



The 2005 Spring Business Forum *CHALLENGES FOR THE SUMMIT*

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Founder and Head of SICENTER (Socio-economic Indicators Center) and Professor of Political Economy, University of Ljubljana. He holds Diploma and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Ljubljana, and M.A. in Development Economics from Williams College, Mass. USA.

After finishing his studies at home and in the USA he was an economist, later Deputy Director and Acting Director of the Yugoslav Institute for Economic Research in Belgrade; in the academic year 1966/67 Hallsworth Research Fellow at the University of Manchester, UK. In 1970-74 he served as macroeconomic advisor in the Harvard Institute for International Development team advising the Planning Commission of the Ethiopian Government.

From 1975 he has been Professor of Political Economy at the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, also as a visiting professor teaching at postgraduate studies at Williams College, USA, Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna and in several republics of the former Yugoslavia. In 1993 he founded SICENTER which has been involved in international and national projects of analysis of economic and social indicators in many fields.

Apart from research and teaching he was also involved in economic policy formulation. He headed a study of budget subsidies to the less developed republics for the Yugoslav Federal Assembly. In 1983-84 he worked as a special adviser to the Government of Slovenia, coordinating the analysis for its long-term plan. In the period 1980-84 he was a member of Federal Council of Economic Advisors in Belgrade and in 1988 Chairman of the Subcommittee of the Commission on Economic Reform.

Speciality: growth and inequality, he introduced a new statistical measure, S-time-distance, to amend the present methods of analysing disparities in many fields. For this idea he received many fellowships and invitations as a visiting fellow: Senior Fulbright Research Award (Yale), London School of Economics, Institute of World Economics (Kiel), Institute for Advanced Studies (Vienna), and Strathclyde Univ.(Glasgow). He was also project leader for international and national projects, and consultant to the World Bank, OECD, UN, ILO, ITU, UNIDO, INSTRAW and UNRISD. His time distance concept was further extended by the Nobel Prize winner Professor C. Granger, University of California, to econometric forecasting for leading and lagging indicators as a criterion for evaluating forecasting models.