



**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Jean-Claude Trichet is new Chairman of Bruegel**

**Brussels, 4 April 2012** – Bruegel, the Brussels-based international economics think tank, today announces that Jean-Claude Trichet, former President of the European Central Bank, has been appointed Chairman of the Bruegel board.

Jean-Claude Trichet is replacing Leszek Balcerowicz, former Vice-Prime Minister and recently President of the National Bank of Poland, who took over in 2008 from Mario Monti as chairman of the board. In his new role Mr. Trichet will chair an 11-member Board, appointed by Bruegel's members, all with distinguished backgrounds in government, business, civil society, academia and media. The board's main tasks are to make decisions on the think-tank's strategy, decide on the research programme and budget, as well as to appoint and hold to account the Director and Deputy Director. However, the Board does not bear responsibility for research results, which remains with individual researchers, under the overall editorial oversight of Director, Jean Pisani-Ferry.

On his appointment Jean-Claude Trichet said: "In the current times when economic policy is facing exceptional challenges, Bruegel's work and activities, through fact-based analysis and debate, is most critical to contribute to the quality of European policy making process". He added "I am honoured to step up as Bruegel Chairman and to succeed such remarkable chairmen as Leszek Balcerowicz and Mario Monti. I am looking forward to start working with Bruegel members and the team to help shaping European economic policy".

Jean Pisani-Ferry commented: "We are very proud of this appointment. Jean-Claude Trichet embodies our commitment to independence and he will bring to Bruegel the extraordinary wealth of international and European experience he has accumulated over the momentous past decades. His global reputation will be a major asset to develop Bruegel further on the global economic scene." Mr. Pisani-Ferry also said: "We would like to thank Leszek Balcerowicz for his great contribution to Bruegel. He has been a remarkably effective Chairman and has helped us a great deal throughout our critical coming of age period".

Former Chairman, Leszek Balcerowicz said: "It has been a pleasure for me to be part of Bruegel and to help it strengthen at a time when the need for fresh ideas and unconventional proposals was exceptionally intense."

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### **About Bruegel**

Bruegel is an independent economic think tank. It seeks to improve European and global economic policy-making through open, fact-based and policy-relevant research, analysis and debate. Bruegel membership is composed of EU governments, leading international corporations and institutions.

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