

## VENUE, DATE

### VENUE

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia  
Dimičeva 13  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia

Hall A, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

### DATE

10, June 2008, 16:00-18:00

[REPLY FORM](#)

## ORGANIZERS



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*In cooperation with*



Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia



Slovenian Presidency

## Invitation

# ADVANTAGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF AN ENLARGED EUROPE IN GLOBAL COMPETITION

Ljubljana, 10 June 2008

## ADVANTAGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF AN ENLARGED EUROPE IN GLOBAL COMPETITION

On 10 June, immediately after the EU-US Summit, the Commission President José Manuel Barroso will address the business community in Ljubljana at the ZDS and BUSINESSEUROPE conference on the 'Advantages and achievements of an enlarged Europe in global competition', in cooperation with the Slovenian Presidency and GZS.

Europe's economy remains reasonably strong in the face of growing economic uncertainties. Increased competitiveness within an enlarged Europe and the strengthening of regional cooperation in various areas have stabilised our position in global competition. But we face considerable challenges such as making labour markets more flexible and social systems sustainable, and transforming our energy and climate change ambitions into business opportunities with stronger international consensus. Economic and social cohesion have advanced but need to progress further in order to stimulate economic growth and employment and consequently strengthen our competitiveness.

This will be the centre of debate of leading business representatives from Slovenia and its neighbouring and Western Balkan countries with the Commission President, and an opportunity for a fruitful exchange of their visions on decisions that should be taken to maintain the drive towards a more competitive economy.

The business community will greatly appreciate your presence at the conference and your views on the above issues.

We very much look forward to welcoming you at the event.



Borut Meh  
ZDS President



Philippe de Buck  
BUSINESSEUROPE  
Secretary General



Zdenko Pavček  
GZS President

## PROGRAMME 10 June 2008

15:45 **Registration**

16:00 **Welcoming speech by ZDS President**

Borut Meh  
*Present economic situation in Slovenia from the employers' point of view*

16:10 **Speech by Prime Minister of Slovenia and President of European Council**

Janez Janša  
*Towards the finish line of Slovenian Presidency – the role of a small country in global competition*

16:25 **Speech by President of the European Commission**

José Manuel Barroso  
*Present economic situation in Europe, the importance of social dialogue, flexible labour markets, enlargement and its challenges*

16:55 **Questions and answers**

17:15 **Panel discussion**

Philippe de Buck, BUSINESSEUROPE  
Secretary General

Jürgen R. Thumann, BUSINESSEUROPE  
Vice-President and Chairman of the  
TransAtlantic Business Dialogue

Zdenko Pavček, Chamber of Commerce and  
Industry of Slovenia (GZS) President

Jože Smole, Association of Employers of  
Slovenia (ZDS) Secretary General

Dušan Semolič, Association of Free Trade  
Unions of Slovenia (ZSSS) President

18:00 **Reception**