

The State of the Russian Economy and Russia's Development Path

Date: 21 November 2016

Venue: Central European University, Nádor u. 15. Tiered room (103)

Recent years witnessed considerable steps to strengthen Russia's geopolitical position—ranging from a military build-up to a stronger presence in the Middle East—and to make the Eurasian Union work. However, these steps came with significant costs. Regional budget destabilization accompanied by the decline in domestic and foreign investments, stagnating industrial output, plummeting incomes and wages following the devaluation shock characterize Russia's economy today. In addition, transfers from the federal budget to Crimea are rising gradually.

The objective of this conference is to explore and discuss the current state and future prospects of the Russian economy in light of the above trends as well as EU sanctions. Underlying the discussion is the inevitable question: is there a non-Western economic and political alternative for Russia, and had the Kremlin already set the course?

10.30 Registration

11.00 Welcoming remarks

Michael Ignatieff, President and Rector, CEU

Jan Niklas Engels, Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Budapest

11. 10 I. Panel: The state of the Russian economy in the light of the oil prices, sanctions

Chair: **András Deák**, Institute of World Economy Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest

- **Vasily Astrov**, Economist, country expert on CIS, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, Vienna
- **Andrey Chernyavskiy**, Senior Researcher, Economist, Center for Development Institute, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow
- **Tatiana Romanova**, Associate Professor at the European Studies Department, Saint-Petersburg State University; Head of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Russia
- **Andrei Belyi**, Associate Professor, University of Eastern Finland, Finland

13.00 Buffet Lunch

14. 00 II. Panel: Is there a non-Western economic and/or political alternative for Russia?

Chair: **Anatoliy Reshetnikov**, PhD Student at the International Relations Department, CEU

- **Andrey Makarychev**, Guest Professor, Institute of Government and Politics, University of Tartu
- **Yulia Nikitina**, Research Fellow, Center for Post-Soviet Studies, MGIMO, Russia
- **Nikolay Petrov**, Visiting Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations; Professor, Higher School of Economics, Moscow

15. 30 Concluding remarks

Péter Balázs, Director, Center for European Neighborhood Studies (CENS)

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