



**INEKO**

Institute for Economic and Social Reforms

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**April 27, 2018**

**European Information Centre, Palisády 29, Bratislava**

**Joint seminar organized by the Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia and the institute INEKO**

## **Does the Slovak labour market need more immigrants?**

The unemployment rate in Slovakia is falling rapidly. However, it is still the highest in the region and it exceeds 10 % in several districts in eastern and southern Slovakia. The businesses particularly in western districts feel the opposite problem – they lack free labour force and use more workers from abroad. Many citizens would like to have higher salaries instead of immigrants. How to solve this dilemma? How to satisfy the hunger of employers for labour force and, at the same time, to use the potential of local workers? How many and which immigrants should we accept so that they would not decrease salaries of local employees? These questions will become even more urgent as the economy grows and the population ages. Join us in searching for the answers on Friday, April 27 in the premises of the Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia.

The seminar will be live on the [Internet](#). More information you can find on the INEKO website ([www.ineko.sk/](http://www.ineko.sk/)). You can join the discussion via Sli.do using code #6229.

**Language:** Slovak, English – simultaneous translation

### **AGENDA:**

08:30 – 09:00 Registration of participants

09:00 – 09:10 Opening remarks

- Ladislav Miko, Head of Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia

09:10 – 10:10 PANEL I: Answers from the officials and analysts

- Keynote speech: Barbara Kauffman, Director of the DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (EMPL), European Commission
- Marián Valentovič, Director General, Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic

- Lucia Šrámková, Director, Institute for Financial Policy, Ministry of Finance
  - Peter Goliaš, INEKO Director
- Moderator: Ľudmila Majláthová, Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia

10:10 – 10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 – 11:45 PANEL II: Answers from politicians and social partners

- Keynote speech: Branislav Ondruš, State Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic
- Eduard Heger, Member of the National Council of the Slovak Republic
- Mário Lelovský, Vice-president of the National Union of Employers
- Zoroslav Smolinský, Head of the Modern Unions Volkswagen

Moderator: Lívia Vašáková, Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia

11:45 – 12:30 Lunch