Introduction: 2017 Dubrovnik Economic Conferences Symposium

Paul Wachtel¹ · Boris Vujčić²

Published online: 15 May 2018

© Association for Comparative Economic Studies 2018

This symposium issue includes papers from two Croatian National Bank conferences held in Dubrovnik in the summer of 2017. First, the 23rd annual Dubrovnik Economic Conference (DEC) was held on June 5–6, 2017. Second, the Croatian National Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) were the joint organizers of a conference on “Reaccelerating Convergence in Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe—The Role of Governance and Institutions” which was held in Dubrovnik on July 10–11, 2017.

Croatian National Bank conferences have a well-established reputation for the presentation of excellent research on the changing world economy, and we are pleased to present in this symposium four papers from the 23rd Dubrovnik Economic Conference and two papers from the joint conference with the IMF. One of the DEC papers was presented at the 12th annual Young Economists’ Seminar which was held in conjunction with DEC.

The program committee for the 23rd Dubrovnik Economic Conference was chaired by Dr. Boris Vujčić, Governor of the Croatian National Bank. The other committee members were Paul Wachtel, Professor of Economics at the Leonard N. Stern School of Business at New York University, Randall K. Filer, Professor of Economics at Hunter College of the City University of New York and at CERGE-EI, Prague and Dr. Dubravko Mihaljek, Head of Macroeconomic Analysis, Bank for International Settlements. The selection committee for the Young Economists’ Seminar consisted of Professors Randall K. Filer, Evan Kraft, American University

✉ Paul Wachtel
Pwachtel@stern.nyu.edu

Boris Vujčić
bvujcic@hnb.hr

¹ Stern School of Business, New York University, 44 West 4th Street, New York, NY 10012-1126, USA

² Croatian National Bank, Trg hrvatskih velikana 3, 10002 Zagreb, Croatia

and Paul Wachtel. The success of the conference owes much to the efforts of Dr. Tomislav Presečan, Vice Governor of the Croatian National Bank.

The full DEC program and the papers not included in this symposium can be found on the Croatian National Bank Web site (<http://www.hnb.hr/en/about-us/conferences/dubrovnik-conference/archive>). The papers presented at the DEC were by (1) Jakob de Haan Christina Bodea, Raymond Hicks and Sylvester C.W. Eijffinger; (2) Paul De Grauwe and Yuemei Ji; and (3) Dubravko Mihaljek. The paper by Petar Stankov was presented at the Young Economists Seminar. We are grateful to the conference discussants, Randall K. Filer, Oleh Havrylyshyn and Vedran Šošić, for their suggestions.

The Croatian National Bank—International Monetary Fund joint conference was planned and organized by Laura Papi, Assistant Director, and Emil Stavrev, Deputy Director of the European Department of the IMF and Michael Faulend and Tomislav Presečan, Vice Governors of the Croatian National Bank. The conference program is available on the Croatian National Bank Web site (<http://www.hnb.hr/en/about-us/conferences/reaccelerating-convergence-in-central-eastern-and-southeastern-europe-the-role-of-governance-and-institutions>). The papers from this conference are by (1) Anders Aslund and (2) Emil Stavrev, Laura Papi and Volodymyr Tulin.

Finally, the efforts of the IMF and Croatian National Bank staffs contributed enormously to the success of both of these conferences.