

LUXEMBOURG, 23 MAY, 2014

## 2014 Milton Friedman Prize Awarded to Leszek Balcerowicz

Cato Institute has honored the Polish economist with Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty.

Professor Leszek Balcerowicz, former deputy prime minister and finance minister of Poland received the distinction on Wednesday evening in New York. Tomorrow (23<sup>rd</sup> of May) at 6.30 pm the economist will deliver a lecture at the Chamber of Commerce of Luxembourg.

This biennial award is presented to individuals for achievement in promoting freedom and individual liberty. Leszek Balcerowicz has been widely credited with the economic transformation of Poland after the fall of communism.

“Leszek Balcerowicz’s contributions to the advancement of liberty and free markets in Eastern Europe cannot be overstated”, said Cato CEO John Allison. “Poland now serves as a model that other countries may follow in transitioning from socialism to a humane economy based on individual responsibility and the rule of law”.

Currently, main professional activities of professor Balcerowicz focus on the Civil Development Forum think tank established by him in 2007. The main focus of the organization is “Protecting liberty, promoting truth and common sense in public discourse.”

Civil Development Forum (FOR) is a free-market think tank based in Poland promoting economic freedom, rules of law and ideas of limited government i.e. a government whose activities do not harm economic liberty and personal freedom. FOR seeks to contribute to policy-making through fact-based research and public debate.

FOR research activities revolve around six pillars: fiscal policy, labor market, competition and regulations, EU and Polish economic development, justice system, transparency of law and law-making (including the right to public information).

FOR presents its findings in the form of reports, policy briefs and educational papers. Other FOR projects and activities include, among others, the Public Debt Clock, social and educational campaigns, economic comic books, public debates, lectures, spring and autumn seminars for students and civil society mobilization.

All FOR activities are of public, non-political and non-profit nature as set forth in detail in the Code of Ethics. FOR activities are privately-funded.

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