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### **39<sup>th</sup> St. Gallen Symposium: further top-notch speakers in a dialogue**

On 7 May 2009, the 39<sup>th</sup> St. Gallen Symposium on the topic of the “Revival of Political and Economic Boundaries” will be opened on the Campus of the University of St.Gallen (HSG). The Symposium is organised by the International Students’ Committee (ISC) and brings together 600 decision-makers with 200 students from 60 nations in order to create a platform for a constructive dialogue between the generations.

Besides speakers that were announced before, such as **John Elkann**, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, Fiat S.p.A., **Hans-Rudolf Merz**, the President of the Swiss Confederation, and **Tharman Shanmugaratnam**, the Finance Minister of Singapore, a variety of other personalities have agreed to take part in the 39<sup>th</sup> St. Gallen Symposium.

**Kathleen L. Casey**, Commissioner of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), will talk about the tight-rope walk of the regulation of global financial markets from an American perspective. **Dr. Mathias Döpfner**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Axel-Springer AG, and **Leonhard Fischer**, Chief Executive Officer of RHJ International SA, will venture a forecast of Germany’s economic position in 2009 in a panel discussion. **Joseph M. Hogan** (US), Chief Executive Officer of ABB Ltd., will talk about the importance of free trade. India’s Minister for Commerce and Industry, **Kamal Nath**, one of the driving forces behind the failed Doha Round of the WTO and thus a representative of the new economic order, will speak about the future growth factors of a global economy. One of Saturday’s concluding speakers will be **Boris Tadic**, the President of the Republic of Serbia, who will talk about the further development of the European Union.

You can find a more detailed insight into the issues to be dealt with by the St. Gallen Symposium, including interviews with speakers such as Economic Nobel prize winner, **Robert John Aumann**, at [www.stgallen-symposium.org/dl-programme\\_39.pdf](http://www.stgallen-symposium.org/dl-programme_39.pdf).

Moreover, we are pleased to introduce the media channel of the St. Gallen Symposium. At [www.stgallen-symposium.org/mediachannel](http://www.stgallen-symposium.org/mediachannel), you can follow the Symposium online. On this platform, you will not only be able to find videos of the keynote speeches and photos of the event, but also exclusive interviews with selected speakers and a guest commentator, who will throw light on the Symposium from a variety of different perspectives.

You can find the complete list of speakers at [www.stgallen-symposium.org/speakers](http://www.stgallen-symposium.org/speakers)

#### **Contacts for further questions**

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**St. Gallen Symposium**

The St. Gallen Symposium is an internationally significant platform for dialogue on fundamental issues in management, the entrepreneurial environment and the interfaces between business, politics and society. Every year in May for almost 40 years, it has brought together a global target group of entrepreneurs, top managers, politicians, academics, decision-makers from civil society and students at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland, providing an inspirational setting for open, interdisciplinary discussions across generational boundaries. As an entrepreneurial initiative of the International Students' Committee (ISC) St. Gallen, the St. Gallen Symposium aims to stimulate thought and action for the sustained success of companies and societies in a globalised world.

**University of St.Gallen**

Internationality, practical relevance and an integrative perspective have been the trademarks of education at the University of St.Gallen in Switzerland ever since it was established more than a century ago. Today, the University of St.Gallen (HSG) educates almost 6,000 students from 79 nations in the fields of Business Administration, Economics, Law and Social Sciences. The HSG has shown itself to be highly successful, having been consistently ranked among Europe's leading business universities (Financial Times Ranking 2008: 1st place in German-speaking Europe and 30th place out of the best business schools in Europe). Its holistic education, which meets the highest academic standards, has earned it the seal of approval of the EQUIS and AACSB accreditations. Academic degrees can be obtained at the Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral Levels. In addition, the University of St.Gallen offers first-class and comprehensive courses in Executive Education. Thanks to an increasing number of programmes taught in English, the HSG has shown itself to be attractive to international students. The focal points of research at the University of St.Gallen are crystallized in its 40 institutes and research centres, which constitute an integral part of the University. The institutes, which are largely autonomous and mostly self-financing, still remain closely connected to university operations.