

# PRE-FORUM MEETING FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS

July 9, 2015\*

National Library of Latvia, Mukusalas street 3, Riga, LV 1423

Time	Activity	
9:00 – 10:00	Welcome and registration	
10:00 – 10:15	Opening of the Pre-Forum Meeting Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia <b>Laimdota Straujuma</b>	
10:15 – 10:30	<b>Latvian diaspora and its role in Latvia's economic development</b> Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia <b>Edgars Rinkēvičs</b>	
10:30 – 10:45	<b>Latvia's economic tendencies and prospects for the future</b> <b>Ilmārs Rimšēvičs</b> , Bank of Latvia ( <i>ierosināts kā alternatīva Ekonomikas ministrei</i> )	
10:30 - 11:45	<b>How to measure Latvia's investment climate: Tropics, Arctics, Temperate zone?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Andris Ozols</b>, Director of the Latvian Investment and Development Agency</li> <li>• <b>Zlata Zaščirinska Elksniņa</b>, Chairperson of the Board of the Foreign Investors' Council and Country Managing Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers – (<i>ierosināta</i>)</li> <li>• Foreign investors in Latvia</li> </ul>	
11:45 – 12:15	Coffee break	
12:15 – 13:00	<b>Moving to, Investing and Doing business in Latvia: Cases studies</b> <b>Suggestions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Andris K. Bērziņš</b>, Co-founder of TechHub Riga</li> <li>• <b>Aleksis Karslons</b>, Hotel Bergs****</li> <li>• <b>Kārlis Celms</b>, Zoste restaurant</li> </ul>	
13:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>	

14:00 – 16:30	<b>Thematic meetings and industry specific networking</b>	
18:00 – 20:00	Reception at Melngalvju nams Speaker's dinner at Mazā Ģilde (suggested speaker Dr. Lauks)	

## PASAULES LATVIEŠU EKONOMIKAS UN INOVĀCIJU FORUMS 2015

**2015. gada 10.jūlijs\***

**Radisson BLU Hotel Latvija, Elizabetes iela 55, Rīga, LV1050**

Time	Activity	
8:00 – 9:00	Welcome and registration	
9:00 – 9:15	Opening	

9:15 – 10:30	<p>Session I: <b>Looking Ahead: Rethinking Latvia's Strategies for Export Diversification and Attracting Foreign Investment</b></p> <p><b>Participants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Artis Pabriks</b>, Member of European Parliament (EP) and the EP International Trade Committee, Chief Rapporteur on CETA</li> <li>• <b>Kārlis Šmits</b>, Senior Economist, World Bank</li> <li>• <b>Andris Piebalgs</b>, Former EU Commissioner for Energy and for Development, Economic Adviser to the President of Latvia</li> <li>• Major Latvian exporter*</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <b>Pauls Raudseps</b>, “lr” journalist and commentator</p>	
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 - 12:15	<p>Session II: <b>Branding Latvia: From Cultural and Political to Business and Investment Hotspot</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Karina Pētersone</b>, Director of the Latvian Institute (Latvia)</li> <li>• <b>Ernst Flach</b>, Regional Director at Wagstaff Worldwide (Canada) – <i>TBC</i>: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/ernstflach">https://www.linkedin.com/in/ernstflach</a></li> <li>• <b>Pēteris Freimanis</b>, Vicepresident, Starcom MediaVest Group (USA) – <i>TBC</i></li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <b>Andris Rubīns</b>, DDB (<i>uzrunāts</i>)</p>	
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch	

13:15 – 14:30	<p><b>Session II - A: Opportunities and Challenges in Strengthening Entrepreneurial Culture in Latvia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Imants Lauks</b>, Founder of Epochal Corporation (Canada)</li> <li>• <b>Ģirts Cimermans</b>, Executive Director, Hoya Cooperation and COO of Life Care (Netherlands)</li> <li>• <b>Jānis Krūms</b>, Founder and CEO “Opportunity” (USA)</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <b>Andris K. Bērziņš</b>, Co-Founder of TechHub Riga</p>	
14:30 – 15:00	Coffee break	
15:00 – 16:30	<p>Session III – A: <b><u>Are we ready for CETA and TTIP? – Trade tools for success</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Uldis Sīpols</b>, VP Sonoco (USA) [Wholesale/Packaging] – TBC</li> <li>• <b>Juris Bļodnieks</b>, Latvian American Shipping Line (USA) [Shipping/Receiving] – TBC</li> <li>• <b>Imants Purvs</b>, Latvian Honorary Consul, Lettonia Trading Group [Business planning] - TBC</li> <li>• <b>Matīss Kukainis</b>, SKA (Latvia) [Legal, taxation system] – TBC</li> <li>• <b>Uldis Krievārs</b>, <a href="#">Triķātas siers/Lāču maize (Latvia)</a> – Case Study – TBC</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <b>Arnis Kākulis</b>, AmCham prezidents</p> <p>Sesija III – B: <b><u>How to charm the Asian Dragon?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kārlis Šmits</b>, World Bank Senior Economist in China – TBC</li> <li>• <b>Ieva Jakobsons</b> – Bellomi, Counsellor of Economic and Commercial Affairs, Head of the Representative Office in China, Investment and Development Agency of Latvia – TBC</li> <li>• <b>Voldemārs Brēdiķis</b>, CEO Linearis – TBC</li> <li>• <b>Kārlis Rokpelnis</b>, <a href="#">ethnoanthropologist</a> – TBC</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <b>Jānis Rose</b>, <a href="#">Mailigen (jerosina Linearis)</a></p>	
16:30 – 17:30	Networking hour	
17:30	Closing of WLEIF 2015	