



Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridsky"

cordially invites you to a public lecture

GLOBALIZATION AND POVERTY

by

Prof. François Bourguignon

Director, Paris School of Economics

The lecture is a part of the series "Kapuscinski Lectures", named for Ryszard Kapuscinski, a Polish reporter and writer who covered developing countries. Experts from around the world deliver lectures on development and development cooperation at universities in 12 new European Union countries.

François Bourguignon is professor of economics at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris and the director of the Paris School of Economics. He is a specialist in the economics of development, public policy, income distribution and inequality. Prior to his current appointment, he held the position of Senior Vice President for Development Economics and Chief Economist at the World Bank from 2003 to 2007, where he provided intellectual leadership and direction to the Bank's overall development strategy and economic research agenda, at global, regional and country levels.

15 January 2010 (Friday)

Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridsky" – Aula

11:00 – 13:00

The working language of the event is English

The project is financed by the European Commission and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

About the “Kapuscinski Lectures” Project

Experts from around the world deliver lectures on development and development cooperation at universities in 12 new European Union countries. The series “Kapuscinski Lectures”, named for Ryszard Kapuscinski, a Polish reporter and writer who covered developing countries, is organized jointly by the European Commission, the United Nations Development Programme and partner universities.

The lecture series offers students from the 12 new member states of the European Union an unprecedented opportunity to learn and discuss development, and issues related to development cooperation. These 12 countries have recently become mature donors supporting poorer nations. Their combined development assistance should reach 1 billion EUR in 2010.

As mature donors, the new EU member states also face important questions, which are addressed during the meetings: are we rich enough to help other countries; what is our current role as donors in the EU; should we keep development aid in times of economic crisis; should we postpone the fight against climate change until the global economy recovers; how to ensure that development aid is not wasted and reaches the poor; how is terrorism and instability rooted in unequal development; which lessons can be learned from the transition economies in Eastern Europe.

The lectures honor the name of Kapuscinski, a Polish journalist and writer, who died two years ago. Kapuscinski, whose books were translated into many languages, was often named the “Third World Chronicler” or the “Voice of the Poor” for his famous reportages and books describing developing countries on all continents. Among other books, he was famous for the following : “The Emperor” on Ethiopia, “Shah of Shahs” about Iran, “The Shadow of the Sun” about Africa, “Another Day of Life” about Angola, and “Imperium” about the Soviet Union.

Participating countries: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia.

More about “Kapuscinski Lectures” and planned events:
http://eudevdays.eu/agenda/kapuscinski_lectures_en.htm and
<http://europeandcis.undp.org>.

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François Bourguignon is professor of economics at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris and the director of the Paris School of Economics. He is a specialist in the economics of development, public policy, income distribution and inequality. Prior to his current appointment, he held the position of Senior Vice President for Development Economics and Chief Economist at the World Bank from 2003 to 2007, where he provided intellectual leadership and direction to the Bank's overall development strategy and economic research agenda, at global, regional and country levels. Along his present duties as a researcher, professor and manager of a leading institution, François Bourguignon kept being active in the international development community by lecturing and writing reports for international agencies.

Ever since his appointment in the World Bank and, in effect long before it, François Bourguignon had extensive practical experience as an advisor to international agencies and policy makers in developed and developing countries. In particular, he has been an advisor to many developing countries, the OECD, United Nations, European Commission, and was a member of the Council of Economic Advisors to the French Prime Minister from 1997 to 2002, a position he was recently re-appointed to.

Since 1985, he has been Professor of Economics at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris. He has been on leave from that institution between 2003 and 2007. There he co-founded and directed the Département et Laboratoire d'Economie Théorique et Appliquée (DELTA), a research unit in theoretical and applied economics, which turned out to be the cornerstone of the recently created Paris School of Economics. He has also held academic positions at the University of Chile, University of Toronto, University of Geneva and Bocconi University. He is a Fellow of the Econometric Society, and was president of the European Economic Association for Population Economics. He received the silver medal for academic achievements from the French National Centre for Scientific Research in 1999. He received honorary degrees from the Universities of Quebec, Western Ontario and Geneva. He has authored or edited several books and over one hundred articles in leading journals, including the *American Economic Review*, *Econometrica*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, and *Journal for Development Economics*. In addition to being the managing editor of the *World Bank Economic Review* from 2000-03, and *European Economic Review* (1990-2000), he has been an associate editor of several other important economic journals, including the *Review of Economic Studies* (1982-1987), *Annales d'Economie et de Statistiques* (1988-1991), and the *Journal of Public Economics*, (1991-1997).

Born on May 22, 1945, François Bourguignon, a French national, studied at the Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Analyse Economique (ENSAE) and the University of Paris VI, where he earned a post-graduate degree in Applied Mathematics (1973). He went on to earn a Ph.D. and the Merrit Brown Award for the best thesis at the University of Western Ontario, Canada (1975), and a Doctorate in Economics at the University of Orleans (1979).

Bulgarian Participation in Development Cooperation*

Upon its accession to the EU on 1 January 2007, Bulgaria undertook commitments with respect to its involvement in the EU policy on development cooperation, and joint actions vis-à-vis third countries. This means that Bulgaria is about to change from a recipient of international aid into donor of such aid to developing countries, within its experience and potential. At a number of thematic fora during its pre-accession period, Bulgaria expressed its readiness to try to contribute financially through ODA to combating poverty: with a targeted contribution of 0.17% of its GNP by 2010 and 0.33% of the GNP by 2015.

On 19 July 2007, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria adopted Decision 504, with which it endorsed a Concept on the Policy of Bulgaria for participation in the international development cooperation. The Concept sets the main trends for decision-making in the cited area; presents development cooperation in an international and European context, and the experience accumulated by Bulgaria in this sphere so far; formulates the main elements of the future Bulgarian policy of development cooperation, including in the context of the EU policy: goals, objectives, principles, geographic and sectoral priorities, financing, administrative and organisational aspects, etc.

The countries with which Bulgaria will build partnerships for development must meet the following criteria:

- existence of a certain level of political, diplomatic, trade, economic and cultural contacts with the respective country;
- comparative advantages of Bulgaria for offering assistance: better experience compared to other donors in certain spheres, or better knowledge of the local needs and specificities;
- meeting of the general conditions for cooperation with the donor community: undertaking of real steps by the recipient country to cope with the problems of its own development, etc.

The Bulgarian policy of development cooperation will be focused in sectors in which the country has comparative advantages in providing assistance, expertise and capacity:

- education and training of specialists;
- building and maintaining the infrastructure;
- conducting reforms in the economic, financial, administrative and social spheres, and in health care;
- cultural diversity and tolerance;
- environmental protection and promotion of the sustainable development;
- security and post-conflict reconstruction.

Bulgaria will attempt to attain the goals set before the new Member States of the EU to provide official development assistance depending on their economic status and potential. The funds will be planned in the central national budget and will be allocated every year with a decree of the Council of Ministers subject to proposal submitted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

* Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Bulgaria (www.mfa.government.bg)