



EYE ON EUROPE

STOCKHOLM NETWORK CELEBRATING 10 YEARS AS THE LEADING PAN-EUROPEAN THINK TANK & NETWORK

ISSUE ELEVEN

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ROMANIA'S POST-ACCESSION CHALLENGE

There is now a consensus that the pressure put on Romania by the EU during the accession negotiations process had a positive impact on the reform movement in Romania.

But whether Romania's recent accession to the EU – considered by many to be premature – had a positive or a negative effect is more difficult to answer. Just over a month after joining the European Union, Romania is in the midst of a profound political crisis. The plot reads like a political thriller.

The Prime Minister, Calin Popescu Tariceanu, is attempting to work his way out of a web of lies he has woven to protect former partner and boss, oil tycoon Dinu Patriciu from the justice system. Patriciu's troubles evolved out of an anti-corruption campaign inspired by the country's president, Traian Basescu. The twist is that this turn of events has prompted a power struggle driven by the emergence of a coalition of political parties and oligarchs aimed at impeaching and removing President Basescu. As political war rages, reforms have stalled. Like any true political thriller, this chain of events holds implications beyond Romania's borders.

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CROATIA'S CONUNDRUM



Croatia's government touts its progress on reforms and even its negotiators in Brussels announce improvements. In fact, after receiving the EU annual Progress Report on Croatia, the Croatian government proclaimed Croatia's 'progress' to the local media.

However, when taking a closer look, there is a bewildering gap between what is described in Croatia's rhetoric and the actual situation on the ground. The *Wall Street Journal* described Croatia's prime minister as playing 'spin doctor': "According to the EU report... Zagreb still has "no overall strategic framework" for reform. It lacks "clear and transparent rules and procedures with regard to elections and the forming of governments at the local level." Furthermore, Croatia is "still some way from enjoying an independent, impartial, transparent

and efficient judicial system," and, "many allegations of corruption remain uninvestigated and corrupt practices usually go unpunished." Those are just the political issues.

So how is the report being received in Croatia? As praise for the "progress of reforms," according to Prime Minister Ivo Sanader:

In a statement given in January 2007, Oli Rehn, the EU's enlargement chief, said, "Croatia still needs to focus on creating a more open, competitive economy for the benefit of all Croatian citizens. It should tackle reform of the judiciary and the public administration, as well as the fight against corruption and organised crime early on in the process."

The 2007 Index of Economic Freedom produced by The Heritage Foundation and The *Wall Street Journal* places Croatia in 109th

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT



This year the Stockholm Network is delighted to be celebrating its 10th anniversary. Looking back over a decade of European public policy, it is impossible not to be struck by the rise in growth and influence of the market-oriented think tanks. From our early days conducting small policy roundtables, when the concept of having a think tank member in Spain or eastern Europe seemed remote, we have seen the network flourish in all sorts of places, even at times in the face of Government opposition and a very tough environment for fundraising.

This issue of *Eye on Europe* focuses not just on the enlargement of the Network but also on the enlargement of the European Union, which recently added another two members, and which continues to attract aspirant member states, such as Croatia.

In many ways, the challenges remain the same as they did ten years ago – how to maximise economic growth, how to reform and modernise welfare systems for the consumer age and how to create a knowledge economy. But new problems also arise including energy security, climate change, the tension between intellectual property and competition and, indeed, how large the European Union could and should become.

Increasingly the problems are global in scale and we look to other countries to see how they address the same problems. In 2007, as well as looking back at what we have achieved, we will be looking ahead to how we can learn from countries around the world in stimulating a new impetus for European reform.

➔ COPING WITH ROMANIA'S ACCESSION CONTINUED

This is a story of how political and economic power structures rooted in the old communist regime have managed to mutate, survive and grow, passing through the post communist transition and re-emerging today in a new form, fully anchored in the economy and polity of the newly enlarged European Union. The current Romanian political situation demonstrates that the EU may have got more out of Romania's accession than it bargained for:

A mere overview of the list of those aligning against President Basescu gives a sense of the nature of the forces at work: the extremist Greater Romania Party, whose leader was officially identified as the 'court poet' to communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu; the ex-communist Social Democrats driven by their eternal informal leader; Ion Iliescu, an old apparatchik; the Conservative Party whose leader, a media mogul also known for building overnight one of the largest fortunes in Romania, was exposed as a political police informer by the Commission for the Study of the Securitate Archives; the National Liberal Party, whose current leadership, after a thorough purge of the reformists led by Valeriu Stoica and Theodor Stolojan, is dominated by a assortment of former Party officials and lacklustre politicians notorious for their association with various

oligarchs for years; a mixture of media moguls who control most of the Romanian mass media; and last, but not least, Mr Patriciu himself, the general and main financier of this army.

What do all of the above have in common? The desire to preserve the *status quo*. In the 16 years after the demise of Soviet control of an oligarchic system emerged in Romania controlling the political parties and institutions of the state. That system rested on two pillars: the old networks originating in the structures of the communist regime and the new wealth created on their basis. Slowly the system consolidated under a small group of robber barons and their political agents. And although the key anti-corruption condition imposed by the EU for Romania's accession was dismantling this system, it still thrives, albeit in adjusted and disguised forms. After all, some of Romania's representatives at the EU negotiation table were also the representatives of the system. And the incentive was there for the reformists to overstate their reform successes to secure the coveted spot in the EU.

On 1 January 2007, while Romanians rejoiced achieving their European dream, European officials hailed the Romanian accession as a mission accomplished against all odds. Then an odd thing happened: Mr Basescu signalled his intention to continue the reform process and

dismantling the oligarchy. Irrespective of his reasons, among which pure electoral concerns may rank highly, the bottom line is that his determination to confront the oligarchy head on at the very moment when everybody expected a "sweep it under the rug" tacit consensus, has produced a grave internal crisis.

EU officials face an unexpected test precisely at the moment when they have lost the leverage they used during the accession period. Now it is clear that one of the most corrupt oligarchic networks in Eastern Europe has survived and indeed strengthened. Besides the fact that the EU's claims to have "closely monitored the political progress of the country towards accession" are shown in an unflattering light, that network has now become a part of the EU, possibly with its own representatives in the European governing bodies.

Will the EU officials stand up and support the reformists? Or will they close their eyes and adopt a 'muddling through' strategy, knowing full well that Romania may increasingly become a story of a botched accession process? One way or another, in just over a month since joining the EU, Romania has become a problem and a challenge for the union of European democracies.

Horia Terpe
Paul Dragos Aligica

➔ CROATIA'S CONUNDRUM CONTINUED

position out of 157 assessed nations worldwide (and 37th out of 41 in Europe), and records it slipping into the "mostly unfree" category. The Index spotlights areas in which Croatia performs badly, such as the rule of law and protection of property rights, widespread corruption, a flawed judicial system, a large government, heavy regulation, rigid labour laws and slow privatisation. Croatia's government expenditure as a percentage of GDP is 51%, the highest in eastern Europe and above the EU average.

"I have not seen any progress in combating corruption over the last 3-4 years," said a Croatian entrepreneur who asked to remain anonymous. "Those that are involved in corruption are doing it more openly and with less fear than ever before. In order to get property registered you have to wait 18 months or it can be expedited if you offer a bribe."

Similarly, foreign investors face obstacles with Croatia's heavily regulated environment, the lack of an independent judiciary (foreign businesses require that disputes be settled abroad) and uncertainty through political arbitration in the areas of taxation and fees.

There is growing interest among Europeans in purchasing property in Croatia's pristine coastal lands. However, with the lack of protection of property rights, corrupt local government officials and a flawed judicial system, potential buyers would be wise to adopt a cautious approach – *caveat emptor* – when investing in Croatian real estate. For local citizens, property restitution cases have been bogged down in the court systems for more than a decade. Croatia has over 1.4 million back-logged cases.

Most relevant for European taxpayers, the EU will send an additional €140m this year – directly to Croatia's government to aid its reform process. Between 2000 and 2006, the EU poured in over €500m to support Croatia.

With stalled reforms, and alleged and reported corruption in the highest government offices in Zagreb (all remain uninvestigated and unpunished), millions of EU aid euros are nevertheless pouring into Croatia. Disappointingly, there is not much evidence of major structural reforms being implemented. And unfortunately, accountability among Croatia's elected officials is non-existent.

Croatian politicians state that key reforms will be delayed until after the elections (November

2007) which translates into a minimum ten-month delay; all the while readily receiving some €140-160m from European taxpayers. With Croatia's government mired in corruption and openly involved in undermining democracy and freedom, the additional infusion of cash is a sure recipe for grand mischief.

In order to augment and ensure an authentic reform process in Croatia, EU aid should be reduced, the aid process reformed, strong conditionalities imposed and a strict monitoring procedure established.

Croatian and EU taxpayers have invested much in Croatia's reform process with less than laudable results. The parlous state of Croatia's judicial systems and stalled reforms need greater attention. Moreover, the reform process requires accountability from within and without. Anything less will result in Croatia's government irresponsibly spending EU taxpayer euros, and getting away without implementing the necessary structural reforms.

Natasha Srdoc, MBA, and Joel Anand Samy, co-founders, Adriatic Institute for Public Policy, Croatia



PROFILE: FREE MINDS ASSOCIATION

Free Minds Association (FMA) was established as a non-profit, independent educational think tank by a few like-minded people who see the root of the problems in today's Azerbaijan and have been inspired by classical liberal ideas.

FMA brings together like-minded people who believe in liberty, free market economies, human rights and liberal democracy. FMA is not involved in day-to-day politics and political activities. Instead, as an independent intellectual group, it aims to set and influence broader discussions so as to contribute to the liberalisation of Azerbaijan in economic and political fields and accelerate transformation from a centrally planned to a market economy.

WHAT THEY DO

The objectives of FMA are to promote a vision of a free society based upon individual liberty, private property rights and limited government under the rule of law; to teach people about the institutions required to develop a free society in Azerbaijan and their impact on the average Azerbaijani citizen; and to contribute to discussions about Azerbaijan's political and economic problems from a liberal perspective.

Their vision is to promote understanding and acceptance of values such as liberty, justice, peace, human rights, rule of law and tolerance among Azerbaijani people. The FMA wishes to influence the future of the country by forming a strong network of people who favour replacing coercion with free cooperation among free people. The Free Minds will provide an appropriate platform to bring together young liberals and to encourage them to appear as a political force.

WHAT THEY HAVE DONE

Despite a lack of funding, a hostile environment and having only recently been founded, the FMA has achieved significant milestones to date. They organised numerous training sessions and seminars, with the participation of Tom Palmer of Cato Institute, on the topic "Limited Government and Rule of Law in Transitional Countries"; a three-day seminar on "Understanding Free Society and Intellectual



image: Naomi Boxall, PhD



Change" (the first liberal seminar in Azerbaijan), "The Liberal School" in partnership with Association for Liberal Thinking in Turkey and tens of lectures given by leading FMA members and liberal friends visiting Azerbaijan.

They effectively collaborated with other freedom oriented organisations by sending four students in less than six months to do internships in the US and Turkey. Dozens of students attended seminars and lectures outside of Azerbaijan.

FMA also embarked upon its long-term ambition to translate key classical liberal books into Azerbaijani. Free Minds has already finished a translation of Bastiat's "Law" and has also published translated articles in numerous domestic newspapers and magazines.

They also organise World Freedom Day celebrations on the 9th November of each year (the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989). At the event, FMA members release white balloons, make brief speeches and inform the public about the paradigm of freedom while people socialise and network with each other: 360 guests attended their first WFD Party in 2006.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

The FMA are about to launch the first Azerbaijani liberal website, which will be kept

as a repository of liberty-promoting articles, events, publications and as a major networking hub serving not only for people in Azerbaijan but also the huge Azeri minority group (approximately 20 million people) living in Iran.

Additionally, a conference on energy and energy security is planned to take place in 2007. The topic will be the geopolitics of the Caucasus region and the impact of neighbouring countries (i.e. Russia) on its energy security. The conference will be co-organised with Italy's Bruno Leoni Institute, and the UK's Transatlantic Institute.

FMA expects to organise a follow-up conference in Milan once an agenda has been agreed in Baku.

Another important activity is the Economic Education Programme (EEP) in rural Azerbaijan, which is an innovative attempt to tackle the problems of the country from a theoretical aspect while providing practical solutions to existing challenges. They aim to create a liberal-minded workforce of economically aware young entrepreneurs who will be able to start up new business initiatives. The programme aims to build awareness and practical skills for the development of a market economy, free markets, property rights and the idea of individual responsibility. In this sense, the new entrepreneurs will be able to introduce innovative/ground-breaking ideas and become independent forces in different areas of social life (economic and political) that in the long-run will lead Azeri society towards liberty and freedom. The Programme is a two-phased project lasting 12 months.

One of the most important initiatives underway in 2007 is to organise a symposium of liberals living in Turkic-speaking countries. The theme of Symposium will be "Liberalism in the Region" to promote high-profile participation of intellectuals, prominent economists and political scientists who will have the rare opportunity to present their ideas on the issues that affect them. We plan to co-organise this symposium with the Association for Liberal Thinking, based in Ankara, Turkey. The goal is to synergise available resources, to identify common problems and to design solutions and joint initiatives to tackle the issues faced by the region.



PROFILE: EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR INTER- NATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY



The European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE), based in Brussels, is a new, independent, and non-profit policy-research think tank dedicated to trade policy and other international economic policy issues of concern to Europe.

WHAT THEY BELIEVE

ECIPE is rooted in the classical tradition of free trade and an open world economic order. Progressive reduction of barriers to the movement of goods, services, capital and people across borders creates prosperity, and improves the conditions for peace, security and individual freedom. ECIPE's intention is to subject international economic policy, particularly in Europe, to rigorous scrutiny, and to present conclusions in a concise, accessible form to the European public. We aim to foster a 'culture of evaluation' – largely lacking in Europe – so that better public awareness and understanding of complex issues in concrete situations can lead to intelligent discussion and improved policies.

There are still many barriers to international commerce. In recent years many regions have seen a liberalisation slowdown, with the threat

of retreat to further protectionism. Arguments against liberalisation have become more popular and influential. The World Trade Organisation's Doha round has conspicuously failed to deliver further multilateral liberalisation. Not least, within the EU, protectionist pressures have held back further liberalisation of the Single Market as well as more opening to the rest of the world. Such a climate demands new efforts to soberly review current policies and present independent facts-based analyses of concrete cases.

WHAT THEY DO

ECIPE was founded in 2006 by Fredrik Erixon and Razeen Sally to improve the extent and quality of research on trade policy in Europe. There are several research centres and think tanks around Europe addressing international economic issues, but few of them have a strong focus on trade policy and none match the range of work done in the United States by institutes like the Brookings Institution or the Institute for International Economics. There is also a dearth of international economic policy analysis that has a genuine 'political economy' flavour. ECIPE aims to diminish this gap with research and analysis that brings together politics, economics and law, and applies them to real world policy-making.

WHAT THEY HAVE DONE

Since its inauguration in November 2006, ECIPE has published several papers and hosted seminars and conferences. Recent publications include: *Germany and the G-8 Presidency* by Fredrik Erixon and Andreas Freytag, *Trade Policy in Asia* by Razeen Sally, *Are Developing Countries Deterred from Using the WTO Dispute Settlement System?* by Roderick Abbott, and *Debt Relief and Changing Governance Structures in Developing Countries* by Andreas Freytag and Gernot Pehnelt.

ECIPE have arranged seminars and conferences on European and international economic policy, and also publish a regular email newsletter. All publications can be downloaded from their web page www.ecipe.org.

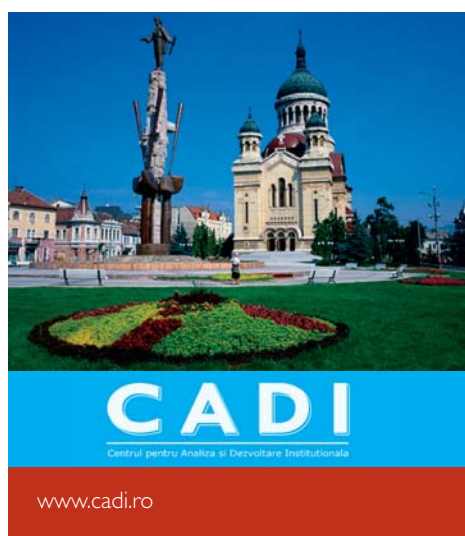
FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

ECIPE will significantly gear up its activity in 2007 as its research projects start to yield results. This spring ECIPE will publish policy

research papers on, among other things, EU antidumping policy, EU trade policy, EU-Africa partnership agreements, EU-Asia trade relations, Transatlantic trade relations, EU-Russia relations, global economic governance, and services liberalisation. This spring ECIPE will also start new research programmes on trade in health care, trade in education and a post-Doha agenda for trade liberalisation.



PROFILE: THE CENTRE FOR INSTITUTIONAL ANALYSIS AND DEVELOPMENT



The Center for Institutional Analysis and Development is a research, educational and outreach organisation that has undertaken the mission to introduce ideas from political science, law and economic theory into public debate and public policy making.

WHAT THEY BELIEVE

The Center's ideology derives from the classical liberal, libertarian and neoconservative convictions shared by CADI's members and associates, and their commitment to protect individual freedom through their programmes and projects. Under the guidance of several international and local personalities, CADI provides a platform for academic and entrepreneurial cooperation between young Romanian intellectuals supportive of a free economy and open society. They are using its logistical support in designing and carrying out their own projects and initiatives.

WHAT THEY DO

The Liberal Forum, the first Romanian Online School of Classical Liberalism is a challenge to the one-size-fits-all education model. Over ten weeks, humanities students interested in market mechanisms and are introduced to the basic arguments of classical liberalism and free enterprise. The key purpose of the Liberal Forum is to combine the major benefits of a virtual environment, widely used for informal

debates, with the advantages of a school. Within the Liberal Forum students have the freedom to choose independently where, when and how much of their time will they spend learning, all under conditions of competition assisted by an instructor.

The forum instructor helps students to streamline arguments of the ten small texts prepared for each weekly e-seminar and answers any questions or challenges; the instructor also evaluates students' weekly essays providing feedback on academic writing skills.

The Liberal Forum began as a one-semester on-line seminar and it is developing into a proper school in classical liberalism under the brand of the Center for Institutional Analysis and Development.

The pilot round of the Liberal Forum completed successfully in January 2006.

WHAT THEY HAVE DONE

Libertarian Week took place in Romania between October 16th – 21st 2006:

Less than two years ago, apart from a small bulwark of Austrian economists gathered in the Ludwig von Mises – Romania Institute, only a few independent scattered researchers and professors carried the flag of libertarian principles. During the year 2006 the Romanian Libertarian Network witnessed unprecedented change both in terms of systematic communication between a growing number of active members and in terms of its outreach. Libertarian Week emerged from these developments. A couple of months before the beginning of academic year 2006-2007, CADI together with the Association Liberalism.ro, The Independent Center for Studies in Economics and Law (CISED) based in Cluj-Napoca and independent members of the Ludwig von Mises – Romania, combined a series of conferences, screenings, round tables and publications between the 16th and the 21st of October 2006 into the first major public event launching the Romanian Libertarian movement into the mainstream. Not only was this the first time in Romania that hundreds of people participated in a series of events solely dedicated to libertarianism, but several organisers appeared on TV in subsequent weeks.

Other CADI activities include a research project looking at the management of forestry and

water resources. The programme focuses upon the evolution of the respective institutional arrangements when subjected to external changes.

The programme intends to highlight the evolution of its self-government features in the light of the tragedy of the commons model.

The central interest of the research programme lies in the analysis of the resistance and resilience of the self-government norms and arrangements for collective action in reaction to changes in the external economic and social environment and to top-down reforms introduced in various periods.

The institutional analysis and development framework (IAD) will be used for this purpose and the empirical research will include an exploration of early self-governing systems, a typology-building assessment of cases and a series of in-depth case studies.

Another CADI activity, The Armchair Project hosts key pieces of academic research and journalistic initiatives.

A joint initiative of CADI, Liberalism.ro, The Independent Center for Studies in Economics and Law, Mises – Romania Institute and other contributors, the goal is to create a comprehensive database of liberal academic papers in social sciences on the subject of individual freedom.

FORTHCOMING PLANS

CADI is privileged to be hosting the Fourth European Resource Bank Meeting (ERBM) in Bucharest from the 13th – 16th September 2007. While topics of the meeting are wide-ranging – from issues of European economic integration, to national educational outreach and student programmes – the mission of ERBM is to enlarge the debate about freedom and to improve strategies for its advancement. It will be a forum for organisations, experts, partners and friends to meet, develop new ideas, and share their experiences. The Resource Bank Europe provides unparalleled networking opportunities for those within the European free-market and limited-government community. The topic of the 2007 conference is: "Enhancing Freedom: The European Constitution and the Global Context".



PROFILE: INSTITUTE FOR MARKET ECONOMICS

The Institute for Market Economics (IME) is the oldest and foremost independent economic policy think tank in Bulgaria. Its mission is to advocate market-based solutions to the reform challenges that citizens in the Bulgarian region face. This mission has been pursued since early 1993, when the Institute was formally registered as a non-profit legal entity.

WHAT THEY DO

All IME activities are designed to implement and further a free market approach with a focus on the roles, relationships, and opinions generated by individual liberty. They also study the economic and policy implications of a society founded on individual liberty, and how public decision-making can be understood as informed individual decisions and responsibilities that combine to form the foundation of collective actions.

In order to recruit public and political support for reforms, IME has used different dissemination techniques.

IME publishes a weekly bulletin on economic policy (www.ime.bg/bg/pr_bg) as well as a 'Low Tax' weekly bulletin (<http://ime.bg/bg/bulletin-for-low-taxes>).

IME also supports an education website created to provide and disperse basic knowledge of economics and libertarianism. The 'Economics Access Station on the Internet' can be found at www.easibulgaria.org.

For years, IME has promoted the idea of a 'Cost-Benefit Analysis' of policies and regulation. IME has disseminated knowledge, methodologies and surveys through its affiliated website: www.ria-studies.net.

Besides these major programs, IME analyses current political and macroeconomic developments and provides advice to government and private agencies, investment banks, local and foreign investors, and embassies. IME also conducts company analyses and case studies on individual enterprises and sectors.

IME is a member of: The Balkan Network (a founder), the International Centre for



IME has also contributed to the dismantling of the pyramid schemes which proliferated in the early-mid 1990s; the advocacy and introduction of the currency board arrangement; revealing peculiar economic foundations of high transaction costs, bureaucratic burdens and informality of economic process of the 1990s; reducing those burdens between 1999-2004; and lowering mortgage interest rates and facilitating the access to residential mortgages between 1998 and 2002.

There is hardly an important reform issue in the last twelve years that has not been tackled by the IME. In 2001 it was awarded the Special Prize of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria for "its overall contribution to the development of the civil society".

In February 2006, the Institute for Market Economics was a winner of the 2006 Templeton Freedom Award for the advancement of liberty, and was chosen from over 80 institute applications from all over the world.

Economic Growth (ICEG); the Economic Freedom of the World Network (a founder) - www.freetheworld.com and a co-publisher of the Index of Economic Freedom of the World, the Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe (NISPAcee), the European Resource Bank Europe (founder), and Central East European Mortgage Financing Network (founder).

WHAT THEY BELIEVE

IME is an active promoter of economic freedom. Their ideas are based on the following principles:

- Low taxes
- Small but efficient administration
- Effective protection of private property rights
- Free competition
- Voluntary exchange

WHAT HAVE THEY DONE

The Institute for Market Economics has been one of the major advocates of low tax since its establishment. Their campaign to lower the total tax burden succeeded and at the moment Bulgaria has corporate tax rates of just 10%, along with relatively low income tax. Their principle goal is to reform social security, together with the pension and healthcare systems.

ABOUT THE NETWORK

The Stockholm Network is the leading pan-European think tank and market-oriented network. It is a one-stop shop for organisations seeking to work with Europe's brightest policymakers and thinkers. Today, the Stockholm Network brings together over 120 market-oriented think tanks from across Europe, giving us the capacity to deliver local reform messages and locally-tailored global messages across the EU and beyond.

Combined, the think tanks in our network publish thousands of op-eds in the high quality European press, produce many hundreds of publications, and hold a wide range of conferences, seminars and meetings. As such, the Stockholm Network and its member organisations influence many millions of Europeans every year.

Policy Issues

The Network is a forum for sharing, exchanging and developing pan-European research and best practice. Interested in ideas which stimulate economic growth and help people to help themselves, we promote and raise awareness of policies which create the social and economic conditions for a free society. These include:

- Reforming European welfare states and creating a more flexible labour market.
- Updating European pension systems to empower individuals.
- Ensuring more consumer-driven healthcare, through reform of European health systems and markets.
- Encouraging an informed debate on intellectual property rights as an incentive to innovate and develop new knowledge in the future, whilst ensuring wide public access to such products in the present.
- Reforming European energy markets to ensure the most beneficial balance between economic growth and environmental quality.
- Emphasising the benefits of globalisation, trade and competition and creating an understanding of free market ideas and institutions

What do we do

We conduct pan-European research on, and create a wider audience for, market-oriented policy ideas in Europe. Our website contains a comprehensive directory of European free market think tanks and thinkers. We advertise forthcoming events (our own and those of



partner organisations) and facilitate publication exchange and translation between think tanks. We also post regular news flashes and updates on European think tanks and their activities.

When was the Stockholm Network founded?

The Stockholm Network was founded in 1997 by Helen Disney, a British journalist and policy specialist. The spread of market-oriented think tanks and independent policy research institutes across Europe from the mid-1990s onwards, created a niche for a network hub, capable of providing a bird's eye view of the policy environment. The network's early aims, which have continued to the present day, were to find an efficient method of connecting like-minded policymakers and thinkers; to encourage collaboration on joint research projects in order to share the most successful policy innovations and arguments more widely; and to ensure a wider audience and a more co-ordinated approach to the dissemination of market-oriented ideas within Europe and beyond its borders.

Who funds the Stockholm Network?

The Network is funded by a wide range of individuals, corporations and foundations. A mixture of for-profit and not-for-profit organisations, some SN supporters are global enterprises, while others are small or medium in size. Subscriptions from individuals, commercial enterprises, and a range of NGOs including other think tanks make up the bulk of our funding. We also derive a small income from the sale of our publications and research materials to the public, bookshops, government agencies and private companies. Corporate subscribers come from a wide range of sectors that currently include information technology, energy, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, public affairs and venture capitalism. Subscribers do not have a veto over the outcome of Stockholm Network research or any influence over its media output.

Why should I support the Stockholm Network and its work?

The Stockholm Network is in the business of creating in Europe an intellectual climate in which human prosperity and your organisation can thrive. We strive to maintain the best knowledge of European market-oriented think tanks, ideas and thinkers, directing you swiftly to the expert or organisation you need. We already have a proven track record in influencing the policy debate and our network and influence is growing all the time.

How could you or your organisation benefit from SN membership?

- Expand your database by meeting new contacts from across Europe
- Receive weekly Stockholm Network email updates and quarterly newsletters
- Receive Stockholm Network Books and Publications
- Get invitations to Stockholm Network Events and Activities

Would you like to join the Stockholm Network?

Please contact us on +44 20 7354 8888 or email info@stockholm-network.org

"We face a broad range of economic challenges over the next decade. Learning from the experiences of market-based reform elsewhere in Europe and the world can help us set the best course for Britain. The Stockholm Network is an invaluable resource in facing that challenge."

Matthew Hancock, Economic Advisor to Shadow Chancellor George Osborne MP

MEET THE TEAM



JACOB ARFWEDSON has worked as international press editor at the French Prime Minister's Information Office; director of events and publications at the French free-market think tank Institut EURO 92; research director at the World Association of Newspapers; managing editor of the website Executip.com; and consultant in media relations at the OECD. He is currently research fellow at the Stockholm Network and a freelance writer and consultant to think tanks in Europe and the USA.

HELEN DISNEY is Chief Executive of the Stockholm Network. Her background is in public policy and the media. Formerly an editorial writer for *The Times* and an editorial writer and commentator for the *Daily Express*, Helen continues to write regularly on a range of public policy topics for such publications as the *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express*, *Public Finance*, *Public Service Magazine*, and *The Sprout*, a satirical Brussels-based magazine, as well as regular weekly entries for the Centre for the New Europe's health weblog, CNE Health. Helen has been the Director of the Stockholm Network since 1997, and is a founding member of the organisation.

PAUL DOMJAN is Energy Fellow at the Stockholm Network. He has previously served as the first Energy Security Advisor to the US European Command where he developed an energy security strategy for the US European Command for Europe, Eurasia, and Africa. Mr. Domjan is currently a British Marshall Scholar at Wolfson College, University of Oxford with a specialty in the political and economic geography of oil and gas producing countries.

DR TIM EVANS is the Stockholm Network's Director of Development. He works across the spectrum of policy issues to ensure that the

Stockholm Network continues to promote its work and develop support across a range of constituencies and interests. A former President and Director General of the Centre for the New Europe (2002-2005), he also served as chief economic and political advisor to the Slovak Prime Minister, Dr. Jan Carnogursky, between 1991-92.

FRANCESCA FICAI joined The Stockholm Network in October 2006 after working for two Labour MPs in Westminster. Her professional background started at the European Commission where she worked for the DG Regional Policy. She then moved to London and worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers in the tax department. She also has experience in market research and journalism.

She graduated from La Sorbonne University (Paris) in Political Science and International Relations and holds a Masters from the University of Bath in European Politics.

SHANE FRITH is the Network's Managing Director. Shane will provide senior management and leadership for the organisation in achieving its strategic aims. Shane has worked for a number of London based think-tanks, including Reform, Open Europe and the Centre for Policy Studies, since moving from his native New Zealand. He is also the founder and Director of Doctors' Alliance, a pan-European network of medical professionals seeking better ways to deliver healthcare.

SIMON MOORE joined The Stockholm Network in early 2006 following the completion of a successful internship period. In addition to administrative work and website maintenance, Simon edited *Beyond the Borders*, a companion piece to The Stockholm

Network's *State of the Union* publication, he is also the editor of *Eye on Europe* and compiles the Network's *Weekly Update* e-newsletter.

KATIE PERRIOR is the Media Director of the Stockholm Network. She joined us in July 2005 to help promote our work in the British, European and International media. She is the co-founder and director of The Research Shop, an independent media agency which specialises in out-sourced, ad-hoc media research. Most recently, she has worked for ITV and Channel 4 News, and is a local councillor, and Conservative Spokesman for Community Safety, for the London borough of Bexley.

DR MEIR PUGATCH is the Stockholm Network's Director of Research and heads the intellectual property and competition programme at the Stockholm Network. He is based at the School of Public Health, University of Haifa in Israel, where he is a lecturer on intellectual property policy, management and the exploitation of knowledge assets and entrepreneurship. Dr Pugatch is also a guest lecturer at the Department of International Relations, Hebrew University Jerusalem, where he lectures on the international political economy of trade policy.

CARA WALKER is responsible for communicating the work of the Stockholm Network, mainly through the coordination and management of the Network's events and publications. In addition to this, she is responsible for press and media coordination. After graduating with a 2:1 in Ancient History from Bristol University, she was appointed as Iain Duncan Smith's Constituency Secretary. She then went on to become the Director of the Atlantic Bridge, a free market transatlantic think tank.

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Through our publications, weekly newsletter, and special events, members are able to exchange ideas and make an impact on a wide range of public policy topics and ideas.

If you know of a new organisation you think would benefit from Stockholm Network membership, please contact our office at info@stockholm-network.org and let us know.

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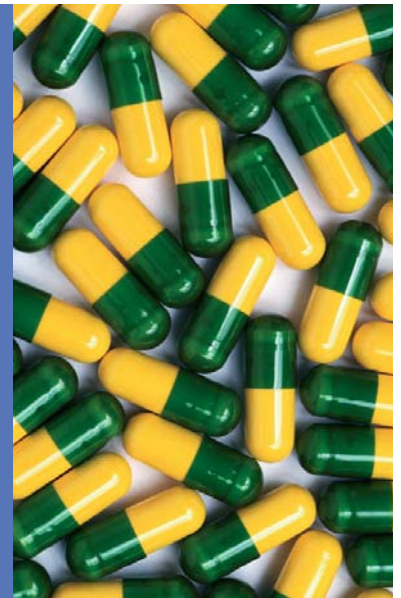
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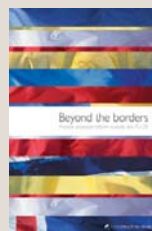
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