

LODE BECKERS
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Authority on EU enlargement and the strategic relevance of the Euro

Lode Beckers is an international financier and banker, who after a 28-year corporate banking career with Citibank in 7 countries, moved on to become a Board Member in a private bank - in Belgium - and President of a private bank in France -, while founding LOBO N.V., a fund management firm and consulting firm focusing on Euro-related strategic and organisational matters.

Over the past 6 years, trade and industry federations, governments, and leading corporations frequently called upon Lode's expertise in assessing the impact of the Euro on business with European trade partners and in the European Single Market area.

Lode clarifies how pan-european strategies can become a powerful component for achieving true competitive advantage. While adding historical perspective to his presentations, Lode Beckers ventures into forecasting the shape of things to come in a EU whose membership number will almost double from 15 to 28 or 29 member countries.

Lode researches both his topics and his audience's expectations very thoroughly. He delivers his talks with a widely appreciated combination of clarity, wit, and insight. Since he started his consulting firm LOBO, Lode contributed to the success of over 300 conferences, corporate off site meetings, and seminars. His lively presentation style and his long-standing personal expertise have made him a highly rated guest speaker and discussion panel director at major corporate gatherings or client events.

While acting as a presenter and company director, Lode Beckers continued to be a board member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Belgium. He also held teaching assignments at the Universities of Leuven, Paris X (Nanterre), and St. Petersburg (Russia). Lode holds Law and Political Science degrees from the University of Leuven. He is an alumni of Wharton's International Forum and obtained an AMP certification from INSEAD (Fr.).

Lode speaks fluently in English, French, Dutch and German. He is married to Monique Marmillion and lives in Belgium and France. Since many years he is a member of the Belgian Alpine Club.