



MEDIA ADVISORY

Contacts:

World Bank, Washington: Dorota Kowalska, +1 202 247 7129

dkowalska@worldbank.org

World Bank, Brussels: Frans Van Der Straaten, +32 (0)2 552 0034

fvanderstraaten@worldbank.org

European Commission: Jonathan Todd +32 2 299 41 07

Jonathan.Todd@ec.europa.eu

Launch of the World Bank report on 'The Inverting Pyramid: Pension Systems Facing Demographic Challenges in Europe and Central Asia'

World Bank report looks at impacts of the demographic challenges on current pension systems

The countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia are facing critical challenges to their pension systems, despite substantial reforms undertaken in the past years.

A new World Bank report, ***The Inverting Pyramid: Pension Systems Facing Demographic Challenges in Europe and Central Asia***, looks at the challenges of pensions systems confronted by the region and analyzes the various options the countries face to fill the pension gap.

Press are invited to a press event and panel discussions to launch the new report. The press briefing will be hosted by Mrs. Ana Revenga, Vice President, World Bank, and Mr. László Andor, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission.

- EVENT:** Launch of the World Bank pensions report 'Inverting Pyramid' — panel discussion and press briefing
- DATE:** Friday, February 21, 2014
- TIME:** Panel discussions: 9:00—17:30
Press briefing: 9:30—10:30
- VENUE:** Hotel Crowne Plaza Brussels-Le Palace, Meeting Room 'Infinity'
Rue Gineste 3, B-1210 Brussels (Belgium)
- AGENDA:** Attached

Press is invited to register for the event by filling out the attached registration form and emailing it to bharrisondowd@worldbank.org by Monday, February 17, 2014.

Accredited press is welcome on presentation of a press card.



Agenda

The World Bank—European Commission Joint Conference on the occasion of the launch of the World Bank Report

The Inverting Pyramid Pension systems facing demographic challenges in Europe and Central Asia

Brussels, 21 February 2014

Venue:
Hotel Crowne Plaza Brussels-Le Palace
Rue Gineste 3, Brussels

8h30-9h00 Registration of participants

9h00-9h25 Opening

-
- László Andor, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
 - Ana Revenga, Vice President for Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, World Bank
-

9:30 – 10:30 Side-event: Press Meeting in Hotel

Ana Revenga, Vice President for Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, World Bank: *Main Messages of the Report*

László Andor, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion: *Comments from the EC point of view*

Chair: Katarína Mathernová, Senior Advisor and Manager, Europe and Central Asia Brussels Unit, World Bank

9h30 to 11h00 Session 1: Pension system evolution and outcomes

Moderator: Georg Fischer, Director of Analysis, DG EMPL, European Commission

- Main speaker: Asta Zviniene, Sr Social Protection Specialist, Human Development, World Bank
 - Panelists
 - Krzysztof Hagemejer, Head of Policy, Governance and Standards Branch in Social Protection Department, ILO
 - Anna D'Addio, Senior pension expert, Social Policy Division, OECD
 - Gordana Matković, Director of Social Policy Studies in Centre for Liberal-Democratic Studies, former Minister of Social Affairs, Serbia
 - Olli Kangas, Professor-Director of Research, KELA-Social Insurance Institution, Finland
-

11h15 to 12h45 Session 2: The role of savings in pension provision

Moderator: Ana Revenga, Vice President for Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, World Bank

- Main speaker: Heinz Rudolph, Lead Specialist, Pensions, World Bank

- Panelists
 - Veiko Tali, Secretary-General, Ministry of Finance, Estonia
 - Ole Beier Sørensen, Head of Research, ATP, Denmark
 - Fritz von Nordheim, DG EMPL, European Commission
 - Agnieszka Chlon-Dominczak, Assistant professor, Warsaw School of Economics, Poland.

14h00 to 15h15 Session 3: Accompanying Labour Market and Fiscal Reforms

Moderator: TBC

- Main speaker: Omar Arias, Lead Economist, Human Development, World Bank

- Panelists
 - Mark Keese, Head of Employment Analysis and Policy Division, OECD
 - Elsa Fornero, Professor, University of Turin; Former Minister of Labour (by videolink)
 - Matteo Jessoula, Assistant Professor, University of Milan
 - Giorgi Kvirikashvili, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia

15h30 to 17h15 Session 4: Potential solutions to the demographic challenges facing Europe and Central Asia

Moderator: Lieve Fransen, Director of Social Policies, DG EMPL, European Commission

- Main speaker: Anita Schwarz, Lead Economist, Human Development, World Bank

- Panelists
 - Edward Palmer, University of Uppsala and Swedish Social Insurance Agency Costas Stavarakis, Chair of WG-AGE of the Social Protection Committee
 - Mikhail Dmitriev, Center for Strategic Research, Moscow Russia,
 - Per Eckefeldt, DG ECFIN, European Commission
 - Maria Jepsen, Research Director, European Trade Union Institute
 - Rebekah Smith, Senior Adviser, Social Affairs, BusinessEurope

17h15 to 17h30 Closing remarks

Andrew Mason, Sector Manager, Social Protection, World Bank

Lieve Fransen, Director of Social Policies, DG EMPL, European Commission



Registration Form -- Press Conference

**The European Commission and the World Bank
Joint Conference on the occasion of the Launch of the World Bank report**

***The Inverting Pyramid: Pension Systems Facing Demographic Challenges in Europe
and Central Asia***

February 21, 2014, 9:30

Conference Venue:

Hotel Crowne Plaza Brussels-Le Palace
Rue Gineste 3, B-1210 Brussels (Belgium)

First name _____

Last name _____

Country _____

Organisation _____

Title/Position _____

Address _____

Tel No. _____ **Fax No.** _____

E-mail: _____

Alternate e-mail: _____

I will attend Press Briefing only: Yes ___ No ___

I will attend Panel Discussions: Yes ___ No ___

Special Requests: _____

Please return this form as soon as possible, but not later than **Monday, February 17, 2014**, to:
Bridget Harrison Dowd, bharrisondowd@worldbank.org