

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **ECONOMIC REFORMS DURING DEMOCRATIC TRANSFORMATION: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE VISEGRAD GROUP**

*A Conference Organized by the Visegrad Group (V-4) Embassies and the Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES) in Collaboration with the Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC)*

*Under the Honorary Patronage of H.E. Dr. Amr Darag  
Minister of Planning and International Cooperation*

Cairo, Egypt (June, 2013) – The Visegrad Group (V-4) embassies and the Egyptian Center for Economic Studies in collaboration with the Egyptian Cabinet's Information and Decision Support Center will organize a conference entitled “Economic Reforms During Democratic Transformation: Lessons Learned from the Visegrad Group.” The one-day conference will be held on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of June and will bring together a high-level group of incumbent and former ministers and senior officials as well as representatives of civil society organizations, academia, the media and the business community. The conference is motivated by the desire of ECES and the V-4 Group to support Egypt’s transition at this critical juncture in its history.

Specifically, the aim of the conference is to draw on the experience and the success stories of the Visegrad Group (V4), comprising the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. The V4 has formed an alliance after the political changes that took place in the 1990s. Now, all four nations are high-income countries and enjoy steady economic growth. If counted as a single entity, the V4 is the seventh largest economy in Europe and the 15<sup>th</sup> in the world. For more information about the Visegrad Group, please visit [www.visegradgroup.eu](http://www.visegradgroup.eu).

The conference is intended to transfer knowledge related to selected economic transformation processes that is of interest for current Egyptian economic reform plans. The issues to be discussed will include the economic and political transformation in the 1990s, public and private sectors cooperation in the experience of the V-4, EU integration as a catalyst for reform and the role of the energy sector in supporting the transformation process.

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