The officials of Comenius University and the Faculty of Management of Comenius University in Bratislava, students and the professional public had an exceptional opportunity – a meeting with the President of the European Investment Bank P. Maystadt. The meeting happened on 7th April 2005 in the Aula of Comenius University in Bratislava, which was filled to the last place with students, invited guests and representatives of the media.

Comenius University received the President of the EIB with all the traditional academic honours, culminating in the awarding of a high university decoration – the great gold medal of Comenius University, as a recognition of the important contribution of P. Maystadt to perfecting investment support for regional development in Central Europe and for publishing activity enriching theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of management, economics, financial and commercial law. After the ceremonial act, P. Maystadt gave a lecture on the theme of “Economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union.”

Philippe Maystadt is a leading personality in European economic policy and a recognized expert on the European financial market. With his theoretical works, as well as practical activity, he has personally contributed to creating the European Economic and Monetary Union. He has been President of the European Investment Bank since 2000. This bank is the most important external source of finance for investment in the countries of the EU. The bank supports and strengthens the development of economically weak regions of the European Union with capital investment.

As P. Maystadt emphasized during his visit to Bratislava, the bank will continue to support the construction of infra-structure and to cooperate in selected direct foreign investments. It is open to projects connected with the aims of the Lisbon strategy.