The End of Easy Convergence?
The Future of Growth in Central and Eastern Europe

8th MNB-NBP conference
Budapest, 13 November 2026

08:30 – 9:00 **Registration, welcome coffee**
Venue: *Magyar Nemzeti Bank*
(H-1054 Budapest, Szabadság tér 8-9.)

9:00 – 9:10 **Introductory remarks**
Mihály Varga, Governor, Magyar Nemzeti Bank

9:10 – 9:20 **Introductory remarks**
Marta Kightley, Vice Governor – First Deputy Governor, Narodowy Bank Polski

9:20 – 9:30 **Introductory remarks** *(pre-recorded speech)*
Adam Glapiński, Governor, Narodowy Bank Polski

9:30 – 09:50 **Keynote speech**
Ante Žigman, Governor, Croatian National Bank

09:50 – 10:10 **Coffee break**

10:10 – 11:10 **<u>Panel 1: Global, Local, and Sectoral Challenges Facing Central and Eastern Europe</u>**

Moderator: **Viktor Várpalotai,** Executive Director, Economic and Fiscal Analysis and Statistics, Magyar Nemzeti Bank

Panelists:

- **Milan Damjanović,** Assistant Director, Analysis and Research, Banka Slovenije
- **Jakub Mućk,** Head of Division, Economic Analysis and Research Department, Narodowy Bank Polski
- **Cristian Popa,** Special Advisor to the Governor and former Deputy Governor, National Bank of Romania
- **Petr Sklenář,** Executive Director, Monetary Department, Czech National Bank

11:10 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 12:30 <u>Panel 2: Financing Growth in Central and Eastern Europe</u>

Moderator: Witold Grostal, Deputy Director, Economic Analysis and Research Department, Narodowy Bank Polski

Panelists:

- **Ádám Banai,** Executive Director, Monetary Policy Instruments, Financial Stability and Foreign Reserve Management, Magyar Nemzeti Bank
- **Zsolt Darvas,** Senior Fellow, Bruegel
- **Richard Grieveson,** Deputy Director, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)
- **Carlos Mulas-Granados**, Resident Representative for CEE, International Monetary Fund (IMF)

12:30 – 12.40 Closing remarks

12:40 – 13:40 Lunch