



International Center for Economic Growth  
European Center

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## **NEWSLETTER 2003/2**

**BUDAPEST**

**MAY 2003**

## INTRODUCTION

The European Center of the International Center for Economic Growth (ICEG EC) releases periodically its Newsletter, in which we inform the recipients about the latest research outcomes, new research and country programs, upcoming events organized by the center. More information about the activities, including most of the research output in downloadable format can be obtained from our web-site at [www.icegec.org](http://www.icegec.org).

We would be pleased to receive comments on the newsletter, the web-site and especially on the programs and their outputs. In case you would like to write to us on these issues, please send the technical information to the web-master at [icegec.publication@axelero.hu](mailto:icegec.publication@axelero.hu), while the remarks, notes and questions to the office address at [icegec@axelero.hu](mailto:icegec@axelero.hu).

## RENEWED WEB-SITE LAUNCHED!

We would like to inform You that our old homepage has been modernized and restructured. During the last month we were very busy planning the details, structure and design of the new web site. We hope that you will like the new style that is still conservative but more friendly at the same time, and will make yourself familiar with the new structure, which makes the page much more transparent.

## MEMBER NEWS

The following call for a 16 months training program is put into our newsletter for the special request of one of our member institute:

*We are pleased to inform you about the Third edition of the Master on Local Development for The Balkans.*

*The program offers sixteen months of training for a post-graduate second level Master degree. It has been designed for 25 young high-level professionals holding positions of responsibility in or in connection with South-Eastern Europe (SEE). Its main objective is to provide participants with the necessary knowledge and skills for introducing, supporting and co-ordinating processes of change and transformation at the local level. The focus of the program is local development that involves both public, private and non governmental agents and that furthers social stability and economic prosperity according to the acquis communautaire/standards in European/EC law. The general approach is interdisciplinary and comparative.*

*The Master program includes courses in economics, law sociology and political sciences, project cycle management, workshops, skills training, internships, language courses and distance learning. Courses are taught at the Universities of Trento and Bolzano/Bozen by Italian and international experts. Given the focus on local development, most of the internships will take place in local organizations in Trentino Alto Adige/Süd-Tirol and North-Eastern Italy*

*Schedule:*

- *Selection of participants: end of July*
- *Pre-program (study of indicated materials): September - December 2003 (at home)*
- *Lectures, workshops, internships and language courses:*
  - *I bimester: January 19th 2004 - March 12th 2004 (in Trento)*
  - *I interval: March 13th 2004 - April 25th 2004 (at home)*
  - *II bimester: April 26th 2004- June 18th 2004 (in Bolzano/Bozen)*
  - *II interval: June 19th 2004 - September 19th 2004 (at home)*
  - *III bimester: September 20th 2004 - November 12th 2004 (in Trento)*

*Project Work completion: November 20th 2004 - December 31st 2004 (at home)*

*Attendance is limited to 25 participants: scholarships are available for participants from South-East Europe and other countries*

**To apply:** <http://www.didatticaonline.unitn.it/master.asp>

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**Deadline for applications: June 29th, 2003**

## **EVENTS**

### **CONFERENCE ON EXPECTED EFFECTS OF THE EU ACCESSION ON THE VISEGRAD COUNTRIES. 20-21 MARCH, 2003. BUDAPEST**

**Summary of the keynote speaker's presentations:**

ICEG European Center and the Hungarian-American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) organized a joint conference on the **Expected Effects of the EU Accession on the Visegrad Countries: Analysis of the Sector-Specific Effects of the EU Accession on the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia**

The Conference took place on March 20-21, in Hilton Hotel WestEnd. The conference assessed the likely effects the EU accession on the four Visegrad countries with a special focus at the impact on machinery, chemical, pharmaceutical and electric energy industries, the banking sector and telecommunications of these countries. Due to their role in GDP the effects of EU accession and entry to the Single Market on these sectors have a key role in determining the costs and benefits of the accession for the whole economy.

The two day meeting had both plenary and panel sessions: in the former keynote speakers addressed the general effects of EU Accession, while in the latter the sector studies were discussed with experts, representatives of business and financial community.

The background studies of the conference were prepared under the coordination of ICEG European Center. They analyze the costs and benefits of accession in Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia on the level of individual sectors and also on the whole economy.

More information about the conference can be found at our web site ([www.icegec.org](http://www.icegec.org)) by clicking at events section of the site. The summary sector studies can be found under **Studies**, the program and the presentations under **Program**, the brief overview of the event under **Proceedings**, while the list of attendees under **list of participants**.

The conference could be organized thanks to generous support from the corporate sector.

*The following companies have sponsored the conference:*

**Diamond sponsor**



**Gold sponsor:**



**Communications partner:**



**Silver Sponsors:**



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## NEW ANALYSES

### Expected effects of the EU-Accession on the Visegrad Countries – Sector Studies

As a result of the AMCHAM-ICEG-EC Conference on **Expected effects of the EU Accession on the Visegrad countries**, 24 sector studies has been prepared, (40 pages each!). The revised, final versions of these studies can be ordered soon. For more information please check our web-site.

### News of the Month 4 launched!

The latest version of our monthly regional review. Can be found on our homepage. News of the Month 4 contains the following articles:

- *Rapidly increasing public debt ratio in the Czech Republic*
- *Falling FDI in Hungary: What are the problems?*
- *Poland : Developments and issues in early 2003*
- *Foreign direct investments in Croatia*
- *Changes in the Hungarian balance of payments statistics and methodology*

For more information about our studies please contact either our web-site or Balázs Kovács at [b\\_kovacs@axelero.hu](mailto:b_kovacs@axelero.hu)

For additional information on the activities of ICEG European Center please contact Pál Gáspár Regional Director at [pgaspar@axelero.hu](mailto:pgaspar@axelero.hu) or [icegec@axelero.hu](mailto:icegec@axelero.hu).