

CONFERENCE INVESTMENT-LED STRATEGIES FOR GROWTH AND JOBS IN EUROPE

**26th March 2015
14:30 – 19:00
Helsinki, Finland**

Organised by

Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS)
with the support of Kalevi Sorsa Foundation, Finland

Location: Korjaamo Culture Factory, Töölönkatu 51 a-b, Helsinki

Six years since the outbreak of the North Atlantic financial crisis the European Economy is still struggling to return to a path of sustainable economic growth. It is increasingly evident that growth and jobs in Europe can only be created by meaningful increases investment into core sectors of the European economy.

In November 2014 European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, announced a 315-billion-euro investment plan to spearhead economic recovery in Europe. This proposal has received significant attention in the European policy arena and among academics. In particular, several commentators argue that the plan, while representing a first step in the right direction, it is still not sufficient to bring Europe back onto a sustainable growth trajectory.

With this in mind, the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) and Kalevi Sorsa Foundation organise a high-level conference on March 26th in Helsinki (Finland) to discuss feasible investment-led growth strategies for Europe.

The conference aims at addressing the following issues:

1. How can investment policies spearhead an employment-focused recovery in Europe?
2. Is the European Commission investment plan sufficiently big to significantly stimulate growth in Europe? If not, what is the ideal size of a pan-European investment plan?
3. What financial resources can be used to generate higher investment in efficient projects?
4. What would be the impact of continued austerity policies on investment-led strategies?



PROGRAMME

14:30 – 15:00 **Registration**

15.00 – 15.15 **Opening**

Mikko Majander, Director, Kalevi Sorsa Foundation

Giovanni Cozzi, Senior Economist, FEPS

15.15 – 16.00 **Investment-led recovery in Europe: policy alternative to spearhead economic recovery**

Stephany Griffith-Jones, Financial Markets Director, Initiative for Policy Dialogue, Columbia University

16.00 – 16.45 **The Role of European investment bank and public development institutions in promoting investment-led recovery**

Markus Berndt, Head of Division, Policy and Strategy unit at the European Investment Bank

16.45 – 17.00 **Coffee Break**

17.00 – 18.30 **Comments and Panel Debate: investment-led recovery in Finland and beyond**

Vesa Vihriälä, Managing Director, Research Institute of the Finnish Economy

Esa Suominen, State Secretary, Finnish Ministry of Finance

Markus Berndt, Head of Division, Policy and Strategy Unit at the European Investment Bank

Stephany Griffith-Jones, Financial Markets Director, Initiative for Policy Dialogue, Columbia University

Chair and introduction: Dr. **Ville-Pekka Sorsa**, Chairman, Finnish Society for Political Economy Research