

**Course on Structural Reforms**

**Joint Vienna Institute**

**In Cooperation with JVI Partners**

**Vienna, March 10 – March 21, 2025**

**PROGRAM[[1]](#footnote-2)**

# Monday, March 10

8.30 a.m. – 9.00 a.m. **Administrative Briefing**

Mr. Steven Nguyen, Program Officer,

Joint Vienna Institute (JVI)

9.00 a.m. – 9.30 a.m. **Opening Session**

Mr. Patrick Imam, Deputy Director, JVI

9:30 a.m. – 10.15 a.m. **Initial** **Quiz**

10.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-1 **Structural Reforms: Transmission Channels and**

**Priorities**

Ms. Tatiana Evdokimova, JVI *[face-to-face]*

* Definition of structural reforms and competitiveness
* Transmission channels to growth
* Reform gaps and priorities

12.15 p.m. – 12.30 p.m. **Group photo**

(JVI garden)

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. L-2 **Structural Reform Indicators**

Mr. Patrick Imam, JVI *[face-to-face]*

* What do structural reform indicators measure?
* Examples of structural reform indicators
* Policy impact and other uses

3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. W-1 **Indicators of Structural Reforms**

Facilitated by counselors *[face-to-face, 2 workshop rooms]*

6.00 p.m. **Welcome Reception**

JVI Residence lobby

# Tuesday, March 11

9.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-3 **Methodologies for Assessing Competitiveness**

Mr. Andreas Reinstaller, Senior Principal Economist (Office of the Austrian Productivity Board) *[face-to-face]*

* Trade and Competitiveness
* Measure of price and non-price competitiveness
* Role of international production sharing
* Productivity and reallocation

1.45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. L-4 **Trade Reform**

Mr. John Hancock, World Trade Organization (WTO) *[face-to-face]*

* Introduction to trade policy and recent trends
* Trade openness and economic growth
* Labor market adjustment to trade

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. W-2 **Case Study on Trade Liberalization**

Mr. John Hancock (WTO) *[face-to-face]*

# Wednesday, March 12

9.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. W-3 **Negotiation game**

Facilitated by counselors

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. L-5 **Financial Sector Development and Reform**

Mr. Maximilian Fandl, JVI *[face-to-face]*

3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. L-6 **Pension Reform** [*face-to-face*]

Mr. Markus Eller (JVI)

* Demographic trends, population ageing, and fiscal implications
* Pension systems: characteristics and recent developments
* Pension reforms: options and implemented policies

5.30 p.m.  **Vienna Walking Tour**

# Thursday, March 13

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. L-7 **An Economic Perspective on Climate Change**

Mr. Thomas Schinko, (IIASA)

The climate (change) challenge

The international climate policy architecture

Fiscal effects of climate impacts and policy

Economics of climate change

10.45 p.m. – 12.30 p.m. L-8 **Policies to address climate change**

Ms. Tatiana Evdokimova, JVI *[face-to-face]*

* Carbon pricing
* Green finance
* Climate change and central banks

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. L-9 **Industrial Policy**   
 Ms. Michelle Brock, EBRD *[face-to-face]*

* Understanding industrial policy
* Resurgence and Objectives of Industrial Policies
* Effectiveness and Risks
* Implementation Challenges

3.45 p.m. – 5.15 p.m. L-10 **Defining the Right Level of State Involvement**

Ms. Michelle Brock, EBRD *[face-to-face]*

# Friday, March 14

9.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-11 **Identifying Policy Priorities: The OECD’s Annual**  **Structural Policy Surveillance**

Mr. Nicolas Ruiz, Senior Economist, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) *[face-to-face]*

* The main growth drivers and their link to policies
* Framework to identify policy priorities
* Benchmarking on performance and policies

1.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. W-4 **Workshop on** **Implementing the Framework:   
 Going for Growth**

Facilitated by counselor *[face-to-face, 2 workshop rooms]*

* Matching indicators with performance
* Application to CESEE countries
* Selected country examples

# Monday, March 17

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. L-12 **Policies for Integration in** **Global Value Chain Network**

Mr. Richard Record, World Bank *[face-to-face]*

Quantifying cross-country value-chain activities

Global value chain structure and CESEE segment of the network

Policies to boost integration into global value chains

Global value chains amid COVID-19

10.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. L-13 **The Role of Infrastructure and the Bottlenecks in Investment Finance** *[face-to-face]*

Mr. Atanas Kolev, Economist, European Investment Bank (EIB)

Structural Reforms, infrastructure, and growth

Financing infrastructure

1.45 p.m. – 2.45 p.m. L-14 **Regional Disparities**

Mr. Patrick Imam, JVI *[face-to-face]*

Causes of regional divergences

Policies to help underdeveloped regions

3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m W-5 **Ranking Reform Priorities**  
Facilitated by counselors *[face-to-face, 2 workshop rooms]*

Estimating reform gaps

Identifying priorities

Heat maps

# Tuesday, March 18

9.00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. L-15 **Social Effect of Reforms**

Mr. Paul Eckerstorfer, Austrian Parliament

* Social impact of reforms, including on inequality
* Example from Austria

10:45-12:15: L-16 **Job Policies and how to address Labor Shortages**

Mr. Ekkehard Ernst, Chief, Macroeconomic Policy Unit, International Labor Organization (ILO) *[virtual]*

* Analysis of Post-Pandemic Labor Market Dynamics
* Identification of Structural Challenges
* Policy Recommendations for Addressing Labor Shortages

1.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. W-6 **Debate on Pros and Cons of Automation**

*Facilitated by counselors*

3:45 p.m. – 5.15 p.m. L-17 **Automation, artificial intelligence and jobs: Number of jobs, skills, inequality *[virtual]***

Mr. Daniel Samaan (ILO)

* Relevance of digital transformation for the labor market
* Short-term and medium-term implications for the labor markets
* Social sustainability
* Implications for taxation

# Wednesday, March 19

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. L-18 **Structural Reforms in Practice**

*Mr. Patrick Imam (JVI)*

* Political Economy of Reform

10.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. PP-1 **Preparation of Participant Presentations**

Facilitated by counselors *[face-to-face, 3 workshop rooms]*

* Three groups: structural reforms in selected areas in Central Europe, Southeastern Europe, and Central Asia/Caucasus

1.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. PP-2 **Preparation of** **Participant Presentations**

Facilitated by counselors *[face-to-face, 3 workshop rooms]*

* Three groups on structural reforms in selected areas in Central Europe, Southeastern Europe, and Central Asia/Caucasus

6.30 p.m. **Dinner**

Restaurant “Glacis Beisl” (Breitegasse 4, 1070 Vienna)

# Thursday, March 20

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. L-19 **Why Governance Matters for Structural Reforms**

Mr. Simon Carl O'Meally, World Bank *[face-to-face]*

10.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. W-7 **How to Improve Governance to Accelerate Structural Reforms: Stakeholder Maps and Other Tools**

Mr. Simon Carl O'Meally, World Bank *[face-to-face]*

1.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. PP-3 **Preparation of Participant Presentations**

Facilitated by counselors *[face-to-face, 3 workshop rooms]*

* Three groups: structural reforms in selected areas in Central Europe, Southeastern Europe, and Central Asia/Caucasus

# Friday, March 21

9.00 a.m. – 10.30 p.m. PP-4 **Participant Group Presentations**

Facilitated by counselors *[face-to-face]*

10.45 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. **Final Quiz**

11.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. **Course Evaluation**

12.00 p.m. – 12.30 p.m. **Concluding Session**

1. *Unless otherwise stated, coffee breaks are during 10.30 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. and lunch breaks during 12.15 p.m. - 1.45 p.m.* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)