

Contributors

Bas B. Bakker, a national of the Netherlands, is the chief of the Emerging Europe Regional division in the European Department of the International Monetary Fund. During his Fund career, he has worked on both advanced and emerging market countries, in the research, Asia Pacific, European and Policy Development and Review Departments, focusing in particular on vulnerabilities of advanced and emerging market countries. He has a Ph. D. in economics from the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. He is married with three kids.

Markus Eller has worked as economist in the Foreign Research Division of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB) since March 2008, where he is responsible for scientific coordination of the quarterly publication *Focus on European Economic Integration* and writing comparative analyses for Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe on fiscal policy and credit growth. Previously, from 2006 to 2008, he worked as an economist at the Centre for Economic and Financial Research (CEFIR) in Moscow, where he investigated households' attitudes towards transition (particularly privatization) in post-communist countries. In 2002 and 2004, he also worked as research assistant at the Research Institute for European Affairs, Vienna University of Economics and Business. Mr. Eller has published in various academic journals: *American Political Science Review*, *Constitutional Political Economy*, *Economics of Transition*, *Emerging Markets Review*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, among others. He holds a Doctoral degree in economics from the Vienna University of Economics und Business and a postgraduate degree in economics from the Institute for Advanced Studies in Vienna.

Tomasz Jędrzejowicz has graduated from the Warsaw School of Economics in 2001. Since that year he has been working on public finance issues at the central Bank of Poland. He is currently the Head of section in the Bureau of Public Finance, Institutions and Regulations in the NBP's Economic Institute. The section is responsible, inter alia, for analyzing the current situation of public finances and its medium-term outlook, preparing fiscal projections, as well as contributing to the Bank's macroeconomic projections and reports. Mr. Jędrzejowicz has written research papers on a range of fiscal issues, including the macroeconomic effects of fiscal consolidations, fiscal rules and on a methodology for international comparisons of tax burden. He has also contributed to both of NBP's reports on the costs and benefits of euro adoption (one from 2004, the second from 2009). Since Poland's EU entry in 2004, Mr. Jędrzejowicz is the NBP's representative in the European System of Central Banks' Working Group on Public Finance. He is also

a member of a domestic Working Group on Government Finance Statistics consisting of representatives of NBP, Ministry of Finance and the Central Statistical Office.

Petr Král is the Director of the Monetary Policy and Fiscal Analyses Division of the Czech central bank (CNB), responsible for managing all activities of the division and for co-operation of the division with other entities within the CNB, the Czech Republic and the ESCB. In addition, he is an alternate Economic and Financial Committee member. Mr. Král studied economics at the University of Prague and is interested in finance and macroeconomics.

Christian Kummert has worked as Managing Director and Head of Origination with Kommunalkredit Austria AG since 2010, being responsible for acquisition, structuring, advising and financing of infrastructure, PPPs and public finance transactions. From 2008 until 2010, Christian Kummert was globally in charge of the PPP business in Commerzbank, Frankfurt. Before joining Commerzbank he worked as Managing Director for DEPFA in Dublin and was responsible for the infrastructure finance business in Western Europe. Previous appointments were with the Export and Project Finance Division of ABB in Mannheim and engineering consultant Lahmeyer International in Frankfurt.

Nadine Leiner-Killinger works as Principal Economist in the Fiscal Policies Division of the Directorate General Economics in the European Central Bank (ECB). She joined the ECB in 2001 in the EU Countries Division of the Directorate General Economics. Previously, she was employed with the German Federal Economics Ministry and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Co-operation and Development. Ms. Leiner-Killinger has a Ph. D. in economics from the University of Konstanz, where she did research within the DFG Special Research Program *Internationalisation of the Economy*. Her fields of interest comprise fiscal sustainability, ageing and labor markets.

Lone E. Christiansen, a national of Denmark, is an economist in the Emerging Europe Regional Division in the European Department of the International Monetary Fund. Previously, she worked on the Latvia desk during the global economic and financial crisis and in the IMF's Research Department where she focused on exchange rate assessments. In 2007, she earned a Ph. D. in economics from the University of California, San Diego.

Neven Mates, Ph. D., is currently Senior Advisor at the Governor's office of the Croatian central bank. Between 1992 and 2009, Mr. Mates was a staff member of the International Monetary Fund, where his last position was the Head of the IMF Moscow Office (2004–2009). Earlier in his career with the Fund, he was chief negotiator for Fund lending operations in Albania, Belarus and Romania. In the 1990s, he was a member of teams working on Pakistan, Poland, Macedonia, and Slovakia. Before joining the IMF, Mr. Mates worked at the Zagreb Institute of

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Peter Mooslechner, born in 1954, is the Director of the Economic Analysis and Research Department of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank, Vienna. He studied Economics at the Johannes Kepler University, Linz (Austria) where he also received his Doctorate in 1981. Since then, he has been teaching economics and economic policy at several universities, including those of Linz, Innsbruck, Salzburg and the University of Economics, Vienna. He worked at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO) for more than 15 years, joined the Oesterreichische Nationalbank in 1996 to become the Head of the Economic Analysis Division and in 1999 he was appointed Director of the Economic Analysis and Research Department. He is a Member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the ECB, Member of the Heads of Research Group of the Eurosystem as well as a Board Member of the Austrian Economic Association and a Member of the Editorial Board of EMPIRICA among a number of other positions. His main areas of research and publications cover macroeconomics, monetary and fiscal policy, financial markets and banking, the development of economic institutions and Eastern European issues.

Philippe Monfort has a Ph. D. in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL) in Belgium. During more than 10 years, he was a Professor at the UCL Department of Economics in International Trade and Economic Geography. His teaching concentrated in the fields of macroeconomics, international economics, European integration and economic geography. He produced a number of scientific contributions in these domains which led to publications in international journals. In 2008, Philippe Monfort joined the European Commission as policy analyst within the Directorate General for Regional Policy. He is now in charge of several files among which the development of economic models for the simulation of policy scenario related to the EU Cohesion Policy. In this context, Philippe Monfort currently participates to the development of a regional dynamic general equilibrium model which incorporates many features of the New Economic Geography as well as some environmental aspects. This particular project is a joint undertaking of the JRC-IPTS and DG REGIO.

Ludovít Ódor was born on 2 July 1976 in Komárno. In 1999, he graduated from the Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics and Faculty of Management where he specialized in mathematics and management. In May 2001, he became an economist and later on Deputy Executive Director of the

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Doris Ritzberger-Grünwald was born in Vienna (Austria) in 1961. She obtained her Master's degree in social and economic sciences at the University of Vienna in 1985, completed the Program in Economics at the Institute for Advanced Studies (IAS) in Vienna in 1987 and obtained her Doctoral degree in social and economic sciences at the University of Vienna in 1991. She worked as a research assistant at the IAS from 1987 to August 1988 and joined the Oesterreichische Nationalbank in 1988, where she started as an economist in the Economic Analysis Division and then moved to the Foreign Research Division. After being an assistant to a Member of the Governing Board she returned to the Foreign Research Division as special adviser, to be promoted in 2000 to the post of Deputy Head of Division. Since June 2002, she has been Head of the Foreign Research Division. She is an acting member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the European Central Bank and Executive Board Member of the Joint Vienna Institute.

Karsten Staehr is a professor of international and public finance at Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia, and a research supervisor at Eesti Pank, the central bank of Estonia. He is a Danish national but lives in Tallinn, Estonia. He holds a master degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and master and Ph. D. degrees from the University of Copenhagen. He undertakes research and policy analysis within public economics, monetary economics and transition economics. Karsten Staehr has previously worked as an econometrician at Statistics Denmark, a consultant to the World Bank, a lecturer at the University of Copenhagen, a EuroFaculty lecturer at Vilnius University and the University of Tartu, a senior advisor at the Central Bank of Norway, a visiting research fellow at the Bank of Finland Institute for Economies in Transition (BOFIT), and a senior economist at the Economic Assessment Institute, Copenhagen.

Jean Vrla is currently Head of Division, at the European Investment Bank – EIB (Luxembourg). He graduated at ESSEC Business School in Paris (France), and holds a Master Degree in Development Economics from the Panthéon-Sorbonne University in Paris. He started his career dealing with Developing Economies in

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