

## **EI new Executive Director**

For Immediate Release

Brussels, May 12th, 2006

**On May 10<sup>th</sup> the European Enterprise Institute organised together with Mr. Ari Vatanen MEP a meeting on the Geopolitics of Energy Security at the Renaissance Hotel in Brussels.\* The seminar, with the main speaker Mr. Mikhail Kasyanov, former Russian Prime Minister, was attended by 120 senior policy leaders and representatives of leading European and world media, was the first event under the management of the new EEI Executive Director, Mr. Jerzy Samborski. He replaced Mr. Jacob Nielsen, after his resignation.**

*Mr. Peter Jungen, President of the EEI, said: Mr. Jerzy Samborski, experienced and successful entrepreneur, the co-founder of the European Enterprise Institute and member of its Board, will continue to develop EEI as a recognized institution among European and worldwide “think tanks”, a serious platform for the discussion and exchange of opinions on European and global issues. But with the new Executive Director, EEI will also bring the European discussions to the member states’ capitals and cities, in co-operation with our local partners, as we believe that “European” does not mean merely “Brussels”.*

Jerzy Samborski is Polish entrepreneur and international business consultant. In 1982, after Martial Law was imposed in Poland he sought political asylum in the UK where he undertook Ph.D. studies at the London University while running his own publishing firm. He was elected Member of the Board of the Polish Educational Society Abroad, responsible for cooperation with the Polish communities worldwide; he was also the Editor-in-Chief of "The Word of Homeland".

After his return to Poland in 1992, Jerzy Samborski served as the CEO of several Polish and foreign companies, i.e., Ringier Poland (CH) and Trader Polska (USA); for the latter he designed and launched the largest Polish Auction portal [www.trader.pl](http://www.trader.pl). At Allianz Polska he was responsible for the implementation of CRM. In 1996 he founded Polish Middle Class Association to which 35 000 persons registered, and six years later the UNICORN - European Union of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises and of the Middle Class.

He is the author and coordinator of “SMEnterReg” – the European Programme of Activation and Integration of Subregions, innovative project aiming at acceleration of EU cohesion policies.

Mr Samborski serves also as Vice-President, responsible for regional policy, of the SME-UNION, a business association within the EPP-ED party. He frequently participates in public and political activities at a national and European level; he is married to Barbara and has four children.

- *Separate Event Report attached*

*For further information please contact EEI Director of Policy Mr. Marcus Stober on +32 486 37 43 93 or at [mstober@european-enterprise.org](mailto:mstober@european-enterprise.org)*

Notes to Editors:

*The European Enterprise Institute (EEI) is a non-profit, non-party affiliated think-tank, based in Brussels. The EEI aims to promote entrepreneurship in the EU policy community and to provide a platform for the ideas and philosophy of entrepreneurship throughout Europe.*

*The EEI encourages research, debate and political reform in all areas of policy with impact on the conditions for entrepreneurship, incentives for innovation, competitiveness and economic prosperity. The EEI actively seeks to strengthen the network of likeminded think -tanks and people and to foster the Euro-Atlantic dialogue.*