



Script TV-Highlight

V. Astana Economic Forum 2012

May 22nd – 24th, 2012– Astana/Kazakhstan

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09:52:00:00

Start (Intro rocket media communications)

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5,500 people from 90 different nations gathered in Astana, the capital of the republic of Kazakhstan, to discuss the global economy at the 5th Astana Economic Forum from 22nd to 24th of May. The event was created from Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev five years ago. Eleven Nobel Prize Winners participated and addressed the issue of global crisis.

The platform for dialogue included scientists, scholars, experts and political leaders from all over the world. They exchanged ideas, experiences and knowledge at a critical time for the world's economic future. The president of Kazakhstan calls for partnership of civilizations to resolve the global problems of humanity.

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„I am impressed the conclusions of modern authors, that tolerance is most important factor of economical growth in the 21st century. In Kazakhstan this idea was accepted along time ago. We initiated the dialogue between religions. In a week, for the fourth time there will be a meeting of heads of traditional world religions. During the development of such scientific approach, I announce, that one of the key factors for economics to escape the world crisis is global tolerance “
(President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev)

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This is in agreement with the opinions of participating Nobel Prize Winners from the United States, Europe and Israel.

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„Certainly, certainly, I mean that's are was this forums are for to exchange ideas and to people get to know each other, people, I think a large part of the problem is mutual trust and to know somebody personally and have connection with them, this helps to build a network with them of friendship and trust“ (Robert Aumann, Nobel Prize winner Economics 2005)

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„The financial crisis a few years ago of 2008 2009, yes that was a problem that was created by the United States and by Europe even as you know all the other countries of the world suffered as the results, but I think all countries must be involved and showing that this kind of crisis doesn't happen again.“ (Eric Maskin, Nobel Prize winner Economics 2007)

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„Well, if the Politicians are making economic decisions, and because they are in everything, than they could help to learn that of course you get bad advice as well as good advice“ (John Nash, Nobel Prize winner Economics 1994)

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The 5th Astana Economic Forum in the Palace of Independence is the largest dialogue platform on the Eurasian continent.

The gathering was also helpful for potential investors in the region. They could receive help to facilitate projects in Kazakhstan. After more than 20 years of national independence under the leadership of President Nursultan Nazarbayev the country offers a promising business and entrepreneurial environment. 6 million square meter are already dedicated for building-projects and housing over the next ten years. The government of Kazakhstan continues to improve the conditions for foreign investors.

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„The political situation today is very stable. The economy of Kazakhstan is open. Kazakhstan created a beneficial environment for investors. The government is open for the dialogue with investors“ (Bakytzhan Sagintayev, Minister of Economic Development, Kazakhstan)

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„It seems to me that the economic policy in Kazakhstan and I also happen to visit Azerbaijan last autumn, the policy environment is more predictable and that´s what investors like. They may not have the perfect policy, but if you have a great deal of predictability about what´s going to happen in the next five or ten years, that´s a big thing. It removes some important uncertainty.“ (Kydland Finn, Nobel Prize winner Economics 2004)

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Economic growth is expected to accelerate again this year. The state budget deficit is supposed to remain stable and no changes in exchange rate policy are expected. The impact of the global financial crisis in October 2008 has not at all hindered Kazakhstan´s success.

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„Because of competent anti-crisis steps at the most difficult moment of world crises we retained the positive dynamic of development in our country and did not make worse the conditions of our population. For the last crisis year our economy grew by 7,5 percent, and we are expecting the same this year as well.“ (President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev)

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Kazakhstan developed the dialogue for a G-Global as alternative to the efforts of the G8 and G 20 formats. The Astana Economic Forum should be a working platform, where the participants find solutions to the worlds financial crisis. A new global age requires global action.

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„I think we from the richer countries of the world have a moral responsibility to not only to listen, but to do what we can to protect the vulnerable“ (Eric Maskin, Nobel Prize winner Economics 2007)

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„Someone mentioned here which is the right union to discuss implementing global decisions. The UN? G8 ? G20? There is something more which has to be. This is a forum where a large number of people come to and a particularly unique kind of gathering, a mixture of different expertises and people will pay attention to it“ **(Robert Mundell, Nobel Prize winner Economics 1999)**

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„You have to educate the population and the people making the decisions, things were going very well in the United States for about 26 years, now is a change in public opinion“ **(Edward Prescott, Nobel Prize winner Economics 2004)**

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In 42 sessions the global thinkers held more than one hundred hours of talks. The participants of the „Astana Economic Forum“ also learned about the subjects of macroeconomic policy, future energy, strategic planning, crowd-sourcing and management in separate meetings. The Euro Crisis was the most important subject for the international audience. The speakers called for global action and a positive attitude for all people.

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„That is why I am convinced, that the current state of affairs on the financial and economic market will on the long run not be accepted in the different regions and culture, it needs to come in line with basic religious and culture demands coming to all nations and to all men and women of good will.“ **(Horst Köhler, former President of the Federal Republic of Germany)**

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„My own view about the financial crisis in Europe is that the original Sarkozy-Merkel plan was a good one and I strongly supported even and in fact I contributed to the debate in Greece to help the Greeks about to bring structured reforms and I did the same in Spain and Italy through lectures and special forums. I begin to change my mind as structural reform seems to take long to have effect“ **(Christopher Pissarides, Economics Nobel Prize winner 2010)**

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„I don´t think we have time, this is the only, I know, if because the rate of interest grows out of any control like in Greece, you don´t find any possibility of reform.“ *„Obama is worried about that, the US is worried, China is worried because in April the rate of growth is coming down, so all the world is worried because, you know. And in Europe we have a new climate and so I do hope that a truth can be assigned, but we have to do it now“* **(Romano Prodi, Former President of the European Commission)**

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„The countries which were not stricken with the economic crisis with force should also carry out an appropriate reform. The population of the countries where populism is in foreground by reason of elections, must realize that this kind of politics does not just damage their own region but the neighbouring countries as well. The steps and measures to be taken towards overcoming and solving the crisis are urgent now.“ **(Tayyip Recep Erdogan, Prime Minister of Turkey)**

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„The key is to have coordinated policys globally that promote growth and to balance that with policys particulary within the Eurozone that promote fundamental structural reform. In other words I think the biggest risk for us – certainly in Europe at the moment - is the people are provided with the choice between on the one hand prosperity and reform and on the other hand growth and no reform“ **(Tony Blair, Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom)**

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The future is still unwritten and young people have a right to be heard as well. Students from more than one hundred different nations gathered at the Eurasian National University in Astana to hear a message of encouragement from the speakers.

In 2017 Kazakhstan would like to host the International Exhibition or EXPO. The candidate city Astana would love to gather people from all over the world and celebrate its 20th birthday - once again as a platform for international cooperation.

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END

Press release in English & Russian at www.aef.kz