

Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Kreativni center Poligon

Tobačna 5, Ljubljana



U.S. Embassy  
Ljubljana

## Social responsibility for development

The world's population will continue to grow, and the middle class is expected to reach 5 billion by 2030. This means a huge pressure on our environment and on the resources that will become increasingly difficult for us.

The current dominant economic system can be labeled as a "linear economy". Natural resources are obtained and used to manufacture products, which are then removed after use. After use, products are considered "waste", while they contain valuable resources. In a system with final natural resources, that is our planet, the linear system reaches its limits at some point. In the context of rising numbers of people and rising consumption, these limits are achieved much earlier.

**Circular economy** is an economic system in which no material is wasted. Products are designed and built in such a way that they are part of a network where reuse and renewal of the product, components and material ensures continuous (re-use) of resources. This requires a thorough business transformation. Instead of selling products, they should sell their use as a service, which allows us to optimize the use of resources. If we sell the benefits of a particular product instead of the product itself, then we strive for long-term and repeated use.

*The conference will address the solution with "Circular Economy" and promotion of social responsible consumption and production. Speakers will point out some opportunities within Slovenian – USA economic and corporate cooperation and highlight some calls and cooperation options.*

**Wednesday, 8th May, at 12:00, Kreativni Center Poligon, Tobačna 5, 1000 Ljubljana**

## Conference Agenda

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|---------------|--|
| 11:30 - 12:00 | Registration and opening reception.  |
| 12:00 - 12:20 | Opening speech with <b>Mr. Robert Križanič</b> , founder and managing director of <b>Povod, Institute for culture and the development of international relations in culture.</b>   |
| 12:20 - 12:40 | <b>Luka Piškorič</b> , co-founder and managing director of <b>Poligon Creative Centre and Poligon Institute for development of creative industries.</b>  |
| 12:40 - 13:00 | Presentation of the project " <b>Bridge between Europe and Asia</b> ", about building mutual cooperation between young entrepreneurs from Europe and Asia through raising the capacity of youth organization.  |
| 13:00 - 13:30 | <b>AmCham, TBC</b>   |
| 13:30 - 14:00 | <b>Philip Harding</b> , cofounder of <b>IMPACTJUNKIE.</b><br>" <b>Positive Change</b> "  |
| 14:00 - 14:30 | <b>Assoc. prof. dr. Rebeka Kovačič Lukman, University of Maribor, Slovenia.</b><br>" <b>What is circular economy? Recommendations on improving access to finance for circular economy projects. CICERONE H2020. Calls and collaboration options.</b> |
| 14:30         | Reception with catering done by <b>Socio-entrepreneurial initiative for the integration of refugees.</b>   |



Zavod za kulturo in razvoj mednarodnih  
odnosov v kulturi  
Institute for culture and development  
of international relations in culture

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## About Speakers:



**Philip Harding.** IMPACTJUNKIE is an international impact investment and entrepreneurial development organization dedicated to improving lives, giving the poverty mindset a beat down and spreading love around the globe ([impactjunkie.co](http://impactjunkie.co)). They hold pitch competitions, unique events, and educational opportunities to inspire entrepreneurs to do more with what they have been given - including a competition in Lucas Oil Stadium with over 32,000 in attendance.

Philip's life themes have centered around social entrepreneurship, innovation, and youth participation. He was previously an advisor at the Pentagon and White House, and was co-founder of The Great Pitch, which has awarded over \$16 million for innovative ideas to improve government digital services. While serving as the university-wide student body president at Harvard University, he played a key role in the Harvard Innovation Lab and delivered a commencement speech. He completed his undergraduate and graduate studies at Harvard, is currently a mentor at the Harvard Innovation Lab, and teaches innovation and social entrepreneurship at Johns Hopkins University. Harding currently trains aspiring entrepreneurs while traveling the world to foster startup initiatives.



**Assoc. prof. dr. Rebeka Kovačič Lukman.** Her research focus is: sustainable consumption and production, LCA, circular economy. She has been involved in the coordination and implementation of over 25 international and national projects, focusing on sustainability, energy and environment. She is a core group member at the expert group by the European Commission in the field of Circular Economy Financing in the EU. Until now, she has published over 100 bibliographic units, including papers, conference proceedings, chapters in monographs, etc. Based on the Current Research Information System data, her h-index is 10. In the Web of Science (WoS) database, she has over 996 pure citations of her academic papers, which are in WoS ranked in the 1 % of the highly cited papers in the field. Assoc. prof. dr. Rebeka Kovačič Lukman is a

visiting professor at the TU Graz since January 2019.



**Luka Piškorič** is a co-founder and managing director of Poligon Creative Centre and Poligon Institute for development of creative industries. With over 20 years of experience he is also working internationally as consultant on bottom up development of the creative in cultural sector. Luka is a co-founding member of Cultural Policy Designers Network and a member of the board of directors of European Creative Hubs Network. Poligon Creative Centre is a platform for empowerment of independent young professionals, startups and creative communities operating in the fields of creative and cultural sector. In the last 5 years it has become one of the best examples of European creative hubs.