

Have the pleasure to invite you to a

Bulgaria's international competitiveness, 2013

Press Conference

30th May 2013 (Thursday), 10:30 am

Center for the Study of Democracy, Conference Hall 5 Alexander Zhendov st

On **30th May 2013**, the Center for the Study of Democracy will present Bulgaria's results in the **2013 World Competitiveness Yearbook**, published by the Institute of Management Development (IMD) in Switzerland. The report evaluates the international competitiveness of the 60 most developed economies in the world based on over 300 indicators, which describe **national economies** in terms of how efficient they are, what type of economic environment is created by the **government and the business sector** and how efficient is their existing **infrastructure** (basic, scientific, technological, innovation, healthcare and education).

In 2013, Bulgaria is one of the countries which have **registered a decrease in their competitiveness**. Data shows that the different government administrations didn't build on the economic growth prior to 2008 and accordingly failed to build the pillars of long-term competitiveness. The global economic crisis has revealed **a number of unresolved problems** in this regard among which the condition of the energy sector. Being IMD's Bulgarian partner in preparing the World Competitiveness Yearbook, the Center for the Study of Democracy is organizing a discussion on the key results of the survey about the economic policies and practices of the Bulgarian economy, while Bulgaria is the process of forming a new government and parliament. The event will cover various topics, such as what are the country's economic strengths and weaknesses, which are the countries to look up to in Europe and how they have improved their competitiveness. Key questions of the discussion will include what actions should the new government and the business sector take to change Bulgaria's position as the poorest economy in the EU? Which would be the most urgent economic reforms in this regard? What should be Bulgaria's long-term economic strategy?

IMD's World Competitiveness Yearbook is the **most comprehensive report about national competitiveness levels**, which has been published yearly since 1989. It is particularly valuable for Bulgaria for two main reasons. First of all, the **business sector**, including international and local investors, refers to it in order to form their investment policy and decide where to locate their new business ventures. On the other hand, the **Bulgarian government** could compare its national policies to those of more successful countries and draw important lessons and recommendations for its own actions.

A presentation compiling the results of WCY 2013 will be delivered, followed by an interactive discussion with CSD's experts and the audience. Print materials on the topic both in English and Bulgarian will be available.

For more information and to confirm your attendance, please contact:

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