

Practical Challenges in Establishing and Maintaining Fiscal Councils – the Case of Slovenia

Fiscal Rules and Fiscal Councils - Strengthening Fiscal Governance in the Western Balkans

Vienna, 19 December 2023

Davorin Kračun, President, Fiscal Council of Slovenia



Key facts

- Established in 2017, based on Fiscal Rule Act (FRA, 2015)
- One of the smallest IFIs in the EU: 3 members + 4 FTE staff (limit set by FRA)
- One of two IFIs in the country
- Narrow range of tasks, explicitly defined by legislation; but Article 7 of FRA: "shall perform other tasks necessary to execute its competences" ex-post legislative & voluntary expansion of tasks + future EU governance framework



Main guidelines

- Establish an independent and solely expert-based "brand"
- Avoid the single role of "fiscal-rule-ticker"
- Transparency is central to all aspects of work
- Make an effort to be acknowledged as home-owned
- Establish working relations with all relevant stakeholders
- Dedicate time and energy to relations with the media



Lessons learned and key challenges

- Achieving appropriate medium- and long-term focus of fiscal policy debate
- Home ownership remains evasive
- Despite formal access getting timely and accurate data and information still burdensome
- Formal limitations are becoming more challenging with expanding tasks



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