

## News / Information

### **EIASM Workshop on Organisational Change & Development in Transitional Countries**

**Tallinn, Estonia**

**9-10 November 2006**

The conference was hosted by the Estonian Business School (EBS) and attracted over 30 participants from as far afield as Australia. Participants presented on a range of topics and used a variety of methodological approaches and research designs. The conference theme was explored in countries from Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, the Middle East and Asia Pacific. The general tenor of the papers was both conceptual and empirical and one paper provided an illuminating presentation of self-organising maps. The papers' authors demonstrated the use of a range of methodologies and methods, often adopting a multi-method approach.

The conference was formally opened by Nicola Hijlkema, EBS Vice-Rector. Dr Beverly Metcalfe (University of Hull, UK) gave the keynote lecture on 'Learning and Organisational Change: Perspectives from Transitional Countries'. The conference was jointly chaired by Prof Ruth Alan (EBS), Dr Chris J. Rees (Manchester University) and Prof Vincent Edwards (Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College). All the papers presented are currently being considered for publication in refereed journals.

Tallinn provided a delightful venue for two days of academic discussion and networking. It is planned to hold further conferences in other transitional countries in Europe. EBS is also hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> International Human Resource Management Conference on 12-15 June 2007 (see [www.ebs.ee/ihrm2007](http://www.ebs.ee/ihrm2007)).

**Call for papers**

**Institutional changes and organizational transformations  
in developing economies**

**Toronto, Canada**

**7 April 2007**

The Institute of Global Management Studies and the Temple University CIBER at the Fox School of Business & Management presents the 8th Annual International Business Research Forum.

Research Forum Co-Chairs: *Masaaki Kotabe (Temple University) and Preet S. Aulakh (York University)*

One important component of globalization is the increased participation of developing economies in the global economy both as markets for goods and services as well as production sites. Institutional changes emanating from devolving political landscapes within individual countries and pressures from supra-national bodies such as the WTO and the World Bank have been instrumental in the liberalization of developing countries' economies and their integration into the global economy. Increasing integration in the global economy has meant changed competitive landscapes for organizations from developing countries as well as multinationals operating in these economies thus necessitating organizational transformations to deal with new competitive dynamics. For instance, indigenous firms from developing economies have had to compete without the protectionist umbrella prevalent during the earlier periods. Similarly, MNCs operating in these countries have been challenged to shed what Prahalad and Lieberthal called an "imperialist mindset."

In this research forum, we invite papers that examine the interactions/impact of institutional changes at various levels on the organizational transformations of firms in developing economies. We are interested in papers that examine such transformations of indigenous firms from these economies including business groups, private and public enterprises and non-governmental organizations as well as foreign multinationals operating in these economies.

This research forum is open to a wide range of methodological approaches to study organizational transformations in emerging economies. However, it is expected that submitted papers will have a strong theoretical grounding. About twelve to fifteen papers will be selected for presentation at the Research Forum at *Temple University*, scheduled for *April 7, 2007*. Temple CIBER will reimburse the presenters' travel up to \$500.00 and lodging expenses. Subsequently, the best

papers from the research forum will be published in a Special Issue of the Journal of International Management.

**Manuscript Submission:** Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with Journal of International Management's Style Guide for Authors available at: <http://sbm.temple.edu/jim/authors.html>. All manuscripts should be submitted electronically by *December 15, 2006* to Kim Cahill, Managing Editor, Journal of International Management, at [kcahill@temple.edu](mailto:kcahill@temple.edu) Manuscripts are submitted with the understanding that they are original, unpublished works and are not being submitted elsewhere.

Please direct any questions regarding the research forum to either of the co-chairs, Masaaki Kotabe ([mkotabe@temple.edu](mailto:mkotabe@temple.edu)) or Preet S. Aulakh ([paulakh@schulich.yorku.ca](mailto:paulakh@schulich.yorku.ca)).

Additional information about the Annual IB Research Forum may be found on our website at: <http://www.sbm.temple.edu/ibrf/>

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## **The Fourth Conference on 'International Business in Transition Economies'**

**Kyiv, Ukraine**

**24-26 May 2007**

The Fourth Conference on International Business in Transition Economies will take place from **24 - 26 May, 2007**, in Kyiv, **Ukraine**. This time, we will explicitly focus on the inter-disciplinary foundations of International Business.

### **The conference will focus on the following Contents:**

1. The Changing Institutional, Industrial and Cultural Context of CEE Economies: Barriers and Opportunities for International Business.
2. International Trade, Production and Competitiveness of the CEE Countries.
3. Internationalization of Companies, International Entrepreneurship and Marketing in the Transforming Economies.
4. International Management, Organizational Learning and Change in the Transforming Economies.

### **Conference Activities:**

1. Policy Roundtable: May 23, 2007, 10:00 – 16:00
2. Doctoral Colloquium: May 23, 2007, 10:00 – 18:00
3. Conference: May, 24 – 26, 2007

### **Conference Website:**

<http://www.kmbs.com.ua/ibconference2007>

## Call for papers

### **Crisis and conflicts in Central and Eastern European States and Societies**

**Warsaw, Poland**

**3-8 September 2007**

The Research Centre for East European Studies at the University of Bremen and The German Association for East European Studies request applications for an international Summer School session on **Crisis and Conflicts in Central and Eastern European States and Societies**. Stumbling Blocks or Stepping Stones for Democratisation? Funded by the Volkswagen-Stiftung, Hannover, **Warsaw, 3-8 September 2007**

**Contents:** Transformation in Central and Eastern Europe has been characterised by historically shaped crises and conflicts on all levels of political, economic and societal life. Political transformation has partly resulted in hybrid political systems which are incapable of integrating broad layers of their populations. Economic crises and uneven (re)distribution of property has marginalised (most often the same) large groups of the respective societies. Minority and ethno-political conflicts, many of them at a stalemate, have severely hampered state building as well as the consolidation of societal stability - and continue to do so. Contradicting interpretations of history prevent societies from developing a common identity and thus aggravate nation building processes. At the same time, political crises and societal upheaval, as witnessed for example in Georgia and Ukraine, have pushed forward the transformation of political systems. The Summer School 2007 will focus on the problems and the potential for (democratic) consolidation in Eastern Europe. We are requesting applications from historians, political scientists, sociologists, lawyers, geographers and economists who treat related topics in their scientific work.

**The Summer School:** This conference will be the 2nd of three Summer Schools for young academics conducting research on Eastern Europe. The Summer School "A Changing Europe" is a spin-off project to the Conferences of Young Experts on Eastern Europe (since 1995), which established the foundation for a tight network of young researchers and other experts concerned with Central and Eastern Europe and the social sciences ([www.joe-list.de](http://www.joe-list.de) <<http://www.joe-list.de/>> ). The Summer Schools aim at extending this concept to researchers in Central and Eastern Europe. The core of the Summer School will consist of the presentation of scientific papers and their discussion by senior researchers with international reputations in their respective fields. The sessions will be framed by lectures and excursions, as well as other activities designed to give

participants the opportunity to socialize and establish contacts (see also the programme of the Summer School 2006 at [www.changing-europe.de](http://www.changing-europe.de) <<http://www.changing-europe.de/>> ). Selected contributions to the Summer School will be published in a volume. The organisers will support the participants in establishing an alumni network.

**Paper proposals:** Paper proposals must be based on original research and should not exceed 1000 words. They must be drafted in English and must connect an empirical question with a theoretical approach and concept in order to be accepted. Comparative approaches (inter- as well as intra-regional) are encouraged. An international review panel will assess the papers for the conference in an anonymous review process. The deadline for receipt of paper proposals is **31 October 2006**. Please submit your proposal according to the guide lines at [www.changing-europe.de](http://www.changing-europe.de) <http://www.changing-europe.de/>

**Costs:** Funding by the Volkswagen-Stiftung covers travel costs as well as accommodation and participation fees. Location: German Historical Institute Warsaw, [www.dhi.waw.pl](http://www.dhi.waw.pl) <<http://www.dhi.waw.pl/>>

**Information:** Further information about the Summer School as well as the general framework of the conference project "A changing Europe" is available at [www.changing-europe.de](http://www.changing-europe.de) <[http://www.changing-europe.de](http://www.changing-europe.de/)>