

GLOBAL FINANCE NAMES THE 2009 WORLD'S BEST EMERGING MARKET BANKS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

NEW YORK, March 16, 2009 — *Global Finance* magazine has named the “Best Emerging Market Banks in Central and Eastern Europe” in an exclusive survey to be published in the May 2009 issue. *Global Finance* editors—with input from industry analysts, corporate executives and banking consultants—selected the best emerging market bank in the region and in 22 countries. Criteria for choosing the winners included growth in assets, profitability, strategic relationships, customer service, competitive pricing, and innovative products.

Regional Winner:

RZB / Raiffeisen International

Albania	International Commercial Bank
Belarus	Belarusbank
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Raiffeisen Bank Bosna i Hercegovina
Bulgaria	Raiffeisenbank Bulgaria
Croatia	Privredna Banka Zagreb
Cyprus	Bank of Cyprus
Czech Republic	Raiffeisenbank
Estonia	Swedbank

Hungary	OTP Bank
Latvia	Aizkraukles Banka
Lithuania	Swedbank
Macedonia	Komercijalna Banka
Malta	HSBC Bank Malta
Moldova	Moldova Agroindbank
Poland	Bank Pekao
Romania	BRD-Groupe Soci�t� G�n�rale
Russia	VTB
Serbia	Raiffeisen Banka
Slovakia	Tatra Banka
Slovenia	Nova Ljubljanska Banka
Turkey	Akbank
Ukraine	UkrSibbank

This is the sixteenth year that the magazine has selected top banking performers in emerging markets. The report covers best banks in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and Central and Eastern Europe. “We are in a unusually challenging environment for banks and their customers,” says Joseph Giarraputo, publisher of *Global Finance*. “More than ever, customers are demanding superior competence from their banking partners. These are the banks best providing that competence.”

Global Finance, which celebrates its 22nd year of publishing in 2009, has 50,000 subscribers and more than 180,000 readers in over 158 countries. This audience includes chairmen, presidents, CEOs, CFOs, treasurers, and other financial officers responsible for making investments and strategic business decisions for large global companies and financial institutions. *Global Finance* also targets the 8,000 key portfolio investors who control over 80% of all assets under professional management.

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