The Eurozone crisis needs to be overcome to give Europe the internal cohesion which is crucial for ensuring a stronger economic and social recovery, reducing divergences between Member States, preventing political fragmentation and responding to external challenges regarding migration and security.

The Roadmap on the future of the European Union to be adopted in Rome on the 25th of March as well as the European Commission’s White Paper currently under preparation must have clear proposals to overcome the Eurozone crisis and to close divergences by creating a new virtuous circle in the Euro area.

After several years of crisis and difficult debates to deal with this very complex issue, a relevant amount of expertise is now available and different formal proposals are being considered in the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council.

Nevertheless, a proper discussion on possible choices for EMU reform has not yet taken place in the European Council since the last European elections. Hence, a top level political initiative is necessary to push forward key decisions.

Europe is today at a crossroad. That’s why this seminar is “the moment” to meet, clarify positions and coordinate efforts in order to start the much needed virtuous circle for the Eurozone. In order to define more clearly the proposals which can be considered by the Heads of State and Government, the Portuguese Government will hold a High-Level Seminar on “A Euro for Growth and Convergence”, gathering top decision-makers and experts who are renowned for their role in addressing this issue, while ensuring a balanced composition regarding national backgrounds.

This High-Level Seminar will be conducted with a special method to reach precise proposals:

- A selected member of top decision makers and top experts will engage in an intensive interaction (under the Chatham House rule), based on a previously distributed guide (the guidance note) with key questions and possible solutions.
- Some of the participants (two per session) will be invited to be first-speakers to launch the debate with contrasted positions through a short introduction (3-5 min).
- Each session will be moderated by the relevant Portuguese Minister.
- The Report from the High-Level Seminar will be used in relevant decision-making channels of the European Council, the Council, the European Commission and the European Parliament.

The Seminar will be followed by a public conference addressing the same topics.
High-Level Seminar

“A Euro for Growth and Convergence”

*Lisbon, 24 January 2017*

Venue: Gulbenkian Foundation, Room 1

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00 - 11.15</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Augusto Santos Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.15 - 13.00</td>
<td>Session 1: <em>Growth and Socio-economic Convergence in the Eurozone</em></td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> Pedro Marques, Minister of Planning and Infrastructure</td>
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<td>13.15 - 15.00</td>
<td>Session 2: <em>Instruments for risk prevention and risk sharing, with particular focus on the Eurozone fiscal capacity</em> (Working Lunch)</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> Mário Centeno, Minister of Finance</td>
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<td>15.15 - 17.00</td>
<td>Session 3: <em>Democratic legitimacy and the sequence of steps to complete the EMU</em></td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> José António Vieira da Silva, Minister of Labour, Solidarity, and Social Security</td>
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<td>17.00 - 17.30</td>
<td>Conclusions and closing remarks</td>
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Public Conference

“A Euro for Growth and Convergence”

*Consolidar o Euro. Promover a Convergência*

Venue: Gulbenkian Foundation, Auditorium 2

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tr>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>Frank Vandenbroucke, University of Amsterdam, former Belgian Minister of Social Security, Healthcare, Pensions and Employment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Luís de Guindos, Minister of Economy and Competitiveness of Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:30</td>
<td>António Costa, Portuguese Prime-Minister</td>
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</table>
List of participants

Aleš Chmelař (CZ), Economic Advisor to Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Bohuslav Sobotka
António Vitorino (PT), former EU Commissioner for Justice and Home Affairs
Diego Lopez Garrido (ES), Member of the Spanish Parliament
Elisa Ferreira (PT), Bank of Portugal – Director
Eulalia Rubio (ES), Senior Research Fellow in the Jacques Delors Institute
Eurico Brilhante Dias (PT), Member of the Portuguese Parliament
Fabien Dell (FR) Adviser to European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Pierre Moscovici
Frank Vandenbroucke (BE), Professor at the University of Amsterdam, former Belgian Minister of Social Security, Healthcare, Pensions and Employment
Gabriele Giudice (IT), DGECFIN (EMU deepening and macroeconomy of the euro area)
Gertrude Tumpel-Gugerell (AT), former Vice-Governor of the Austrian National Bank and former member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank
Guntram Wolff (DE), Director of the Bruegel think-tank
Jakob von Weizsäcker (DE), MEP and Member of the Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs
João Galamba (PT), Member of the Portuguese Parliament
João Nogueira Martins (PT), Chief Economic Advisor of European Council President Donald Tusk
José Amaral (PT), Member of the Executive Committee, BPI
José Castro Caldas (PT), Researcher at CES
José Maria Brandão de Brito (PT), Professor at ISEG
László Andor (HU), former Member of the European Commission, Associate Professor at Corvinus University (Budapest) and Senior Fellow at Hertie School of Governance (Berlin)
Luca Visentini (IT), Confederal Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation
Luís de Guindos (ES), Minister of Economy and Competitiveness of Spain
Marco Piantini (IT), Sherpa and Economic Advisor to Italian President
Maria João Rodrigues (PT), MEP and Vice-Chair of the S&D Group in the European Parliament
Michal Polak (SK), Head of Cabinet of State Secretary of the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic (Ivan Lesay)
Nicolas Schmit (LU), Minister for Employment and Social affairs
Pedro Silva Pereira (PT), MEP and Vice-Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
Pervenche Beres (FR), MEP and S&D coordinator on Economic and Financial Affairs
Philippe Leglise-Costa (FR), Secretary General of EU Affairs
Raymond Torres (ES), Visiting Director at think-tank FUNCAS. Special Advisor to the International Labour Organization (ILO) Director-General
Ricardo Paes Mamede (PT), Professor at ISCTE
Ricardo Reis (PT), Professor at the London School of Economics
Rui Henrique Alves (PT), Financial Counsellor at REPER-Portugal
Tytö Tuppurainen (FI), Member of the Finnish Parliament and of its Grand Committee
Vítor Escária (PT), Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister
Wolfgang Pointner (AT) Economic Advisor of Chancellor of Austria
Xavier Timbeau (FR) Director of OFCE (Observatoire Français des Conjonctures Économiques)

Portuguese Government

António Costa, Prime-Minister
Augusto Santos Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Mário Centeno, Minister of Finance
José António Vieira da Silva, Minister of Labour, Solidarity, and Social Security
Pedro Marques, Minister of Planning and Infrastructure
Margarida Marques, Secretary of State for European Affairs
Ricardo Félix, Secretary of State of Treasury and Finance
Miguel Cabrita, Secretary of State of Employment
Nélson Souza, Secretary of State of Development and Cohesion