The European Economic Congress (EEC) in Katowice is a three-day series of debates on a varied range of topics that address the current economic situation in Poland, Europe and the world. The event stands out in particular for its representative selection of panellists. The ninth edition is expected to attract a record turnout.

“The European Economic Congress is an excellent platform to exchange knowledge and ideas, as well as to hold debates to identify key solutions for the future of our economy. It’s also an event with an already well-established presence, renown, and prestige. Last year, it attracted eight thousand visitors. The great interest shown in the 9th European Economic Congress thus far allows us to estimate that the turnout will be even greater this year”, comments **Wojciech Kuśpiak**, initiator of the EEC, CEO of PTWP SA.

Every year, the European Economic Congress brings together EU Commissioners, members of the Polish and the European Parliament, ministers and deputy ministers from Poland, Europe and around the world, CEOs of the largest companies, many business people from Europe, Africa and Asia, and also representatives from financial institutions and local governments.

Attendance at the 9th edition of the largest economic debate of Central Europe has already been confirmed by **Reimer Böge**, Delegate to the European Parliament; **Zoltán Cséfalvay**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Hungary to the OECD and UNESCO, Deputy Minister at the Hungarian Ministry of the National Economy in 2010-2014; **Jos Delbeke**, Director-General for Climate Action of the European Commission; **Mikuláš Dzurinda**, President of the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, Prime Minister of Slovakia 1998-2006; **Vazil Hudák**, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank; **Eugene Kandel**, Israeli economist, CEO, Start-Up Nation Central, and Professor of Economics and Finance at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; **Tomáš Novotný**, Czech Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade for EU Funds, Research and Development, Innovations and Investment Incentives; **Mirek Topolánek**, Member of the Board of Directors of Eustream, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic in 2006-2009; **Maroš Šefčovič**, Vice-President of the European Commission for Energy Union.

The Polish Government will be represented by, to name but a few, **Andrzej Dera**, Secretary of State, Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland; **Mariusz Orion Jędrysek**, Government Plenipotentiary for National Raw Materials Policy, State Secretary, Chief Geologist, the Ministry of the Environment; **Witold Słowik**, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Economic Development, **Krzysztof Szubert**, Strategic Advisor to the Minister of Digitisation, Plenipotentiary of the Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Digital Affairs; **Stanisław Szwed**, State Secretary, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy; **Konrad Szymański**, Secretary of State for European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; **Krzysztof Tchórzewski**, Minister of Energy; **Grzegorz Tobiszowski**, Deputy Minister of Energy; **Marek Ziółkowski**, Undersecretary of State for Security, Eastern and European Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; **Tomasz Źuchowski**, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Infrastructure and Construction.

The following participants will also share their business expertise at the European Economic Congress in Katowice: **Brunon Bartkiewicz**, President of the Management Board of ING Bank Śląski SA; **Nemunas Biknius**, Chairman of the Board of Amber Grid, Director of Strategy and Development at EPSO-G, Chairman of the Board of BALTPPOOL, Member of the Board of AB Litgrid; **Gérard Bourland**,

Director General of Veolia in Poland; **João Brás Jorge**, Chairman of the Management Board, Millennium Bank; **Gheorghe Marian Cristescu**, President of the Management Board, Chopin Airport Development; **Maciej Dyjas**, Co-Managing Partner & Co-CEO, Griffin Real Estate; **Grzegorz Dzik**, President of the Management Board, Impel; **Tony Housh**, Chair of the American Chamber of Commerce in Poland (AmCham); **Zbigniew Jakubas**, owner of the Multico Corporate Group; **Stanisław Kluza**, President of the Management Board, Bank Ochrony Środowiska; **Eryk Kłossowski**, President and CEO of PSE; **Przemysław Krych**, founder and CEO, Griffin Real Estate; **Adam Krzanowski**, President of the Management Board and Co-owner, Nowy Styl Group; **Jacek Łukaszewski**, Country President, Schneider Electric Poland; **Waldemar Markiewicz**, President of the Polish Chamber of Brokerage Houses; **Tomasz Misiak**, President of the Supervisory Board, Work Service; **Carlos E. Piñerúa**, Country Manager for Poland and the Baltic States, World Bank; **Niccolo Polli**, CEO International, HSBC Holdings Plc; **Sanjay Samaddar**, CEO and Chairman of ArcelorMittal Poland; **Jacek Siwicki**, Chairman of the Board of Directors, President, Enterprise Investors; **Jerzy Werle**, CEO, Warbud; **Zbigniew Warmuz**, Chairman of the Board, Synthos; **Paweł Wojciechowski**, Chief Economist, Social-Insurance Institution (ZUS), Minister of Finance in 2006, and Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2009-2010; **Katarzyna Zawodna**, Business-Unit President, Skanska Commercial Development Europe.

The leading themes of the 9th EEC will include new ideas for Europe – political changes within the EU; the post-Brexit economy and the likelihood of other exits; the crisis in the perception of liberal capitalism; the hierarchy of economic values in the light of new generations of employees; the fourth industrial revolution – how to develop industry with the help of digitisation and advanced technologies; investment in unstable times – risks, barriers, courage and profits.

The agenda will also feature some regular topics, namely sessions devoted to various areas of public and economic life, such as finance, innovation, man and technology, energy and resources, mining and steel industry, management, self-government and regional policy, infrastructure, the health market, transportation and logistics, real property and construction, and also global economic co-operation.



The 9th European Economic Congress will once again be accompanied by the [European Start-up Days](#) – a space of open dialogue for start-ups, investors and business support organisations. The participants will have a chance to present their start-ups before the audience of the EEC by taking part in the Start-up Challenge. Authors of the top 100 most interesting business ideas will present their projects at free stands prepared by the organiser in a dedicated Scale-up Alley. The top eighteen will also be invited to appear on the stages of the European Economic Congress at the International Congress Centre in Katowice, as well as in front of the audience for the European Start-up Days at the Spodek Sports and Entertainment Arena.

The organisers of the European Economic Congress in Katowice have also decided to continue the **EEC – Leaders of Tomorrow** project, which aims at shaping and promoting active citizenship, as well as increasing the involvement of young people in public life. The project invites students to open lectures, allowing them to participate in the congress as a speaker or listener, and helping organise the event.

A special accompanying gala will also present awards to the best practices and top investment success stories in the framework of the sixth edition of the **Top Communal Investments** contest. This year the board, composed of experienced self-government delegates, economists, managers, experts and officials, will select winners from among projects carried out under the public-private partnership formula (PPP).

All discussions, meetings, presentations and information-sharing sessions will be hosted at the International Congress Centre in Katowice and the adjacent Spodek Sports and Entertainment Arena.

If you wish to take part in the sessions, debates, and meetings of the largest business conference of Central Europe fill in the [online](#) application form. Basic participation in the congress is free.

Press accreditations: <https://konto.ptwp.pl/eec/pl/media.html>



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The European Economic Congress (EEC) in Katowice is a three-day series of debates, meetings and accompanying events with more than 8,000 guests from Poland, Europe and across the world. Nearly 100 sessions bring together several hundred panellists, as well as EU Commissioners, prime ministers and representatives of European countries, CEOs of the largest companies, scientists and practitioners, and decision-makers who significantly impact the current social and economic life. These opinion-shaping people come together in the form of an open public debate to talk about the major issues facing the development of Europe today.

The European Economic Congress has been hailed as one of the most representative debates on the future of Europe. Statements made by its participants are often quoted and widely commented on.

Ever since its inception in 2009, the EEC has been organised by the PTWP SA Group.

More information about the European Economic Congress – www.eecpoland.eu

More information about the organiser – PTWP SA Group – www.ptwp.pl

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