

## PREFACE

In October 2013, the 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Finance and Banking took place in Ostrava, Czech Republic. Each time, the conference focuses on a specific new development in the banking and financial sector. This year, the theme was *Financial regulation and supervision in the after-crisis period*. Since the post-crisis discussion on arrangement of regulatory and supervision framework is still continuing the conference aim was to contribute to this vibrant and inspirational debate. The conference topic has a great potential for comparative studies assessing the crisis' effects from many perspectives as well as for policy-focused papers proposing new measures to be implemented.

The program committee of the conference was pleased to receive almost 100 applications. Due to conference capacity and focus on quality, 60 papers were selected to be presented on the conference. We are happy that the conference kept its reputation of respected international scientific event. This year we have a pleasure to host participants from 17 countries of three continents. We kept the conference venue of the previous conference and stayed at Hotel Mercure in Ostrava – the third largest city in the Czech Republic that is often considered as the industrial center of the country. We hope that all participants enjoyed the location and discovered not so famous part of the Czech Republic.

The main theme of the conference was mirrored in the keynote presentations. The first talk was delivered by Xavier Freixas, a professor at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona. Professor Freixas focused on crisis in the Spanish banking sector. He addressed the main reasons of the crisis and provided a comprehensive overview of the crisis' phases. He critically discussed measures implemented by Spanish government and regulatory authority and pointed out the lessons that should not be learned from the Spanish example. The second keynote speech was given by Lubomír Lízal, a member of the Bank Board of the Czech National Bank and professor at CERGE-EI. He described current economic situation in the Czech Republic. He also explained how the Czech National Bank will use foreign exchange interventions in conditions of inflation targeting and zero interest rate. Both keynote presentations are included in the conference proceedings that is published and distributed on CD or can be accessed on the conference's website <http://icfb.rs.opf.slu.cz/>.

We would like to thank everyone who helped make this conference successful again. We appreciate the speakers giving their valuable time to share their expertise as well as the audience participants who actively contributed to the very interesting debates. There was a supportive and friendly environment in all sessions. In closing we would like to invite all of you to participate at 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Finance and Banking that will take place in October 2015.

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