

Press release - Commissioner McGuinness and Ambassador Shamshur among distinguished speakers at FESE Convention 2022

Tuesday 31st May 2022, Brussels

The Federation of European Securities Exchanges' annual Convention will today host the first of two half-days of lively discussion on the future of European capital markets. Commissioner **Mairead McGuinness** will give the opening keynote speech, prior to headline interventions across the event from ESMA Chair, **Verena Ross**, Czech Finance Minister, **Zybněk Stanjura**, MEPs **Danuta Hübner**, **Eero Heinäluoma** and **Ondřej Kovařík**, and many other esteemed guests.

A mainstay of the European financial affairs calendar, the FESE Convention 2022 comes amid momentous times for Europe, geopolitically, environmentally, and economically. To secure its future competitiveness, through sustainable and inclusive growth, Europe needs to mobilise the full power of capital markets.

Proceedings on Tuesday 31st May will therefore centre on the issue of competitiveness, taking in the sustainable and digital transformations as well as the development of the CMU.

In recognition of the horrors which continue to take place in Ukraine, and as a mark of the exchange industry's continued solidarity, FESE is also delighted to be able to welcome Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, to accept on behalf the Ukrainian government a financial donation from European exchanges.

The day will be rounded off with the customary awarding of the FESE De la Vega Prize.

The following morning, Wednesday 1st June, will be focused exclusively on the ongoing MiFIR review. FESE shares the Commission's objectives in the MiFIR review proposal to increase transparency and liquidity, to strengthen the level playing field between execution venues, and to enhance the competitiveness of capital markets. The EU needs capital markets that fund the economy in the most inclusive and fair way for all investors, with the delivery of a robust and efficient price formation process - from which economy and society alike draw enormous benefit - central to this objective.

Over three hours of debate, speakers from industry and policymaking will be invited to dive deeply into the Commission's proposals for market structure and the consolidated tape, and assess the extent to which they meet their objectives.

Petr Koblic, President of FESE, commented on the upcoming Convention:

"2022 is a potentially decisive year - across the next two days, we look forward to welcoming policymakers, regulators and industry participants to cast light on the future direction of Europe's capital markets."

FESE Director General, Rainer Riess, added:

"We are faced with simultaneous strategic challenges: climate breakdown, demographic ageing, rising inflation combined with stagnating living standards, as well as the impacts of war and the pandemic. Against this backdrop, we'll be assessing how Europe can harness the

essential role of exchanges in unlocking the investment flows needed to drive sustainable and inclusive growth.”

ENDS.

Notes to editors:

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About FESE

The Federation of European Securities Exchanges (FESE) represents 35 exchanges in equities, bonds, derivatives and commodities through 16 Full Members and 1 Affiliate Member from 30 countries.

At the end of April 2022, FESE members had 9098 companies listed on their markets, of which 17% are foreign companies contributing towards European integration and providing broad and liquid access to Europe's capital markets. Many of our members also organise specialised markets that allow small and medium sized companies across Europe to access 1480 capital markets; companies were listed in these specialised markets/segments in equity, increasing choice for investors and issuers. Through their RM and MTF operations, FESE members are keen to support the European Commission's objective of creating a Capital Markets Union.

FESE is registered in the European Union Transparency Register: 71488206456-23.

About the FESE De la Vega Prize

Each year since 2000, the FESE De la Vega Prize has been awarded to a young scholar for an outstanding research paper on financial markets. The Prize particularly values papers about current developments in European financial markets which promote public markets. The author(s) of the best paper, as decided by an impartial jury, will be awarded the Prize for 2022 - with attendant winnings of 5,000 EUR - and given the opportunity briefly to present their paper. More information is available [here](#).