

European Economic Congress 2011

Topic	Economic and social development of Europe
Date	16-18 May 2011
Location	Katowice – exact location will be specified in a later stage

The European Economic Congress, organized by PTWP SA Group has become undoubtedly over only three years the most important economic event in Central Europe. This has been proved by two first Congress editions, importance of guests, significance of debate topics as well as impartial opinions of participants.

The Congress is a three-day cycle of debates, meetings and accompanying events with participation of numerous Polish and foreign guests. Panelists will take part in over 60 sessions and discussions; scope of topics concerns the most significant issues for economic and social development of Europe. The Congress events are covered by around hundred newspapers and TV stations from Poland and Europe. The leading topic of next Congress will be competitive European economy. Together with panelists and guests we will reflect on what actions have to be undertaken, which processes need to be launched, which priorities we should focus on so that European economy can compete successfully with the most expansive economies of Asia and both Americas.

The crucial aspect of striving for competitiveness is the question of institutional reform of the EU which needs to function more efficiently and effectively. New EU order is opening another scope of Congress topics – covering problems of public finance, new EU budget perspective, processes of stabilization of EU members economies.

Among subjects of the European Economic Congress 2011 you can also find points connected with climate and energy package and its impact on economy. We will also discuss the future of power industry and common EU energy policy, competitiveness of traditional industrial sectors, innovations, relations industry – science and interrelations between development of economy, regions and cities.

Preparation of agenda of the third Congress edition hasn't been completed yet, its scope of topics has an open character, the list of accompanying events has not been closed so far. Now consultations with partners and representatives of economic, political and scientific environment are taking place.

European Economic Congress 2011

Tentative scope of topics

Competitive economy of Europe

- Factors determining stabilization of economies of EU countries
- Conditions of successful competition with the most expansive economies of Asia and both Americas on global market
- Priorities of European economic policy
- EU financial perspective 2014-2020. Means, goals, tools

New order of the European Union

- Internal EU reform – which changes are necessary so that EU functions more effectively
- Institutions and competences
- New legal solutions
- Decision efficiency vs. diverse arguments – how to reconcile contradictions?
- New Union after experience of crisis. Responsibility, independence, control

Polish presidency in Council of the European Union

- Agenda of Polish presidency – priorities (power industry, foreign policy, security)
- The state of preparation for taking over presidency. Expected results

Central and Eastern Europe – community of interests, challenges and problems

- Economic prognosis for Central and Eastern Europe
- Central and Eastern Europe as an area of outstanding dynamics and creativeness
- Strong and weak points. Opportunities and threats. SWOT analysis
- How to catch up with leading EU countries? What Central and Eastern Europe can give EU?

Finance/Economy

- New face of recession? Crisis of public finance as a dominant political and economic EU problem
- How to protect ourselves against "case of Greece"? Dilemmas of sovereignty and responsibility
- EU financial and banking systems – security mechanisms vs. Economic freedom

EU energy policy

- EU energy and climate package. New ambitious goals of reduction of CO2 emission versus competitiveness of EU economy
- Common EU energy policy – objectives vs. Practice. New look at EU energy security
- III Energy package vs., European energy market

Climate package – challenges for industry situated in EU

- Prospects of energy intensive industry in the light of requirements of energy and climate package. Sectors threatened by so-called carbon leakage. Economic and social aspects
- Industry competitiveness in harmony with environment
- Package as a chance for development – energy efficiency and new clean technologies

Power engineering – renewable energy sources

- Renewable boom. Achievements and EU prospects in the field of renewable power engineering
- Renewable energy sources – Polish and European experience and ambitions
- What kind of renewable energy sources have the biggest chance for development? Role of regulation and market
- Renewable energy sources vs. stability of electrical power engineering system
- Barriers of development of renewable energy sources – market ones (prices of energy), technical and administrative ones
- Financing projects of investing in renewable energy sources

Innovativeness in climate defence

- Key meaning of innovativeness in the process of adjusting industry to requirements connected with climate defence
- Clean coal technologies. Concepts, projects, pilot schemes. Polish specialty or disappearing chance?
- Climate protection must be profitable. Cost aspect in investments. EU programmes for supporting development of clean technologies
- New green market – pro-ecological solutions for industry. Offer and real demand
- Power industry innovativeness. Current trends in investments

Chemical sector – global market, European determinants

- Consequences of implementation of climate package for competitiveness of European chemical sector
- Investments as a response to market challenges – new directions, products and technologies
- Problems of Polish chemical sector: privatisation and consolidation. Experience resulting from plant restructuring

Municipal investments

- Investment plans of local governments. Sources of financing. European funds
- Offer for private partners, possibilities of co-operation in the framework of investments (PPP)
- Privatisation at local level – chance for investors from sectors connected with municipal economy (heat engineering, roads, water management, waste management)

Innovative economy of Europe

- Priorities of modern times – directions of development of innovative technologies
- Effective methods, good practices: technology transfer, R&D
- Co-operation between science and industry – organizational, legal and mental barriers

- EU strategy in the field of innovation

Automotive

- Winners, losers, taken over ones. The consequences of global crisis in the automotive industry for this sector in Poland and in Europe
- Strategies for hard times – investments, restructuring and cost reduction, modification of offer
- E-mobility – new trend in automotive industry. First experiences, prospects of segment development, barriers to overcome

Infrastructure, transport

- Infrastructure investments in Central and Eastern Europe (railway, roads). Opportunities, problems, financing
- Motorways and other communication projects implemented in the framework of preparation for Euro 2012
- European transport corridors – co-ordination and international co-operation
- By railway or by road? Competition in transport. Transport vs. environment.
- New technologies in organisation and functioning of transport systems

Aviation

- Development of airport infrastructure. Market and technical determinants
- World tendencies in air traffic vs. the future of regional airports in Poland
- Financing infrastructure investments for air transport – role of EU funds. The share of private capital
- Air charter traffic – dynamic segment development as a chance for smaller airports

Privatisation

- Privatisation acceleration. Consequences for Polish economy
- Privatisation technique in the light of recent experiences. Negotiations, obligations, pricing
- Paths and objectives of privatisation – analysis of typical and specific cases
- What else can be privatised? Privatisation in "difficult" and socially sensitive sectors (mining, transport, chemical sector). Experience and prognosis

Public-private partnership

- Financing infrastructure projects on the basis of PPP – are we waiting for boom?
- Public-private partnership – European experience
- Investments at local government level – local development impulse
- Municipal economy (heat, water, waste incinerations, local roads)

Cities, agglomerations, metropolises

- Economic, social and cultural role of metropolises in contemporary Europe
- Metropolisation. Special legal, financial and administrative regulations

- Current trends in development of large cities. Sustainable development of metropolises
- Modern methods and tools for managing large cities

Energy efficiency in Poland

- Investments and other pro-efficiency projects in Polish economy. Savings potential
- How to make reasonable energy management profitable. Draft law on energy efficiency, other legal determinants. System of white certificates
- Institutional and financial support for efficiency investments. Models of financing
- Consequences of changes in energy management for market and recipients

Ecological construction

- Environmentally-friendly trends in construction. Awareness and opinion of designers, investors and inhabitants
- New construction technologies on European and Polish markets – easier, more simply and more economically
- Not only thermoisolation. Where to look for energy savings? Energy management in buildings. So-called passive buildings.
- Cheap and healthy? Costs of carrying out pro-ecological and traditional projects

Heat engineering

- Privatisation processes. Examples; sector's potential and attractiveness
- Potential of cogeneration development in Poland. Possibilities and barriers of its use
- Determinants of managing heat engineering company in ownership, financial and investment aspect. Examples of positive solutions.
- Financial condition of Polish heat engineering sector – regulation model versus investment possibilities. The process of giving up cost regulation
- External factors influencing development of heat engineering sector. The meaning of EU legal and organizational solutions.

Energy sector – electrical energy market

- Chances for common European energy market. Barriers, difficulties, infrastructure investments
- Degree of market liberalisation in particular EU countries. The role of countries' economic policy and EU regulations
- Necessary actions for liberalisation of energy market. The role of III EU energy package
- Common European energy policy – country's security, recipient's security
- Prospects of demand – new customers. Electric drive in automotive industry and other examples

Hard coal mining

- Situation on world markets versus prospects of hard coal in the EU
- Clean coal combustion. Conditions for technology dissemination
- Power industry based on coal. Decline or new opportunities?
- Collapse and rise. Coking coal market

Clean Coal Technologies

- CCS Demonstration Programme
- Geological and chemical CO₂ sequestration
- Clean Coal Technologies
- Coal gasification and carbochemistry IGCC, CTL, CTG, CTH
- Underground coal gasification (UCG-CCS)

Shale gas in Poland

- World experience in the field of exploitation of shale gas deposits. International co-operation.
- Potential (resources, availability) and possibilities of its management. Financial, technical and legal aspect (licences). Real time of exploitation launching
- Market determinants. Alternative or complement for natural gas and other fuels?
- Shale gas versus energy security and national energy policy

Real estate, trends on real estate market in Central and Eastern Europe

- Investment climate and attractiveness of Central and Eastern Europe
- The situation in the construction market; a deep recession or the return to balance
- New investment areas: logistics, BPO and modern town space
- Reviewed strategies – current plans of the largest developers on Polish and European market
- Investments in hotel facilities

Finance

- Standards of co-operation: business – institutions of financial market. Regaining trust vs. reality of economic slowdown
- Alternative capital – how to get resources for development
- New trends and possibilities in financing economic projects
- The role of European funds – financial perspective 2014-2020

Information society – telecommunication, media, internet

- Process of information society creation. The role of State.
- How to reduce the risk of electronic exclusion?
- The role of administration and business in the development of telecommunication techniques and new media
- E-work: is telework the future for competitive and innovative economies?
- The future of European media and telecommunication market
- e-Administracja: dispersed national projects or integrated electronic systems for Europe's inhabitants and offices?
- Experience of selected countries in reference to construction of electronic administration

Air industry

- International interrelations of Polish air industry vs. its innovativeness

- Co-operation areas. Aviation versus science. Transfer of air technologies to other industries
- Environmental requirements (emissions, noise, materials) as a chance for innovative techniques and producers
- Possibilities of supporting the most innovative manufacturers. EU funds, national economic policy/regulations, local policy, promotion
- Air clusters – competition and co-operation. Success despite difficulties

Metallurgy

- Current situation in the world metallurgy of iron and steel. Current prognosis.
- Region of Central and Eastern Europe
- Metallurgy in Poland
- Summary of profits and losses. Strategies after crisis
- Steel distributors' market
- Raw materials - that is self-sufficiency. Coke and coking coal, scrap, iron ore

Innovations – the role of research and development centres (Research and Development Centres Forum)

Clusters, industrial parcs, science and technology parcs

- How to cooperate wisely. The culture of co-operation instead of wild competition
- Clusters vs. free market. Point of view of customer and partner beyond cluster
- Value added – specialist offer of Polish industry as well as science and technology parcs

Management

- New challenges for management boards of European companies
- Key activities during recession
- Restructuring, how to boost efficiency?
- Innovations, building competitive advantages

Eastern Partnership Project

Business and culture

- Sponsoring and partnership – good practices in co-operation between companies and cultural institutions
- What is worth supporting? Between commercialism and snobbery – problems of dialogue between business and culture