

World Forum on Fiscal Federalism

On December 14 and 15, the state of Bahia will host the World Forum on Fiscal Federalism. The Forum will gather experts from thirteen countries of the five continents, as well as state finance secretaries; federal, state, and municipal government officials and technical experts; directors of state companies; and other guests, to analyze and discuss particularly relevant themes related to fiscal federalism in Brazil and around the world. Issues related to public sector economy will be addressed on the basis of lessons learned in other countries that have adopted a federal model.

The event will close the Global Dialogue International Roundtable, a program developed jointly by the Forum of Federations, an international non-government organization based in Ottawa, Canada, and the International Association of Centers for Federal Studies. Both the World Forum and the international roundtable are being promoted by the Secretariat of Finance of the State of Bahia and by the Forum of Federations. The events also rely on the support of national and foreign public and private organizations.

The presentations and debates during the event will be translated simultaneously, and each country's contributions will be gathered in a book that will be edited in English and Portuguese.

Program

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>December 14</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:00 a.m. Enrollment</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:00 to 9:45 Opening Session</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:45 to 10:20 New Challenges for Constitutional Federalism Current Context and Challenges</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:20 to 10:30 Coffee-break</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:30 to 12:30 Theme 1 Federative Autonomy and Fiscal Discipline <i>Germany, Russia, India, Canada, European Union and Brazil</i> Macroeconomic coordination of fiscal policies in federative regimes: how to combine monetary stability with economic growth and reduction of social inequalities? Discrepancies regarding degree of autonomy of sub-national governments, institutions and regulatory instruments employed. Importance that maintaining fiscal discipline in emerging countries has gained in the globalized world. Impacts in developed countries in face of requirements generated by the formation of economic unions and the regional economic integration trends.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:30 to 1:20 pm Debate</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:30 Lunch</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:30 to 5:30 Theme 2 Public Policies and Fiscal Decentralization <i>Canada, Australia, United States, Nigeria, Switzerland and Brazil</i> Implementation of efficient and effective public policies: cooperation among the different levels of government that promote public policies, taking into account the problems caused by severe regional inequalities and imbalances between the competence to tax and the attribution of burdens that require complex fiscal equalization and intergovernmental cooperation mechanisms. Elements organizing the equalization and cooperation mechanisms: guidelines and principles – equalization of spending capacity or of the pattern of service provision to the population?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5:30 to 6:30 Debate</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:30 Launching of the book: “Distribution of Powers and Responsibilities in Federal Countries” and booklet: “Dialogues on Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Governance in Federal Countries.” Cocktails will be served.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>December 15</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:00 to 11:00 am Theme 3 Globalization, Regional Integration and Fiscal Harmonization - Impacts of Economic Globalization on Federal Fiscal Arrangements <i>Spain, Malaysia, South Africa, China, India and Brazil</i> Implications of economic globalization and formation of regional blocks to taxation and federative balance. Pressures for tax harmonization and concentration on broad reach and low territorial mobility bases, which demand tax sharing and limit taxation autonomy of sub-national governments. Internal inequalities. Demands for increased decentralization and autonomy of provincial and local governments. Direct relations between states/provinces/local governments with other countries, which can give rise to internal tensions, and resulting institutional arrangements that combine tax harmonization, sub-national autonomy and federal cohesion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:00 to 12:00 Debate</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12 to 12:30 Closing Session Thought on the Brazilian Case in the Light of International Experiences</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:30 to 12:50 Announcement of the International Conference on Federalism in 2007 in India</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:50 to 1:30 pm Closing Remarks Finance Secretary of Bahia</p>
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SPEAKERS:

Australia: *Alan Morris*, President, Commonwealth Grants Commission

Brazil: *José Roberto Afonso*, Economist, Brazilian Development Bank – BNDES (the service of the House of Representatives); *Fernando Rezende*, Economist, Professor, Getúlio Vargas Foundation and ex-director of Institute for Applied Research in Economy – Ipea; *Renato Vilela* - Director of Macroeconomics, Institute for Applied Research in Economy – Ipea; and *Sérgio Prado* - Doctor of Economics and Professor, Campinas University - Unicamp.

Canada: *David Peloquin*, Special Advisor, Finance Canada

China: *Qiu Dong*, President, Central University of Public Finance and Economics in Beijing

Germany: *Lars Feld*, Professor, Philipps Marburg University

India: *Renuka Viswanathan*, Principal Adviser, Financial Resources, Planning Commission, Government of India

Malaysia: *Saiful Azhar Rosly*, Director of Research, The Malaysian Institute of Economic Research

Nigeria: *Akpan H. Ekpo*, Vice-Chancellor, University of Uyo

Russia: *Andrei Burenin*, Member of Tax and Budget Committee, State Duma (Lower Chamber of Parliament) of the Russian Federation

South Africa: *Bethuel Setai*, President, Financial Fiscal Commission

Spain: *Joaquim Solé-Vilanova*, Professor of Public Finance, University of Barcelona

Switzerland: *Gebhard Kirchgässner*, Professor, University of St-Gallen

United States: *William Fox*, Professor – Department of Economics, University of Tennessee; *Anwar Shah*, Lead Economist and Program Leader, Public Sector Governance, World Bank