

#Invest4Future

WHAT LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS FOR THE EUROPE OF TOMORROW?

November 7, 2018 15:00 – 17:30 European Parliament – Room JAN 4Q1

For external participants: 14:30 – 14:50 in front of the main entrance of the European Parliament (ASP Building)

ONLINE REGISTRATION

15:00	Welcome Address Dominique Riquet, MEP, Chair of the Long-term Investment Intergroup
15:10 – 15:20	Keynote speech Kerstin Jorna, Deputy Director-General, Dg Ecfin, European Commission

15:20 – 15:35 Proposals of the French Task Force on Long term investment of the Paris Financial

Center

Gérard de La Martinière, Rapporteur

15.35 – 16.45: What Long-Term Investments for Tomorrow's Europe and what EU urgently needs to do to revive Long-Term Investment?

Moderator: **Laurent Zylberberg**, Chair of the European Long Term Investors Association (ELTI)

Jung Lichtenberger, Deputy Head of Unit Capital Markets Union, DG Fisma, European Commission

Benoit de La Chapelle Bizot, Deputy Director of the French Banking Federation (Highlight "Banks for the financing the real economy")

Nicolas Jeanmart, Head of General and Personal Insurance, Insurance Europe (Highlight "Insurance sector")

Flavia Micilotta, Executive Director, Eurosif (Highlight "SI is a LTI")

Sébastien Raspiller, Head of Financing of the Economy, French Treasury

Lieve Wierinck, MEP

Q&A

17.15 – 17.30: *Closing remarks*

Pierre Moscovici Commissioner, Economic & Financial Affairs, European Commission

BETTING ON THE LONG TERM

Rebuilding investment for the Europe of tomorrow

THE LONG-TERM INVESTMENT TASK FORCE OF THE PARIS MARKET CHAIRED BY G. DE LA MARTINIÈRE

WITH A FOREWORD BY FORMER EBRD & IMF DIRECTOR JACQUES DE LAROSIÈRE

Summary

The European Union (EU) is in a paradoxical situation: more than 10 years after the financial crisis, growth has finally returned – year in year out – but investment, and in particular long-term investment, did not regain its pre-crisis level. Yet the challenges facing the EU require an unprecedented long investment effort. And this is even more alarming because structural forces not favorable to long-term investment will undoubtedly continue to exist in the future.

In the aftermath of the crisis, the priority of the reforms has been to strengthen the soundness of the financial system to prevent the emergence of new crises and foster the return of confidence. At European level, this priority given to financial stabilization has been accompanied by a desire to encourage the development of market financing to compensate for an intermediated financing perceived as failing. However, while financial stability is a necessary condition for the recovery of long-term investment, it is not a sufficient condition for this recovery - the continued weakness of the LTI in Europe highlight this.

It quickly became clear that the reforms adopted in the name of stability have tended to favor short-term behavior and penalize long-term investments. In view of this, targeted remedial measures were adopted to correct what were perceived as undesirable effects of these reforms, but these "patches" were ultimately limited in scope.

Our hypothesis is that, in the absence of a specific, coherent and comprehensive approach to long-term investment, the measures taken have only been deficient and limited, sometimes even inadequate. That is why, to avoid falling back on the same pitfalls when formulating our recommendations, we propose a simple, but robust and complete definition of what a long-term investment is by nature.

"Long-term investment is the financial investment strategy deployed by any kind of operator with stable resources that both permit and require asset allocation that is likely to produce an economic return in the future".

Based on this definition, it seems to us possible to create a favorable regulatory environment by applying some simple principles:

Principle # 1: Putting ILT at the heart of public policy

Principle # 2: to allow an adequate measurement of risks and long-term returns

Principle # 3: to promote long-term asset-liability management

Principle # 4: to promote an alignment of interests of the various actors on long-term objectives

Introduction

Why are we publishing a long-term investment report in 2018?

Seven years ago now, following the National Conference on Long Term Financing (Assises nationales du financement de long terme), this task force bringing together the participants in long-term financing in France issued its thoughts in

an initial report and its conclusions remain still relevant today: long-term investment (LTI) is crucial for dynamic, inclusive and sustainable growth in Europe, and a proactive European policy in all aspects of the issue remains an absolute necessity if we are to reverse persistent economic frailties.

But what has changed over the past seven years is that long-term investment is now a European priority. As a result of the Green Paper on long-term financing of the economy, the launch of the Capital Markets Union project and the adoption of the Juncker plan, it occupies a central position within public policy and is giving rise to numerous initiatives.

Yet it has to be stated that European investment remains sluggish. It has only risen slightly since the crisis and remains below the considerable demands that our society and economy must meet (climate change, digital revolution, demographic and migration issues, upgrading of defence capabilities, developing a knowledge-based society, massive maintenance requirements, renewal and extension of infrastructure, etc.).

This paradox is the starting point for this report: although long-term investment is an issue currently recognised as strategic by political and economic decision makers, and while numerous measures have been taken to support long-term investment in recent years, the LTI deficit is persistent within the EU. How do we explain this paradox and how can the status quo be changed?

This is the question the task force members have sought to answer on the eve of European elections when citizens will be called on to select the Europe of tomorrow.

This report seeks to:

- Assess the long-term investment deficit in Europe based on some simple macroeconomic data;
- Inventorise the measures taken and assess them through the lens of long-term investment;
- Present an analysis of what constitutes LTI and propose an operational definition that derives from this analysis;
- Formulate recommendations both general in the form of principles and illustrated with concrete examples applied to existing regulations.

Gaining a better understanding of LTI and radically transforming how it is understood by the regulatory authorities: this, in our opinion, is an urgent requirement for the European Union.

About the LTI Task Force of the Paris financial marketplace

Bringing together since 2010 the economic and financial operators of the Paris financial market involved in long-term investment (professional associations, various organisations, companies and think tanks)¹, the LTI Task Force led by Gérard de la Martinière² is an informal body for reflection and discussion which has contributed to the emergence of the LTI issue in France and at the European level.

An initial report produced under Mr de la Martinière was presented at the Assises Nationales du Financement de Long Terme (National Conference on Long Term Financing) held in Paris on 17 November 2011 and published by Documentation Française.

Since then the Task Force has been continuing its work on a regular basis, contributing to public consultations relating to the issue of long-term investment. It has notably worked intensively on the Green Paper of the European Commission on the long-term financing of the European economy, published in 2013.

This forum for reflection and discussion is novel in two respects: the diversity of its participants (financial operators, companies and associations) and the variety of subjects covered – both are testament to the richness of the LTI issue (banking regulation, insurance regulation, infrastructure financing, responsible investment, etc.).³

This multi-disciplinary working method enables current LTI issues to be placed against a long-term perspective, and to treat them via a decompartmentalised approach appropriate to the subject matter at hand.

¹ Association nationale des sociétés par actions (ANSA), France Invest (ex AFIC), Association Française des Investisseurs Institutionnels (AF2i), Association Française des Entreprises Privées (AFEP), Association Française de Gestion Financière (AFG), Bpifrance, Centre des professions financières (CPF), CNP, Confrontations Europe, Covéa, Groupe Caisse des Dépôts, EUROFI, Fédération Bancaire Française (FBF), Fédération Française de l'Assurance (FFA), Fédération Nationale des Travaux Publics (FNTP), Forum de l'Investissement Responsable (FIR), Mouvement des Entreprises de France (MEDEF), Paris Europlace.

² The list of members is appended to the report.

³ Diversity also characteristic of the European Parliament Intergroup on long-term investment and reindustrialisation.