

## **The IER Seminar in Empirical Economics**

We would like to invite you all for the second IER seminar series in empirical economics that will be held at the *library of the Institute of Economics on October 5, 2010 at 13:00*.

**The speaker is Dr. Menbere Workie Tiruneh, senior researcher at Institute of Economic Research and Associate professor at City University Bratislava on:**

### ***Estimating the waiting period to catch up: Income dynamics in the EU***

Please, confirm your possible participation by October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to Soňa Slobodníková at [sona.slobodnikova@savba.sk](mailto:sona.slobodnikova@savba.sk).

We are very much looking forward to see you all at the seminar.

Kind regards

*Marek Radvansky and Menbere Workie Tiruneh*

#### **Short abstract**

The paper discusses about the income dynamics in the European Union both from the long-run perspectives as well as from perspectives of the changing global economic landscape due to the pending financial crisis. In this respect the paper empirically discusses the cost of the financial crisis on income convergence and estimates the number of years it may take new EU members to catch up with the EU-15 average income per capita. The results seem to suggest that while new EU members have shown remarkable progress (albeit cross-country differences) in narrowing their income gap with those of the EU-15, most of them are far away from the later. Therefore, policies that promote stronger and sustainable growth must be introduced or sustained (if they are already in place) in order for these economies to fully catch up.