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Expert seminar report Taking stock of the 20th anniversary of Poland's membership in the OECD Presentation of the OECD Economic Survey of Poland 2016

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Alina Sobol

Expert seminar report Taking stock of the 20th anniversary of Poland's membership in the OECD Presentation of the OECD Report: Economic Survey of Poland 2016

Title of the expert seminar:

Taking stock of the 20th anniversary of Poland's membership
in the OECD

Presentation of the OECD Report: Economic Survey of Poland 2016

Organized by:

- The Institute of East-Central Europe (IESW)
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, Economic Cooperation Department
- The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (KUL)

Date:

March 23, 2016

Venue:

Lublin, The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (KUL)

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of Poland's membership in the OECD, the influential biannual OECD Report: Economic Survey of Poland 2016 was presented in March 2016. The presentation of the report was accompanied by an expert discussion on the OECD and its role in enhancing socio-economic growth and development in its member states and in particular its role in defining the path of transition and transformation in Poland.

Panel #1:

1996-2016: taking stock of the 20 years of Poland's membership in the OECD

Panel members:

- HE Dr. Jakub Wiśniewski, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Poland to the OECD
- Prof. Katarzyna Żukrowska, Director of Institute for International Studies, Head of the International Security Department, Warsaw School of Economics
- Mr. Adam Orzechowski, Deputy Director, Economic Cooperation Department, Ministry of Economic Development
- Mr. Maciej Fałkowski, Deputy Director, Economic Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

Moderated by: Dr. Anna Visvizi

During the panel discussion, the multifaceted nature of Poland's membership in the OECD was highlighted. In this context, the processes of socialization, peer pressure and evolving dynamics of cooperation at the OECD forum were emphasized. The panelists stressed that membership in the OECD was one of the most important steps on the path towards external liberalization and institutionalization of Poland's external relations. In this sense, membership in the OECD proved decisive in defining the path of the processes of transition and transformation in Poland. Moreover, as the panelists pointed out, serving as a unique forum of dialogue, expertise transfer and best practice sharing, the OECD offered Poland the opportunity to gradually turn from a rule taker to a rule maker in contemporary regulatory processes thus increasing Poland's international clout.

Panel #2:**Presentation of the OECD Report: Economic Survey of Poland 2016**

The report was presented by Dr. Antoine Goujard, the OECD Secretariat.

The presentation of the report was followed by a detailed discussion on the specific recommendations entailed in the report regarding the Polish economy and its prospects.

Panel members:

- HE Dr. Jakub Wiśniewski, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Poland to the OECD
- Prof. Katarzyna Żukowska, Director of Institute for International Studies, Head of the International Security Department, Warsaw School of Economics
- Mr. Witold Grostal, Director of Bureau of Monetary Policy Strategy, Economic Institute, The National Bank of Poland
- Dr. Antoine Goujard, OECD Economics Department

Moderated by: Dr. Anna Visvizi

Panel #3:**Beyond the OECD report, i.e. implementing the OECD's recommendations**

Presentation of the "Action plan for responsible development of Poland" (aka Morawiecki Plan)

The "Morawiecki Plan" plan was presented by Mr. Marcin Obroniecki, Ministry of Economic Development. A discussion followed.

Panel members:

- Dr. Krzysztof Żuk, President of the City of Lublin
- Prof. Marian Żukowski, Director of the Institute of Economics and Management, The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin
- Prof. Aleksander Surdej, Head of the European Studies Department, The Cracow University of Economics
- Mr. Marcin Obroniecki, Ministry of Economic Development

Moderated by: o. Tomasz Dostatni, OP

During the panel discussion, the education-competitiveness and growth nexus was emphasized. In this context, the long-term development strategy of the City of Lublin was discussed as well as the concerted effort undertaken by the City of Lublin to invest in infrastructure, attract investment, encourage partnerships between universities and businesses, and thereby not only boost innovativeness but also improve attractiveness of the region.