



# BRIEF'22

Baltic Region Investment Forum

# PROGRAMME BRIEF'22

15 September 2022

Four Seasons Hotel Lion Palace St. Petersburg

At the beginning of 2022, the Russian economy faced an avalanche of economic sanctions imposed on it. Despite this, business, experts and decision-makers generally agree that economic development cannot take place in a closed economy and, therefore, the future of the Russian economy is firmly tied to its continued participation in global economic relations.

**BRIEF'22 will continue the discussion on the future of industry in the Russian regions. Particular attention will be paid to discussing the new face of Russian industries and the transformation of Russian companies' supply chains under the impact of sanctions.**

**09:00 – 11:00**      **Registration of participants**

**09:30 – 11:00**      **Open Talk. "Support measures for business: best practices of application".**

Practical discussion on government support for business.

In response to the sanctions pressure, a large number of support measures have been proposed for businesses, both for existing production facilities and for the creation of new import-substituting projects. As part of an open discussion, it is important to hear the views of business and discuss the experience of receiving assistance and preferences: how the mechanisms are implemented in practice, what companies demand, what are the common problems, achievements and difficulties, how the region works on interaction with business and on the provision of support measures.

## Introductory report

Anastasia Mikhilchenko - Director of Economic Development Agency in Leningrad region  
"Green Corridor for Investor" - client-centric business support system.

## Invited to take part in the discussion:

- Vadim Averin – Deputy Director of the Fund for Support of Entrepreneurship and Industry in Leningrad Region, a micro-credit company
- Vitaly Bugai – General Director of Rocksoft LLC
- Mikhail Kosarev – Chairman of the Council of the Leningrad regional branch of the All-Russian public organisation "Delovaya Rossiya"
- Aleksei Lysenko – Head of Corporate Communications Thermex corporation
- Alisa Melkonian – Partner, Head of Tax & Legal Advisory, NW Region of Kept JSC (formerly KPMG)
- Andrey Mironov – Managing Director Saint-Petersburg office Russian Export Center
- Alexander Smekalin – Director of the division «Development of Regions and investments» The Agency for Strategic Initiatives
- Vitaliy Stromakov – Acting Deputy Director General for Development and Technological Connection Rosseti Lenenergo

- Vitaly Svidovsky – CEO Teremok Group (formerly KPMG)
- Sergey Zitzer – CEO MUFTY NSK LLC

**10:00 – 11:15**    **Coffee break**

**11:15 – 13:15**    **Plenary discussion. Industrial Foresight:  
What is the future of Russian industry under sanctions?**

The imposed sanctions have brought serious challenges to Russian industry, causing difficulties in supply chains, disrupting ties with suppliers and customers. In this situation of high uncertainty, businesses need to develop an understanding of future changes in the Russian economy. We have invited professionals who bring together knowledge from various fields - representatives of the business community, experts and analysts - to participate in this section.

#### **Topics for discussion:**

- Is it possible to identify promising growth points in the sectors? Which new sectors and activities could generate additional demand?
- How is the basket of Russian exports changing? Which products and in which country markets will Russia be represented in the future?

#### **Moderator:**

Yuri Simachev – Director of Economic Policy, HSE University

#### **Introductory speech:**

Alexander Drozdenko – Governor of Leningrad Region

#### **Welcoming speech:**

Nurzhan Moldiyarovich Nurzhigitov – Akim of Zhambyl Region of the Republic of Kazakhstan

#### **Experts' speeches:**

- Akim Mikhael – Professor of HSE University  
"Economic Outlook in the Context of Strategic Priorities and the Level of Import Dependence of Sectors"
- Glukhova Maria – Vice-President - Managing Director, Economic Policy and Competitiveness Directorate, Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs  
"Prospects for Russian exports: a business perspective"
- Danilin Ivan – Head of Science and Innovation Department, Primakov National Research Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russian Academy of Sciences  
"Prospects for Russia's specialisation on the horizon of 30 years"
- Murat Kerefov – Deputy Minister Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation  
"Investment today: creating conditions for new investors and increasing profitability"
- Vladimir Salnikov – Deputy General Director (Center for Macroeconomic Analysis and Short-term Forecasting), Head of Laboratory (Institute of Economic Forecasting, Russian Academy of Sciences), Leading Researcher (Center for Fundamental Studies, HSE)  
"Major changes in Russia's system of foreign economic relations as a factor in the transformation of the sectoral structure of the economy"

### Discussion participants:

- Nurzhan Moldiyarovich Nurzhigitov – Akim of Zhambyl Region of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Alexander Smekalin – Director of the division «Development of Regions and investments»  
The Agency for Strategic Initiatives
- Wilhelmina Shavshina – Partner, Global trade and Customs Regulation Leader
- Sukrit Sharan – BRICS Vice President

### 13:15 – 14:45 Coffee break/Contact exchange

### 14:00 – 16:00 Council on improving the investment climate in Leningrad region: how to overcome import dependence? (By invitation only)

The import substitution agenda is not new for Russia, but there are not many successful examples of its implementation. Some of these examples are related to the localisation of foreign productions that have left the Russian market in the current environment. Macroeconomic data and expert reviews give some insight into the problems of Russian business, but how do specific enterprises feel in the face of sanctions, what are they doing? Businesses in dialogue with regional authorities will discuss practical problems and real opportunities in Leningrad region.

- How acute is the problem of import dependency for businesses? How are businesses coping with it in the new environment?
- Is it already possible to talk about the emergence of new mechanisms for working under sanctions? In which areas have solutions been found, and where do we still need to look for them? How can "best practices" be disseminated?
- What is the demand from businesses for government assistance in adapting to the new environment? How satisfied are businesses with the current package of support measures?

### Introductory speeches:

- Simachev Yuri – Director of Economic Policy, HSE University  
"How did dependence on imports develop in Russian industries and regions?"
- Shavshina Wilhelmina – Partner, Global trade and Customs Regulation Leader  
"Import substitution - on the way to new opportunities"
- Andrey Anfinogenov – Dean of the Faculty of Technology Management of the Department of Technology Management and Innovation at ITMO University  
"New opportunities for cooperation between business and universities in the field of high technologies for solving import substitution problems"