

THE TWIN TRANSITION FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH

**The Conference on Strengthening the Competitiveness of the Slovenian
Economy with the Measures of the Recovery and Resilience Plan**



NAČRT ZA
OKREVANJE
IN ODPORNOST

Dear all,

**| Wednesday, 7 February 2024,
8:30–13:00**

On behalf of **the European Commission** and **the Slovenian Office for Recovery and Resilience**, we would like to invite you to the second public event on the recovery and resilience plan (RRP) in Slovenia. As part of the event titled The Twin Transition for Sustainable Economic Growth, we are organising a conference on strengthening the competitiveness of the Slovenian economy with the measures of the RRP.

In December 2019, the European Commission and its member states adopted the European Green Deal – a package of policy initiatives that sets the European Union on the path towards a green transition – its final goal being climate neutrality by 2050. This transition will facilitate the transformation of the European Union into a fair and prosperous society with a modern and competitive economy – the European Green Deal represents our growth strategy.

In February 2020, the European Commission presented a plan for shaping Europe's digital future. It is a set of initiatives aimed at creating a European society based on digital solutions that prioritise people. Such an environment will provide businesses with new opportunities and the needed support to develop trustworthy technologies. Digitalisation also plays a key role in the fight against climate change and in the transition to a green economy.

These two ambitious policy priorities, known as the twin transition, encountered a health and economic crisis when in the spring of 2020 the world was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic and almost came to a standstill. Two years later, Europe was shocked by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which caused a humanitarian and energy crisis. These two crises showed how fragile our systems are and how urgent the twin transition is. Work, learning and socialising went digital overnight, whereas the search for energy sources that do not rely on fossil fuels became an existential issue.

In response to the crises, the European Union has assigned more than €800 billion to the legislative initiatives available to member states for recovery and resilience. Slovenia has €2.68 billion available under the measures of the RRP.

What does the twin transition mean for the Slovenian economy? How have Slovenian companies responded to it? What is the role of the RRF funds? Is it a fad or a question of existence? How can we increase the competitiveness of companies on the European as well as on the global market by going green and digital? At what point does the cost that companies have to bear turn into a competitive advantage? Panellists from the business sector, the government, NGOs and the European Commission will try to provide answers to these and other questions.

The conference will be held in Slovene and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in both languages, as well as in the Slovenian sign language.

Please find attached the conference programme and registration information.

We look forward to seeing you,

Jerneja JUG JERŠE

Head of EC Representation in Slovenia

Josip MIHALIC

Director of the Slovenian Recovery and Resilience Office

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PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 7 February 2024, 8:30–13:00

House of the EU,
Dunajska cesta 20,
Ljubljana

8:30–9:00 – Arrival and coffee

9:00–9:05 – Welcome address:

- Jerneja Jug Jerše, Head of EC Representation in Slovenia

9:05–9:45 – Opening speeches:

- Céline Gauer, Director-General of the Recovery and Resilience Task Force, European Commission
- Klemen Boštjančič, Minister of Finance
- Matevž Frangež, State Secretary for Internationalization, Entrepreneurship, Development Resources and Tourism

9:45–10:45 – Panel discussion: Green investment in business - a wise choice?

- Johannes Luebking, Lead Negotiator for Slovenia, European Commission
- Matevž Frangež, State Secretary for Internationalization, Entrepreneurship, Development Resources and Tourism
- Jonas Sonnenschein, Umanotera – The Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Development
- Sabina Sobočan, CEO of Varis Lendava d.o.o.
- Kaja Zoran Ledinek, CEO of Solis Timber d.o.o.

10:45–11:00 – Coffee break

11:00–12:00 – Panel discussion: Going digital – a new reality

- Luc Thonoliat, Lead Negotiator for Slovenia, European Commission
- Nena Dokuzov, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport
- Igor Zorko, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia
- Janez Savšek, Head of technology, HERZ d.o.o.

12:00–13:00 – Lunch break & socialising

The conference will be hosted by Anja Hlača Ferjančič.

The conference will be held in Slovene and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in both languages, as well as in the Slovenian sign language.

We kindly ask you to confirm your **physical presence** at the conference by registering [here](#). Seating in the auditorium is limited. You can also follow the event online [here](#).

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