

The European Investment Bank Institute and the Embassy of the Republic of Poland cordially invite you to the panel discussion:

## The Current Possibilities and Conditions for Investing in Countries of the Eastern Partnership

Wednesday, 15 May 2013 at 18:00

Free Admission

European Investment Bank – room E4226

98 Boulevard Konrad Adenauer, Luxembourg

Entrance: East Building

*The EU desperately needs economic growth. Until recently, a lot of that growth came with the access to markets in Central and Eastern Europe and the EU's enlargement. Can the same be achieved by investing in the markets of the EU's Eastern Partners – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine? Most of these countries are already negotiating association and free trade agreements with the EU (the agreements with Ukraine are even initialed). The conference speakers will discuss the opportunities and the challenges of doing business in the countries of the Eastern Partnership.*

Conference programme:

**18.00 Introductory remarks:**

**Rémy Jacob** – Director General, Dean of the EIB Institute

**18.05 Speakers:**

**Rafał Sadowski** – Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Eastern Studies, Warsaw

**Dr. Heinz Olbers** – Director, Eastern Neighbours and Central Asia Department, EIB

**Marcin Szymarek** – Director of Operations, East-West United Bank

**Moderator:**

**Bartosz Jałowicki** – Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Luxembourg

**19:30 Cocktail**

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### REGISTRATION FORM

Title:

Affiliation:

E-mail:

## **SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES**

**Rémy Jacob** is Director General at the European Investment Bank and the Dean of the EIB Institute. He joined the Finance Directorate of the European Investment Bank in 1973. He occupied several positions in the EIB Group and was until 2012 Director General of the Strategy and Corporate Center. In 1992 he contributed to the creation of the London-based European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). From 2000 to 2012, Rémy Jacob was a member of the Board of the European Investment Fund, the venture capital and guarantee arm of the EIB Group. He is presently a member of the Board of the non-governmental organisation ADA-Appui Au Développement Autonome, which specialises in poverty reduction and micro finance.

**Bartosz Jałowiecki** is Poland's Ambassador to Luxembourg. Previously he worked for the investment fund Prokom Investments S.A. - as the Director of communications and as the Director of the office of the President. From 2002 to 2005, he was the Program Coordinator of the New Atlantic Initiative at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) in Washington, D.C. Before that he served as President of the Polish-German Reconciliation Foundation, as a member of the board of trustees of the German Federal Foundation "Remembrance, Responsibility, and the Future", and as a board member of the Center for International Relations (CSM). From 1998 to 2000, Mr. Jałowiecki was a foreign policy advisor at the Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland.

**Dr. Heinz Olbers** is the Director of the Eastern Neighbours and Central Asia Department at the European Investment Bank. Prior to this nomination, he headed the Planning and Settlement of Operations Department in the Finance Directorate, covering the Bank's financial transactions for borrowings, treasury and loans. Previously, he managed several Lending Divisions of the Bank: In 2008 and 2009, he was in charge of the Risk Sharing Finance Facility set-up by the European Commission and the EIB for the financing of RDI projects in Europe; in 2004, when several countries in Central and Eastern Europe joined the EU, he became responsible for the Bank's activities in Poland and in 2000 for lending operations in Southern Germany. He joined the EIB in 1992 commencing in the Portugal Division. Dr. Heinz Olbers started his banking career in corporate finance with Deutsche Bank in 1987. He completed legal studies with a PhD in banking law, pursued additional studies in business administration and holds a post-graduate degree in accounting.

**Rafał Sadowski** is Senior Fellow at the Centre for Eastern Studies in Warsaw, Poland. In his work he focuses on EU-Eastern European and Southern Caucasus states relations, the Eastern Partnership, the European Neighbourhood Policy and the internal situations and foreign policies of Eastern European states. In a past, he was also dealing with current political situation in Central and South-Eastern Europe, internal situation and foreign policy of Belarus, cross-border cooperation in Eastern Europe, and Turkish foreign policy. He joined the Centre in 2001 and worked as a policy analyst for the Department for Ukraine, Belarus and the Baltic States from 2001 until 2007 and then as a head of the Central-European Department from 2007 until 2009. Between 2010 and 2011 he was the head of the Eastern Partnership Department and the editor-in-chief of the EaPCommunity. He received his M.A. in the Centre for East European Studies of Warsaw University. He studied cultural anthropology at the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology of Warsaw University.

**Marcin Szymarek** is the Operations Director of East-West United Bank S.A., the only Russian bank in Luxembourg, since 2005. After completing his studies in Poland, Mr. Szymarek joined Deloitte & Touche in Luxembourg in 1996 and became Audit Manager in 2000. From 2003 until 2005, he worked for SES Astra and Brown Brothers Harriman (Luxembourg). Mr. Szymarek's current position with East-West United Bank S.A. - which principally focuses on Russian speaking customers from CIS countries - requires numerous contacts with business partners from that region and good knowledge of their business environment.