

Abstract:

The presentation will attempt to demonstrate that there is a role for the World Bank in Poland in terms of the continued provision of lending and non-lending services, even though Poland is an upper middle-income country, and since May 1, 2004 a member of the European Union. It will do this by reviewing the mission, structure, traditional role and instruments of the World Bank, its strengths and weaknesses as well as its recent effort to differentiate its approach and enhance its flexibility to respond to the varying needs of its member countries. Lastly, it will argue that there is an important remaining reform agenda in Poland, which the World Bank can effectively support through a selective but flexible framework.