



Slovenian Association  
Croatian Association  
Austrian Chapter  
European Support Centre  
of the Club of Rome




in co-operation  
with the Slovenian EU-Presidency



**Intertwining Sustainability and  
Competitiveness**

**Europe after Lisbon**



**Conference in Ljubljana, Slovenia  
April 25-26, 2008**

## Programme

**Friday, April 25th, 2008**

**Location: Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts**

### **9.30 - 10.00 Opening Speeches**

Mag. Katja Lautar, *State Secretary, Government Office for Growth*

Prof. Franci Demšar, *Director, Slovenian Research Agency*

### **10.00 - 10.10 Introduction to the Working Mode of the Conference**

Dr. Thomas Schauer, *European Support Centre of the Club of Rome*

### **10.10 - 12.30 Keynote Speech and Open Space Discussion**

Chair: Prof. Aleksander Zidanšek, *Slovenian Association of the Club of Rome*

Keynote: Prof. Peter Novak

**Low Carbon Society - Why Not?**

Discussion: Is a Competitive Low Carbon Society Possible in Europe?

Participants are invited to submit statements for the discussion. Please contact the organizers for details.

## **14.00 - 17.00 Parallel Working Sessions**

### **Working Session 1**

#### **Knowledge for Sustainability: Competitiveness and Eco-Innovation**

Chairs:

Prof. Robert Blinc, *Slovenian Association of the Club of Rome*

Prof. Ana Vovk-Korže, *University of Maribor*

Europe is the leading continent with respect to some technologies that support sustainable development. In the renewed Lisbon Strategy the role of eco-innovation for European competitiveness has been acknowledged. Where are we standing today, in which sectors is Europe at the front of the development and where has it to catch up with others.

### **Working Session 2**

#### **Competitiveness and Social Capital**

Chairs:

Prof. Ernst Gehmacher, *Austrian Chapter of the Club of Rome*

Mag. Marianne Kager, *European Support Centre of the Club of Rome*

Social capital is formed by the links between individuals and institutions. Competition and co-operation are two different concepts, which are not easy to combine. Can societies be competitive related to the outside World and at the same time avoid internally the race of everybody against everybody which results in stress and loss of quality of life? Which are the consequences for a society in which the attitude of competition is promoted - internally and in the relationships to other countries or regions?

**Saturday, April 26th, 2008**

**Location: Jožef Stefan Institute**

## **9.30 - 11.30 Parallel Working Sessions**

### **Working Session 3**

#### **The Age of Innovation and the Age of Innovators**

Chairs:

Prof. Orio Giarini Honorary Member of the Club of Rome

Prof. Jasminka Lažnjak University of Zagreb

Ageing Europe is seen as one of the key problems in Europe. Ageing population might result in a decrease of creativity, innovation and therefore also competitiveness. But this scenario might be wrong. Today, the elder generation is very different from how they were 50 years ago and there might be changes which help to maintain long-term competitiveness.

### **Working Session 4**

#### **Education for Competitiveness or / and Competitive Education**

Chairs:

Prof. Ivo Šlaus Croatian Association of the Club of Rome

Prof. Agni Vlavianos Arvanitis Hellenic Chapter of the Club of Rome

Education should be more than training for the short term needs of industry - but can we still afford to provide the younger

generation with knowledge about philosophy and arts, which they cannot apply straightforward in their professional life? Do we have to educate a workforce which can compete with very young workers from emerging economies and provide students just with the knowledge of their special subject, giving them a better and earlier start at work? Or might a broader education form an "educational reserve" which increases the long-term competitiveness?

### **11.30 - 12.30 Conclusions Session**

Presentation of the results of the working sessions

### **14.00 - 17.00 Meeting of the World Academy of Art and Science**