

## WELCOME TO THE IIOA - CONFERENCE 2012 IN BRATISLAVA

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I would like to welcome nearly 300 participants from nearly 50 countries over the world to the 20th IIOA conference in Bratislava. It is the first time that the conference takes place in Slovakia and we thank all of you for your interest and coming to Bratislava. We did and will do our best to make the conference and your stay in Bratislava fruitful and successful both from a scientific as well as from a social point of view.

We appreciate very much that the 20th International Input-Output Conference is organized under auspices of the Minister of Finance of the Slovak republic Mr. Peter Kazimir. Slovakia as a young republic is one of the most successful transition countries with a rapid growing and export oriented economy and the need of promotion of the economic research at a high level in order to provide the support for economic policy. This year's Input Output Conference can significantly contribute to this aim.

We are confident that the scientific program of the conference will fulfill the main goal of the IIOA conferences: to promote and stimulate the worldwide exchange of ideas among economists between them and government officials, policy makers, engineers, national accountants and managers with interests in input - output analysis and related methods.

Besides the scientific program, you will have a chance to visit the dynamically developing city of Bratislava with its multicultural and scientific heritage, as well as other interesting historic monuments and sights of Slovakia. The preserved monuments of architecture and fine arts, many of which are included in the UNESCO world cultural heritage list, bear witness to the aforementioned level of advancement. Our short excursions will also introduce you to unique mountain panoramas and offer samples from the universally understandable world of music.

We wish you a rewarding conference and a nice stay in Bratislava!



Chair of the Local Organizing Committee  
Mikulas Luptacik  
University of Economics, Bratislava

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be able to welcome you at the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> International Input-Output Conference. It is an honor for the University of Economics in Bratislava to be a host of the conference, which after taking place in different countries around the globe is held for the first time in Slovakia. We appreciate very much that the 20<sup>th</sup> International Input-Output Conference is organized under auspices of the Minister of Finance of the Slovak republic Mr. Peter Kazimir. In today's world facing important global challenges, which require an open international dialogue across the set of scientific disciplines, we are glad that we as the host of this conference can contribute to creating an environment for stimulating such a discussion. One of the core strategic priorities of the University of Economics in Bratislava as set out in the strategic plan of the University is to enhance the internationalization of all its core activities. The international collaboration is especially crucial in the field of research, where the discussion of the progress of the state of the art, obtaining the feedback from the peers and working in international research teams belong to key aspects needed for the achievement of high impact research results. This conference creates an exciting opportunity for the discussion between the most qualified experts. I believe, it will stimulate further development in the field of the analysis of structural relationships in national economies, of their international and environmental aspects and the specification of the statistical data needed for these analyses.

Please, let me use this opportunity to wish you a nice stay at our University, which belongs to the best established and most reputable higher education institutions in Slovakia. Throughout its more than 70 years of the existence, the University has hosted many high impact international conferences and congresses. We are honored that this year the International Input-Output Conference will be added to the list of these events. I hope that you will enjoy your stay at our University, in our capital and you will have the opportunity to see some parts of our beautiful country as well. We have tried to create the best possible environment for your discussions and other conference activities and I hope you will have a pleasant stay. I wish that the following few days are fulfilled with fruitful scientific discussions and you will return to your home countries and institutions with new ideas and fond memories of the days spent in Bratislava.



Prof. Rudolf Sivák  
Rector  
University of Economics in Bratislava