

The next event of the Lamfalussy Lectures Conference series organised by Magyar Nemzeti Bank, the central bank of Hungary, will be held on Monday, January 25, 2021. Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, for the first time in its history, the annually organized international conference will take place virtually. The Lamfalussy Lectures Conference series, named after Baron Alexandre Lamfalussy, "the father of the Euro", has become one of the key fora for European and global thinking on economic policy during the years, providing a platform for central bank governors, acknowledged economists, financial professionals and members of the academic sphere to discuss the most compelling and topical issues related to global economic policy.

The COVID-19 pandemic has undeliberately led to the emergence of many economic, financial and social issues manifesting in a new type of global crisis. The new situation poses new challenges for central banks, governments, for monetary and fiscal policy that the global community is still looking for answers to. These challenges include whether the mandates and roles of central banks will change in the years ahead; if the boundary between fiscal and monetary policy has moved forever, fostering the rise of monetary financing; and whether governments will ever be able to repay the enormous amount of debt that they have taken on due to the COVID-19 pandemic? Many questions indeed which strive for answers.

At this year's Lamfalussy Lectures E-Conference, organizers picked one such question as the focus of the discussions that is very relevant to the central banking community, and that is monetary policy navigating into uncharted waters. While not questioning the need for monetary and fiscal expansion to reboot the economies, one should look beyond the short-term and reflect on what the monetary framework for the years ahead should be. Therefore the 2021 Lamfalussy Lectures E-Conference will be organized under the title *"The future of monetary policy after COVID-19 with a perspective for public debt evolution"* and it is planned to include a high-level opening ceremony, followed by the Lamfalussy Lecture, a keynote speech and a panel discussion.

This year's E-Conference brings to the virtual stage distinguished speakers such as

- György Matolcsy, Governor, Magyar Nemzeti Bank
- Boris Vujčić, Governor, Hrvatska narodna banka
- Gang Yi, Governor, People's Bank of China
- Philip R. Lane, Member of the Executive Board, European Central Bank; former Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland
- Jacques de Larosière, Former Managing Director of the IMF; former Governor of the Banque de France
- Yang Yao, Dean and Professor, National School of Development, Peking University

• William B. English, Professor in the Practice, Yale University

Along with the Lamfalussy Lectures Conference, the Magyar Nemzeti Bank also established an international award given annually to recognise outstanding professional performance and lifetime achievements on the international scene that influence the work of the Magyar Nemzeti Bank and the international financial system in general. In 2020, Peter Praet, former Member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank was nominated as the winner of the Lamfalussy Award. And who will be the winner this year? Find out on January 25, 2021!

Follow the event live on the official <u>website</u> of the Lamfalussy Lectures Conference, via <u>Zoom</u> and on the <u>YouTube channel</u> of Magyar Nemzeti Bank.