

Tobacco Taxes in Central and Eastern Europe: Successes and Challenges

23-24 September, 2026

Location: Warsaw, ADN Conference Center, Grzybowska 56

23 September	
12:15 – 13:15	Registration and lunch
13:15 – 13:30	Opening remarks (wiiw, EfH, IBS)
13:30 – 14:30	Tobacco Tax Policy in the CESEE Region: Trends and Prospects - CESEE: Trends and Ways Forward - The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) - Cigarette Tax Scorecard - Economics for Health (EfH)
14:30 – 15:50	International Lessons for Tobacco Tax Policy: Experiences from the United Kingdom and France - Gemma Kane (Department of Health, UK) and Hazel Cheeseman (Action on Smoking and Health) - Clemence Verge (Ministry of Finance, France) and Deborah Perignon (Ministry of Health, France) - Open discussion Moderator: Mario Holzner
15:50 – 16:15	Coffee break
16:15 – 17:15	Product Substitution and the Rise of Emerging Tobacco and Nicotine Products - Effects of the 2025 excise increases on product choice, focus on novel products - Poland - How Consumers Respond to Tobacco Price Changes: Evidence from Cigarettes and Heated Tobacco Products - Montenegro

	The relationship between use of heated tobacco products and factory-made cigarettes – Slovakia Moderator: Jo Birckmayer
24 September	
09:15 – 09:30	Introduction and recap – Jeff Drope (EfH)
09:30 – 11:15	Advancing Tobacco Tax Reform in CESEE: Public Health, Revenue and Implementation Céline Colin (OECD), Oliver Gainford (DG TAXUD), Michal Stoklosa (WHO), TBD - Albania MOF, TBD - Ukraine MOF. Open discussion to follow. Moderator: Angel Lopez Nicolas
11:15-11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 12:45	Policy panel on Poland’s experience and prospects Łukasz Balwicki (Poland’s National Consultant in Public Health), Piotr Lewandowski (IBS), Jarosław Neneman (Ministry of Finance), Kuba Sękowski (Ministry of Health, Public Health Department) Open discussion to follow. Moderator: Hana Ross
12:45 – 13:15	Key takeaways and closing remarks
13:15	Lunch reception