

Konferenzen, Seminare und Vorträge im Jahr 2021

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1. Veranstaltungen für Mitglieder und Stakeholder

Spring Seminar: *'Brave New World? The economic and political challenges facing Eastern Europe after COVID-19'*, 5. Mai 2021

Experts' Breakfast, bei dem den Vertreter_innen der Researchabteilungen der Banken mit Sitz in Wien, der OeNB und Expert_innen unserer Stakeholder die aktuellen Analysen des Instituts vorgestellt werden

- › Webinar: Experts Breakfast: 'wiiw Autumn Forecast Eastern Europe', 19. Oktober 2021
- › Webinar: Experts Breakfast: 'wiiw Summer Forecast Eastern Europe', 6. Juli 2021
- › Webinar: Experts Breakfast: 'Spring 2021 Forecast for Eastern Europe', 14. April 2021

wiiw Spring Seminar 2021

Brave New World?
The economic and political challenges
facing Eastern Europe after COVID-19

Wednesday, 5 May 2021

Venue: Online

Programme

10:45 – 11:00 **Welcome Addresses**

Hannes Swoboda, President, wiiw

Robert Stehrer, Scientific Director, wiiw

11:00 – 12:30 **Keynote Address: Goeconomic Challenges and the Future of Europe: What it will take to make the EU and the euro stronger players in the age of global power competition in a post-COVID-19 World.**

Daniela Schwarzer, Executive Director for Europe and Eurasia, Open Society Foundations (OSF)

12:30 – 13:30 Break

13:30 – 14:30 **Economic Forecasts and Medium-Term Outlook for Eastern Europe**

Richard Grieveson, Deputy Director, wiiw

Olga Pindyuk, Economist, wiiw

14:30 – 15:00 Break

15:00 – 16:00 **Post-COVID-19 Shortening of Value Chains: Is near-shoring an option?**

Branimir Jovanovic, Economist, wiiw

16:00 – 16:30 Break

16:30 – 18:00 **Panel Discussion: Eastern Europe in the 2020s**

Moderator: *Mario Holzner, Executive Director, wiiw*

Stephanie Eble, Regional Resident Representative, Office for the Western Balkans, International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Velina Tchakarova, Director, Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES)

Ivan Vejvoda, Permanent Fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM)

18:00 End of seminar

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wiiw Spring Seminar 2021

Brave New World? The economic and political challenges facing Eastern Europe after COVID-19

Over the last year, the COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally upended political, economic and social life in Europe. Although most of Central, East and Southeast Europe (CESEE) managed the first wave of the pandemic fairly well, the winter months were extremely tough for a lot of the region. Measures taken to restrict the spread of the virus have resulted in previously unthinkable restrictions on personal freedom, CESEE's worst economic downturn since the transition recessions of the early 1990s, and serious pressure on the region's often under-funded health and social security systems.

The worst may be over, but both the short- and medium-term outlook is highly uncertain. In this context, wiiw is organising its 2021 Spring Seminar, gathering some of the leading experts in the field to explore the potential difficulties facing CESEE in the coming years, and to consider how to meet them.

Coming out the crisis, it is likely that many things will change. Some of these may even be positive. The pandemic caused large swathes of economic life to be moved online in a matter of days, delivering a potentially game-changing boost to the digital economy, an area where parts of CESEE are already quite advanced. Increased nervousness about extended supply chains could lead big Western firms to 'near-shore' more production to CESEE. The pandemic fallout caused a short-term rapid increase in the size and role of the state in the economy in much of CESEE, with potentially long-term consequences. Maybe most importantly, the crisis has also revealed that--when deemed necessary--unprecedented fiscal resources can be pooled and quickly mobilised. This has important implications for other current and future challenges, not least the climate crisis.

Nevertheless, the potential negative implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath should not be underestimated. As emergency fiscal support is withdrawn, firms will face bankruptcy and many workers will be forced to look for other jobs. The digital shock should

over time create a large number of better paid jobs in the region, but the transition costs for workers could be severe. If bond markets become less willing to finance debt issuance, CESEE countries could be forced into another post-2008 style cycle of damaging fiscal austerity. The social costs of the crisis, not least in terms of mental health, are potentially huge.

Beyond all of this lie deeper questions for the region, which existed before COVID-19 and have certainly not gone away. In some EU member states in CESEE, independent institutions are facing their most serious threat since the collapse of communism. The Western Balkans has repeatedly struggled to achieve a strong and sustained pace of economic convergence with the EU, and accession to the bloc still looks to be many years in the future. Russia's relations with the EU meanwhile are as strained as ever, with negative knock-on effects for countries in between such as Ukraine. CESEE in general is exposed to wider geopolitical and geo-economic tensions, owing to both its high reliance on foreign trade to drive growth, and because of its history as a geopolitically contested zone. The euro area economy—by far CESEE's most important trading partner and source of capital inflows—will receive a major boost from the EU fiscal response to the pandemic, but it is far from clear that it will break out of its longer-term low-growth trajectory reinforced by too-tight fiscal policy. Finally, the massive expansion of central banks balance sheets since 2008 has gone much further in the current crisis. While this is clearly necessary and has prevented much worse economic and social outcomes, exiting this policy as the recovery takes hold could be fraught with risks, including for CESEE.

wiiw Experts' Breakfast: wiiw Autumn Forecast Eastern Europe

Tuesday, 19 October 2021, 10:00 CEST

The event will be held **online in English**, participation is **by invitation only**.

Please register here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ShjYBZ-zRIm1nG0tU_u-vq

Ahead of our press conference, we will present our latest economic forecasts 2021-2023 for [23 countries](#) of Eastern Europe and discuss some of the main economic trends within a small group of experts.

We will address the following questions:

- Why has economic recovery in Eastern Europe been stronger than expected?
- Has the pandemic left scars in the regional labour markets?
- What have been the main drivers of the recent increase in inflation?
- What is the outlook for inflation, and is monetary policy tightening in many East European countries justified?
- Why do budget deficits remain high in many countries despite the economic recovery?

What could be the economic fallout of the unfolding fourth wave of the pandemic?

wiiw Experts' Breakfast: wiiw Summer Forecast Eastern Europe

Tuesday, 6 July 2021, 9:00 CEST

The event will be held **online in English**.

Please register here:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_v2Gc0mPeReSWNuiFa0_elg

Ahead of our press conference to present our new forecast, wiiw hosts a smaller gathering of experts on Eastern Europe. The event takes place at a time, when the public health situation is improving in much of the region. However, major concerns about the spread of new variant of the virus remain. In this context, the Summer 2021 Expert Breakfast will serve as a forum to exchange perspectives on the current and future economic situation in the region.

We will address the following questions:

- How are the economies in Eastern Europe recovering from the pandemic?
- Will 2021 be better or worse than previously expected?
- Is the current increase in inflation just preliminary and will central banks increase interest rates?
- What could be the consequences for Austrian banks in the region?
- Is easy monetary policy likely to end soon in Eastern Europe?
- How are rising commodity prices affecting the region?
- Will Eastern European governments be pushed towards fiscal consolidation in the face of a strong economic recovery?
- What would rising COVID-19 cases in autumn mean for the region?
- Will tourism rebound this year and what would it imply for Austria?

Even if you have not previously participated in our event, we would be pleased to have you this time.

wiiw Experts' Breakfast: Spring 2021 Forecast for Eastern Europe

on **Wednesday, April 14th 2021, 9:00 CEST**

as an **online discussion, held in English.**

To register please use this link:

<https://wiiw.ac.at/wiiw-experts-breakfast-er-514.html>

Ahead of our press conference to formally announce our new forecasts in the Spring and Autumn, wiiw holds a smaller gathering of experts on Eastern Europe. This Spring, the event takes place in an usually turbulent time for the region, with new mutations of Covid-19 spreading rapidly, health systems under pressure, and many countries returning to lockdown. In this context, the Spring 2021 Experts' Breakfast will serve as a forum to exchange perspectives on the current and future economic situation in the region with other experts.

During the discussion, we aim to address the following questions:

- Has Eastern Europe sacrificed public health to keep the economy going over the winter, and do current vaccination rates suggest the region can get ahead of new mutations this year?
- What do renewed increases in infections and lockdowns mean for growth in 2021 and beyond? Is this a brief setback in the recovery, or is the worst yet to come?
- Some countries such as Serbia and Turkey have weathered the crisis remarkably well so far; will this last?
- What does the current crisis mean for the region in the medium and long term? Does it simply reinforce existing challenges, or has the pandemic driven changes from which Eastern Europe can benefit in the coming years?

Even if you have not previously taken part in this forum, we would be delighted to have you at this upcoming event.

2. wiiw Seminarreihen

2.1. GLOBAL ECONOMY LECTURE (MIT OENB)

Die *Global Economy Lecture* findet ein Mal pro Jahr statt und hat das Ziel, eine_n prominente_n Referent_in zum Thema International Economics einem breiteren Publikum vorzustellen. Die Veranstaltung wird in Kooperation mit der OeNB durchgeführt und findet in den Räumen der OeNB statt.

- › Sir Partha Dasgupta, Professor of Economics, University of Cambridge: Webinar: ‘*Viewing the future from the population-consumption-environment nexus*’, 3. November 2021

2.2. POLICY PERSPECTIVES FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Diese Seminarreihe *Policy Perspectives for European Integration* hat einen wirtschaftspolitischen Fokus und richtet sich nicht nur an Wissenschaftler_innen, sondern an eine breitere Öffentlichkeit.

Keine in 2021 (siehe stattdessen die Veranstaltungen in der Abteilung Webinare)

2.3. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS (IM RAHMEN DES FIW)

Das wiiw veranstaltet die Seminarreihe *Seminar in International Economics* in Kooperation mit dem FIW, Kompetenzzentrum „Forschungsschwerpunkt Internationale Wirtschaft, mit dem Ziel, aktuelle und im Entstehen befindliche Arbeiten zu diesem Themenschwerpunkt vorzustellen und zu diskutieren. Es werden sowohl wirtschaftspolitisch orientierte Arbeiten als auch theoretisch oder empirisch ausgerichtete Aufsätze vorgestellt.

- › Bálint Magyar, CEU Democracy Institute (Hungary): ‘*The Anatomy of Post-Communist Regimes: A Challenge to the Mainstream Comparative Approach*’, Webinar, 16. Dezember 2021
- › Katharina Erhardt, Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf (Germany): ‘*Empirical Productivity Distributions and International Trade*’, Webinar, 2. Dezember 2021
- › Roman Hoffmann, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (Austria): ‘*Climate Change and Internal Migration: Evidence from Global Census Data*’, Webinar, 4. November 2021
- › Simone Vannuccini, University of Sussex Business School (UK): ‘*Market Selection in Global Value Chains*’, Webinar, 14. Oktober 2021
- › Konstantin M. Wacker, University of Groningen (Netherlands): ‘*Growing imbalances of cross-border investment incomes: A ‘Fault Line’ in the Eurozone?*’, Webinar, 7. Oktober 2021
- › Tomasz Geodecki, Cracow University of Economics (Poland): ‘*The Domestication of value chains. Can the Visegrád Group countries benefit from the Chinese experience?*’, Webinar, 30. September 2021
- › Matt Burke, Bennett Institute for Public Policy and University of East Anglia: ‘*Rising Temperatures, Falling Ratings: The Effect of Climate Change on Sovereign Creditworthiness*’, Webinar, 10. Juni 2021

- › Alejandro Cuñat, University of Vienna: '*Bilateral Trade Imbalances*', Webinar, 6. Mai 2021
- › Francesco Fasani, Queen Mary University of London: '*Border Policies and Unauthorized Flows: Evidence from the Refugee Crisis in Europe*', Webinar, 29. April 2021
- › Yoto V. Yotov, Drexel University (Philadelphia, USA): '*From Theory to Policy with Gravitas: A Solution to the Mystery of the Excess Trade Balances*', Webinar, 25. März 2021
- › Joseph S. Shapiro, '*University of California: The environmental bias of trade policy*', Webinar, 18. März 2021
- › Armando Rungi, IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca: '*Predicting Exporters with Machine Learning*', Webinar, 4. März 2021
- › Rosario Crinò, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore: '*Robot Imports and Firm-Level Outcomes*', Webinar, 25. Februar 2021
- › Adam Pilat, University of Warsaw: '*Decentralized management model over the state ownership in Polish state owned enterprises*', Webinar, 28. Jänner 2021
- › Ahmad Lashkaripour, '*Indiana University: Trade, Firm-Delocation, and Optimal Climate Policy*', Webinar, 21. Jänner 2021

Global Economy Lecture: Viewing the future from the population-consumption-environment nexus (Webinar)

Sir Partha Dasgupta, Professor of Economics, University of Cambridge

Date and time

Wednesday, 3 November 2021, 4:00 pm (CET)

Venue

Online event via WebEx

Speaker

Partha Dasgupta, Emeritus Professor, University of Cambridge

Introduction

Robert Holzmann, Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank

Chair

Robert Stehrer, Scientific Director, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

Speaker biography and abstract

This year's Global Economy Lecture will be given by [Partha Dasgupta](#), Emeritus Professor at the University of Cambridge. Partha Dasgupta's research interests include the economics of poverty and nutrition and environmental economics. Recently he published "The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review," an independent, global review on the economics of biodiversity that was submitted to the UK Treasury in February 2021.

Abstract

It has now become customary to view humanity's overreach on the biosphere through the twin lenses of climate change and biodiversity loss. An enormous body of literature, emanating not only from governments, but also academia, NGOs and international organizations, has studied ways to eliminate the gap that now exists between what we demand from Nature and Nature's ability to meet that demand on a sustainable basis. These studies advocate three sets of changes to our behavior: (1) Shift our consumption and investment activities toward those that make fewer demands on Nature's goods and services. (2) Invest in Nature to raise Nature's ability to supply those goods and services. (3) Invest in technologies (e.g., clean energy) that enable us to transform Nature's goods and services into final products more efficiently. The studies have thus been framed from the perspectives of what may be

called the consumption-environment nexus. Unfortunately, even though population is also a factor in climate change and biodiversity loss, its role in our overreach on the biosphere remains missing in discussions. “The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review” is the first comprehensive study to have reminded us that the size and distribution of the human population is as salient a factor in humanity’s demand overreach as the character of our consumption and investment activities. The study has shown that the correct frame of reference for understanding the processes that have led to the overreach is the population-consumption-environment nexus. As illustration the Dasgupta Review has pointed to high population growth rates in some of the world’s poorest regions as being of especial concern for the future prospect of people in those very regions.

The Global Economy Lecture is jointly organized by the Oesterreichische Nationalbank and The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw).

Related Links

[The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review](#)



*In cooperation with
Research Centre International Economics (FIW)*

The Anatomy of Post-Communist Regimes: A Challenge to the Mainstream Comparative Approach

Bálint Magyar
CEU Democracy Institute (Hungary)

16 December 2021, 3:00 pm CET
Webinar

Description

The presentation is based on a book which is open access and can be downloaded for free from the authors' website, [postcommunistregimes.com](https://www.postcommunistregimes.com).

Abstract:

The Anatomy of Post-Communist Regimes (CEU Press, 2020) proposes a systematic renewal of the descriptive vocabulary used for the region's political, economic, and social phenomena. Focusing on Central Europe, the post-Soviet countries, and China, this study provides concepts and theories to analyze the actors, institutions, and dynamics of post-communist democracies, autocracies, and dictatorships.

Bálint Magyar (1952) is a sociologist and a liberal politician. An activist of the anti-communist dissident movement since 1979, he was one of the founding members and leaders of the Hungarian Liberal Party (SZDSZ). Former Member of Parliament (1990–2010), Minister of Education (1996-1998, 2002-2006). Currently, he is a fellow of the CEU Democracy Institute. His previous English-language books include Post-Communist Mafia State: The Case of Hungary (2016).

Related literature:

<https://www.postcommunistregimes.com>



*In cooperation with
Research Centre International Economics (FIW)*

Empirical Productivity Distributions and International Trade

Katharina Erhardt
Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf (Germany)

2 December 2021, 3:00 pm CET
Webinar

Description

The presentation is based on a [paper](#) co-authored with Peter H. Egger and Sergey Nigai.

Abstract:

We develop a novel theory-consistent methodology that allows us to recover nonparametric firm-level productivity distributions for 15 countries and 18 sectors using data on aggregated firm-level sales.

We use these distributions against the backdrop of a multi-sector version of a standard Melitz (2003) trade model to quantify the role of technology in shaping international trade flows. We find that, on average, absolute advantage measured as productivity differences across countries within sectors explains 14% of the total variation in bilateral trade shares. In contrast, on average, comparative advantage measured as productivity differences across sectors within countries explains 43% of the variation in trade flows in the workhorse model. We also demonstrate that empirical productivity distributions entail quantitatively important micro-to-macro implications for marginal responses of trade flows to changes in trade costs, for gravity-type estimation of trade models, and for comparative statics isomorphism between the customarily parameterized models of international trade. We confirm the theoretical predictions derived under empirical productivity distributions in the data.

Katharina Erhardt is professor of economics at Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf. Prior to this appointment she was a postdoctoral researcher at MIT and ETH Zürich. She completed her PhD at ETH Zürich in 2017.

Related literature:

What Goods Do Countries Trade? A Quantitative Exploration of Ricardo's Ideas
(<https://economics.mit.edu/files/7796>)

Welfare and Trade without Pareto (<https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.104.5.310>)

From Micro to Macro: Demand, Supply, and Heterogeneity in the Trade Elasticity
(<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S002219961730048X>)



*In cooperation with
Research Centre International Economics (FIW)*

Climate Change and Internal Migration: Evidence from Global Census Data

Roman Hoffmann
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (Austria)

4 November 2021, 3:00 pm CET
Webinar

Abstract:

In this paper, we provide a systematic comparative analysis of climate-induced internal migration across 69 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean based on the micro census data supplied by the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) International over the period 1960-2015. Using the data from 188 censuses, we construct a longitudinal database at the sub-national regional level (Geo 1 census regions) with information on bilateral migration flows between the regions. Migration is estimated based on information on the previous residence of the census participants five or ten years prior to the respective census date (Garcia et al. 2015). In total, the data contains information on internal migration from 1600 census regions allowing us to estimate approximately 98000 bilateral migration flows.

We use gravity-type fixed effects models to estimate internal migration flows induced by temperature and rainfall anomalies as well as drought taking into account both socioeconomic and climate drivers at the origin and destination. All models control for both region of origin as well as destination fixed effects and common time trends. We find a sizeable impact of negative precipitation anomalies, as well as weaker but significant impacts of heat anomalies and droughts on migration. Our findings furthermore suggest that also climatic conditions in destination regions influence migration flows to those regions. Fitting a series of spatial interaction models for different world regions, we find long-term heat stress increases out-migration in Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean while internal migration flows decline in Africa as the frequency of dry years increase. For the latter, the vulnerable subgroups of population may be 'trapped' in the place with unfavorable climatic conditions since they do not have necessary resources to facilitate outmigration (Black et al. 2013).

As next steps, we plan to extend our analysis to study not only whether and where climate-induced migration occurs, but also to better understand who migrates, under which conditions, and to which locations. For this, we will use rich information collected in the censuses about the socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of migrants as well as complementary data on the conditions in the origin as well as prospective destination regions. The results of our study have important implications in the

context of global policy discussions and highlight the role of contextual differences in shaping migration responses to climate change.

Roman Hoffmann is a research scholar at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis and he is also affiliated with the Vienna Institute of Demography of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. He holds a PhD in economics from the University of Vienna and degrees in sociology and economics from the University of Munich. In his applied research, he studies the relationship between environmental conditions, climate change and population dynamics as well as resulting implications for sustainable development. His work focuses on diverse topics related to climate impacts on human livelihoods, climate-induced migration, adaptation and resilience, and environmental health. In addition, he is interested in factors influencing climate change mitigation and sustainability, including drivers of environmental concerns, pro-environmental behaviors, and support for climate action. He has served as a consultant for UNIDO, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the German Development Cooperation (GIZ), and several non-governmental organizations.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Market Selection in Global Value Chains

Simone Vannuccini
University of Sussex Business School (UK)

14 October 2021, 4:00 pm
Webinar

Description

The idea that market selection promotes survival and expansion of the “fittest” producers is a key principle underlying theories of competition. Yet, despite its intuitive appeal, the hypothesis that companies with superior productivity also exhibit higher growth lacks empirical support. One reason for this is that companies are not “islands” that produce goods and services in isolation but depend on their suppliers in value chains, implying that excessive growth can also originate in the superior productive performance of these value-chain partners. Neglecting these dependencies in empirical tests of the selection hypothesis leads to measurement errors and may impair the identification of competition for the market.

In this paper, we use data from the World Input-Output Database to capture these global value-chain relationships in an empirical test for market selection, studying competition between country-sectors for a global market share in different economic activities. Compared to the conventional view that focuses on individual productivities, our value-chain perspective on the productivity-growth nexus provides stronger empirical support for market selection. This suggests that the scope of selection reaches beyond the level of individual producers and requires a systemic analysis of production networks. Our findings contribute to a better understanding of the determinants of selection in competitive environments and also represent a novel application of global value-chain data.

Simone Vannuccini is a Lecturer in the Economics of Innovation at the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex Business School. At the University of Sussex, he co-convenes the Research Mobilisation Group on Artificial Intelligence, is the Deputy Director of the Future of Work Hub, and the convenor of the SPRU Freeman Seminar series. Simone is also an Associated Fellow of the Graduate College 'The Economics of Innovative Change', Friedrich Schiller University Jena (Germany) and has been Adjunct Professor of Economics of Innovation at the University of Insubria (Italy), where currently is a Faculty Board Member of the PhD Program in Methods and Models for Economic Decisions. He also collaborates with the Center for Studies on Federalism in Turin (Italy). Before joining SPRU in February 2018, Simone has been working as Research Fellow (Post-doc) at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (Germany), where he also obtained his PhD in a joint programme with the Max

Planck Institute of Economics. Simone's research focuses on microeconomics of innovation and more precisely on the 'regular irregularities' of technical change: in particular, he studies the nature of 'general-purpose technologies' and their impact on industrial dynamics. More recently, he is working on the economics of artificial intelligence, especially the current AI-driven evolution of the semiconductor industry. Further themes of interest are the general-purposeness of AI, the economics of digitalisation and the industrial organisation of multi-sided platforms, and the modelling of industry life-cycles.

Related literature:

Cantner, U., Savin, I., & Vannuccini, S. (2019). Replicator dynamics in value chains: explaining some puzzles of market selection. *Industrial and Corporate Change*, 28(3), 589-611. Available at: <https://academic.oup.com/icc/article-abstract/28/3/589/5270858>

Mazzucato, M. (1998). A computational model of economies of scale and market share instability. *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics*, 9(1), 55-83.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Growing imbalances of cross-border investment incomes: A 'Fault Line' in the Eurozone?

Konstantin M. Wacker
University of Groningen (Netherlands)

7 October 2021, 3:00 pm
Webinar

Description

The investment income balance has become an important component of current account imbalances – magnitudes above 5% of GDP are not uncommon in major economies. This paper investigates trends, dynamics, and potential determinants of cross-border investment income flows. The essential question I explore in this paper is whether those investment income imbalances can become a substantial problem for countries in the Eurozone, which lacks the exchange rate as an adjustment mechanism for such imbalances.

I find no evidence for a particularly persistent or divergent pattern of imbalances in Euro area countries. However, investment incomes behave fundamentally different from other current account components and a negative association between the two is found exclusively for Euro area countries. This calls for a much more differentiated perspective on the current account in academic analysis and policy.

Konstantin M. Wacker is an assistant professor at University of Groningen, Netherlands. He has worked and consulted for the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Central Bank, UNU-WIDER, and the Austrian Central Bank. His research investigates questions of macroeconomic development and globalization, particularly foreign direct investment and export quality.

Related literature:

Alberola et al. (2020): "Global imbalances from a stock perspective: The asymmetry between creditors and debtors." *JIMF*: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jimonfin.2020.102206>

Joyce (2021): "The sources of international investment income in emerging market economies." *RIE*: <https://doi.org/10.1111/roie.12523>

Limbergen (2020): "Revisiting the investment income balance. What makes some EU countries different?" *IFC Bulletin*: https://www.bis.org/ifc/publ/ifcb52_05.pdf



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

The Domestication of value chains: Can the Visegrád Group countries benefit from the Chinese experience?

Tomasz Geodecki
Cracow University of Economics (Poland)

30 September 2021, 3:00 pm
Webinar

Description

Developing countries sometimes deploy local content requirements (LCRs) with a view to strengthening the capacity of domestic firms for industrial upgrading. They induce foreign lead firms to intensify cooperation with local suppliers and transfer technological knowledge in the process. The literature underscores the ineffectiveness of LCRs, as the gains for local suppliers tend to be offset by losses for final producers and consumers, yet treating LCRs as an innovation policy instrument may alter these outcomes. Taking the Chinese LCR policy pursued in 2004–2014 in the high-tech and medium-high-tech (HT&MHT) sectors as a starting point, we intend to consider whether or not it can be replicated by the Visegrád Group countries (or the V4, i.e. the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia). Apart from natural for the EU ban on violating free trade rules, the benefits of such policy would not offset the negative effects of decreased share of foreign demand. The authors' research hypothesis is that LCRs cannot actually become an effective tool of the V4's economic policy. In order to test it, three auxiliary questions were formulated: (1) Did the application of LCRs contribute to value-added in the Chinese economy?; (2) What were the mechanisms of LCRs' impact on value-added in Chinese HT&MHT sectors?; and (3) Can the V4 countries follow the Chinese development path?

Tomasz Geodecki is an assistant professor at Cracow University of Economics, Poland. He has taken part in several scientific and implementation projects and evaluations for public institutions in Poland and Europe. His research focus on topics of economics of public sector, innovation policy, development and industrial upgrading within global value chains.

Related literature:

Grossman, G. M. (1981). The theory of domestic content protection and content preference. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 96(4), 583–603.

<https://academic.oup.com/qje/article-abstract/96/4/583/1883394?redirectedFrom=PDF>

Stone, S., Messent, J., & Flaig, D. (2015). *Emerging policy issues: Localisation barriers to trade*. OECD Publishing; Paris.

<https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/5js1m6v5qd5j-en.pdf?expires=1632232226&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=81B50E9D0AFE8CA6F03D707B38EEE36B>

Veloso, F. M. (2006). Understanding local content decisions: Economic analysis and an application to the automotive industry. *Journal of Regional Science*, 46(4), 747–772.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/j.1467-9787.2006.00476.x>

Wübbecke, J., Meissner, M., Zenglein, M. J., Ives, J., & Conrad, B. (2016). Made in China 2025. *Mercator Institute for China Studies. Papers on China*, 2, 74.

<https://merics.org/en/report/made-china-2025>

Grodzicki, M. J., & Geodecki, T. (2016). New dimensions of core-periphery relations in an economically integrated Europe: The role of global value chains. *Eastern European Economics*, 54(5), 377–404. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00128775.2016.1201426>



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Rising Temperatures, Falling Ratings: The Effect of Climate Change on Sovereign Creditworthiness

Matt Burke

Bennett Institute for Public Policy and University of East Anglia

10 June 2021, 3:00 pm

Webinar

Description

The presentation is based on a [paper](#) co-authored with Klusak, P., Agarwala, M., Kraemer, M. and Mohaddes, K.

Enthusiasm for 'greening the financial system' is welcome, but a fundamental challenge remains: financial decision makers lack the necessary information. It is not enough to know that climate change is bad. Markets need credible, digestible information on how climate change translates into material risks. To bridge the gap between climate science and real-world financial indicators, we simulate the effect of climate change on sovereign credit ratings for 108 countries, creating the world's first climate-adjusted sovereign credit rating. Under various warming scenarios, we find evidence of climate-induced sovereign downgrades as early as 2030, increasing in intensity and across more countries over the century. We find strong evidence that stringent climate policy consistent with limiting warming to below 2°C, honouring the Paris Climate Agreement, and following RCP 2.6 could nearly eliminate the effect of climate change on ratings. In contrast, under higher emissions scenarios (i.e., RCP 8.5), 63 sovereigns experience climate-induced downgrades by 2030, with an average reduction of 1.02 notches, rising to 80 sovereigns facing an average downgrade of 2.48 notches by 2100. We calculate the effect of climate-induced sovereign downgrades on the cost of corporate and sovereign debt. Across the sample, climate change could increase the annual interest payments on sovereign debt by US\$ 22-33 billion under RCP 2.6, rising to US\$ 137-205 billion under RCP 8.5. The additional cost to corporates is US\$ 7.2-12.6 billion under RCP 2.6, and US\$ 35.8-62.6 billion under RCP 8.5.

Matt Burke is a Research Assistant at the Bennett Institute for Public Policy and Doctoral Candidate at the University of East Anglia. His main areas of interest are in the application of computational techniques to contemporary problems in finance and economics.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Bilateral Trade Imbalances

Alejandro Cuñat
University of Vienna

6 May 2021, 4:00 pm
Webinar

Description

This presentation is based on a [paper](#) co-authored with Robert Zymek.

Bilateral trade imbalances are determined by aggregate trade imbalances, production and expenditure patterns, and trade barriers. We calibrate a dynamic many-sector trade model to match the recent sectoral trade and production shares of 40 economies and the rest of the world. Through a variance decomposition and counterfactuals, the model allows us to assess the relative importance of these determinants for the observed variation in bilateral imbalances. Large pairwise asymmetries in residual trade “wedges” are needed for the model to match the data. These account for roughly 60% of the variation, with most of the rest due to differences in production and expenditure patterns. Aggregate trade imbalances play a minor role. A counterfactual trade policy which eliminates trade-wedge asymmetries would have sizeable effects on bilateral trade patterns and welfare. However, it would leave aggregate trade balances virtually unchanged.

Alejandro Cuñat studied Economics in Valencia and Harvard, where he got his PhD in June 2000. Since September 2009 he is Professor of Economics at the University of Vienna. Prior to this he held appointments at Università Bocconi, LSE and the University of Essex. His work focuses on International Economics. He often looks into the implications of international economic relations on macroeconomic outcomes (income per capita, economic growth, productivity growth, business cycles), but also does research on the determinants of trade patterns and the behavior of firms in the open economy. He has published, among others, in the *Economic Journal*, the *Journal of Development Economics*, the *Journal of the European Economic Association*, the *Journal of International Economics*, and the *Review of Economic Dynamics*.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Border Policies and Unauthorized Flows: Evidence from the Refugee Crisis in Europe

Francesco Fasani
Queen Mary University of London

29 April 2021, 4:00 pm
Webinar

Description

This presentation is based on a paper co-authored with T. Frattini.

In this paper, we first describe the size, composition and characteristics of the recent unauthorised migration flows through external European Union borders. We then assess the effectiveness of EU border enforcement policies in deterring or diverting migration flows across alternative routes. Our empirical analysis is based on a novel dataset of Frontex records on attempted illegal crossing by quarter, country of origin and route of entry in Europe for the period 2009-2017. These records are matched with a dataset - that we assembled - on the monthly EU budget spent on border enforcement and search and rescue operations on each route of entry. Our empirical analysis is threefold. First, we document the existence of a political cycle in enforcement spending at the external EU borders which is orthogonal to expected flows. Second, we use this result as a first stage to deal with the endogeneity of border policies and retrieve the causal impact of enforcement on unauthorized flows. Third, we analyse the effect of outsourcing border controls to a non-EU transit country (the 2016 EU-Turkey deal) on deterrence and diversion of unauthorized flows.

Francesco Fasani is Associate Professor (Reader) at the School of Economics and Finance, Queen Mary - University of London. He is a Research Affiliate at CEPR and a Research Fellow at CReAM and IZA. His main research interests are in Labour Economics, Applied Microeconometrics, and Economics of Migration and of Crime. His research has been published in leading economics journals such as the Journal of European Economic Association, Review of Economics and Statistics, Economic Journal, Journal of Development Economics, Industrial and Labor Relations Review and Journal of Economic Geography. He has acted as a consultant for the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Organization for Migration and the World Bank.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

From Theory to Policy with Gravitas: A Solution to the Mystery of the Excess Trade Balances

Yoto V. Yotov
Drexel University (Philadelphia, USA)

25 March 2021, 4:00 pm
Webinar

Description

This presentation is based on a [paper](#) co-authored with Gabriel Felbermayr (Kiel Institute & Kiel University).

Bilateral trade balances often play an important role in the international trade policy debate. Academic economists understand that they are misleading indicators of competitiveness and of the gains from trade. However, they also recognize their political relevance, calling for accurate statistical measurement and for more scholarly work. Disturbingly, Davis and Weinstein (2002) argue that the canonical gravity model of trade fails when confronted with bilateral trade balances data, dubbing this "The Mystery of the Excess Trade Balances". Capitalizing on the latest developments in the theoretical and empirical gravity literature, we demonstrate that the workhorse international trade model actually performs well in explaining bilateral trade balances. Moreover, in our data, only 11 to 13% of the variance in bilateral balances is due to asymmetric bilateral trade costs, belying beliefs that bilateral imbalances are driven by 'unfair' manipulation of terms-of-trade. We also perform several general equilibrium experiments within the same structural gravity framework to show that free trade agreements tend to exacerbate bilateral imbalances and that macroeconomic rebalancing leads to adjustment with all trade partners.

Yoto V. Yotov is a Professor at the School of Economics of the LeBow College of Business at Drexel University (Philadelphia, USA) and a Research Professor at the Center for International Economics of the ifo Institute, Leibniz Institute for Economic Research at the University of Munich. His professional interests are focused in the area of international trade and trade policy with emphasis on structural gravity modeling and estimation.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

The environmental bias of trade policy

Joseph S. Shapiro
University of California

18 March 2021, 3:00 pm
Webinar

Description

The presentation is based on a [paper](#) with the same title.

This paper describes a new fact, then analyzes its causes and consequences: in most countries, import tariffs and non-tariff barriers are substantially lower on dirty than on clean industries, where an industry's "dirtiness" is defined as its carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions per dollar of output. This difference in trade policy creates a global implicit subsidy to CO₂ emissions in internationally traded goods and so contributes to climate change. This global implicit subsidy to CO₂ emissions totals several hundred billion dollars annually. The greater protection of downstream industries, which are relatively clean, substantially accounts for this pattern. The downstream pattern can be explained by theories where industries lobby for low tariffs on their inputs but final consumers are poorly organized. A quantitative general equilibrium model suggests that if countries applied similar trade policies to clean and dirty goods, global CO₂ emissions would decrease and global real income would change little.

Joseph S. Shapiro is Associate Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, in Agricultural & Resource Economics and the Department of Economics. He also serves as Associate Editor of the *Journal of Political Economy*, Co-Editor of the *Journal of Public Economics*, Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and Research Associate at the Energy Institute at Haas. His research agenda focuses on three general questions: (1) How do international trade policy and environmental policy interact? (2) What are the costs, benefits, and incidence of water pollution and other environmental policy? (3) How important are the investments that people make to protect themselves against air pollution and climate change? Shapiro has received an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship and Marshall Scholarship, and funding from the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency. He was previously Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at Yale. Shapiro holds a Ph.D. in economics from MIT, Masters degrees from Oxford and LSE, and a BA from Stanford.

Related papers:

Antras et al. AERPP 2012 "Measuring the Upstreamness..."

<https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.102.3.412>

Cherniwchan, Copeland, and Taylor Annual Reviews 2017, "Trade and the Environment"

<https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev-economics-063016-103756>

Shapiro and Walker AER 2018, "Why is Pollution..."

<https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.20151272>



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Predicting Exporters with Machine Learning

Armando Rungi
IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca

4 March 2021, 3:00 pm
Webinar

Description

The presentation is based on a paper with the same title co-authored with Francesca Micocci.

In this contribution, we exploit machine learning techniques to predict a firm's ability to export. In a pure prediction framework, we train a Bayesian Additive Regression Tree (BART) on the financial accounts of 57,021 manufacturing firms in France in the period 2010-2018. We obtain a relatively high accuracy of prediction, with a precision-recall at 0.91. Then, we show how predictions could be of help in assessing a firm-level exporting score, i.e., the distance of a firm from export status. We argue our exporting score has the potential to inform target-specific and evidence-based policies of internationalization.

Armando Rungi is an Assistant Professor of Industrial Organization and International Trade at IMT Lucca, working for the research unit AXES (Analysis of Complex Economic Systems). He obtained his PhD at the Bocconi University, where he also graduated in international economics.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Robot Imports and Firm-Level Outcomes

Rosario Crinò
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

25 February 2021, 3:00 pm
Webinar

Description

The presentation is based on a paper co-authored with Alessandra Bonfiglioli, Harald Fadinger and Gino Gancia.

We use French data over the 1994-2013 period to study how imports of industrial robots affect firm-level outcomes. Compared to other firms operating in the same 5-digit sector, robot importers are larger, more productive, and employ a higher share of managers and engineers. Over time, robot import occurs after periods of expansion in firm size, and is followed by improvements in efficiency and a fall in demand for labor. Guided by a simple model, we develop various empirical strategies to identify the causal effects of robot adoption. Our results suggest that, while demand shocks generate a positive correlation between robot imports and employment, exogenous changes in automation lead to job losses. We also find that robot imports increase productivity and the employment share of high-skill professions, but have a weak effect on total sales. The latter result suggests that productivity gains from automation may not be entirely passed on to consumers in the form of lower prices.

Rosario Crinò is Professor of Economics at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan. Previously, he was Post-Doc Researcher at the Institute of Economic Analysis-CSIC in Barcelona and Assistant Professor at CEMFI in Madrid. He is Research Fellow of CEPR and CESifo. His research deals with the effects of globalization on labor market, innovation and firm performance.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Decentralized management model over the state ownership in Polish state owned enterprises

Adam Piłat
University of Warsaw

28 January 2021, 4:00 pm
Webinar

Description

A preliminary analysis of the three-year experiment.

Most of the previous studies of the SOEs is focused on the comparison of the performance of state-owned and private companies. Empirical analyses of the decentralized and centralized systems of ownership management are very scarce. From the beginning of 2017 new regulation of the state ownership management is in force in Poland – it was introduced to increase efficiency of the supervision and management over the SOEs. Empirical evaluation of the reform is the main goal of the study. Main hypotheses assume that reform introduced from the beginning of 2017 entailed improvement of profitability and effectiveness of the Polish SOEs. In order to empirically evaluate the hypotheses difference-in-differences approach and panel data model were applied. Results reveal underperformance of the Polish SOEs in comparison to their private counterparties but do not provide sufficient proof of significant impact of the reform.

Adam Piłat is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of Warsaw, associated with the Chair of Political Economy. His non-academic career is currently connected with the Polish state development bank, where he is employed as an analyst. In past he studied economics at the Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of Warsaw as well as law at the Faculty of Law and Administration, and he has master's degree in both fields. His main research interests are focused on corporate welfare, and he is also working on Polish state-owned enterprises and the state role in the economy in general.



Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Trade, Firm-Delocation, and Optimal Climate Policy

Ahmad Lashkaripour
Indiana University

21 January 2021, 4:00 pm
Webinar

Description

The presentation is based on a [publication with the same title](#).

To what extent can trade policy help reduce global carbon emissions? We examine this question using a multi-country multi-industry general equilibrium trade model with transboundary carbon externalities. Our framework accommodates firm-delocation in response to policy, multi-lateral carbon leakage, and returns to scale in production and abatement. Our central result is a set of simple formulas for unilaterally optimal trade and carbon taxes in an open economy. The optimal policy consists of (i) a uniform carbon tax across all industries; (ii) industry-level production subsidies that restore marginal-cost-pricing independent of the industry's carbon intensity; (iii) industry-level import taxes that penalize carbon-intensive imports but less so in high-returns-to-scale industries; and (vi) industry-level export subsidies that, in addition to improving the terms of trade, promote clean exports against carbon-intensive foreign competition. Mapping our formulas to data, we find that trade taxes can replicate only around 3% of the carbon reduction attainable under (first-best) cooperative global carbon taxes. This lack of effectiveness is partly driven by a tension between the carbon-reducing and terms-of-trade rationales for trade taxation under scale economies. Trade taxes, however, can be remarkably effective at enforcing international climate agreements even in the presence of scale economies and firm-delocation effects.

Ahmad Lashkaripour is Assistant Professor of Economics at the Indiana University (USA). He received his Ph.D. from the Pennsylvania State University in 2014. His research is focused on quantifying the consequences of globalization and international trade agreements. Ahmad's work has been published in the American Economic Journal, the Journal of International Economics, and the Journal of the European Economic Association. His current research measures the effectiveness of trade policy in tackling misallocation and climate change.

3. Webinare und Events zu speziellen Themen

3.1. SPECIAL EVENTS

- › Webinar: '30 Years of Reforms since the Collapse of the USSR: Lessons from Economic Transformation', Sergei Guriev, Tymofiy Mylovanov, Olga Pindyuk, Moderation: Valerie Hopkins, 15. Dezember 2021
- › Webinar, panel discussion: 'Yugoslavia, 30 years on', on the break-up of Yugoslavia', Vesna Pusić, Mojmir Mrak, Vladimir Gligorov, Veton Surroi and Branimir Jovanović (Chair), 23. Juni 2021
- › Webinar, Panel Diskussion: 'Westbalkan: Geschichte in Jugoslawien, Zukunft in der EU?', anlässlich des 30. Jahrestages des Zerfalls Jugoslawiens, Valentin Inzko, Klaus Wölfer, Hannes Swoboda, Adelheid Wöfl und Mario Holzner (Chair), 23. Juni 2021
- › Webinar, panel discussion and presentation: 'Getting Stronger after COVID-19? Nearshoring Potential in the Western Balkans', Tatjana Sterjova, panel: Bojan Stanić and Dirk Bantel, Ognjenka Lalović, presentation: Branimir Jovanović, Sophia Kluge and Olga van Zijverden, Ravik Mima (moderation), 27. Mai 2021
- › Webinar, panel discussion: 'Getting Stronger after COVID-19? Nearshoring Potential in the Western Balkans', Olga van Zijverden, Sophia Kluge, Tatjana Sterjova Duskovska and Branimir Jovanović, Richard Grieveson (Chair), 19. Mai 2021
- › Webinar: 'Can mass Antigen testing for COVID-19 be an effective tool for mitigating the disease? Lessons from Slovakia', Martin Kahanec (CEU) on Epidemiology, Economics, Politics, 30 März 2021

3.2. WEBINARE

- › 'Ukraine's integration in the EU common market: Achievements in the framework of the Association Agreement and the need for modernization', Veronika Movchan, Olga Pindyuk (Moderator), 1. Dezember 2021
- › 'wiiw Autumn Economic Forecast for Eastern Europe', The latest economic forecasts for 2021-2023, 20. Oktober 2021
- › Panel discussion: 'India's Covid Crisis in the global context', with prominent experts from India and abroad – Shada Islam, Jayati Ghosh and K. Sujatha Rao, 12 Mai 2021
- › 'Eastern Europe: Is the worst still to come?', wiiw Spring Economic Forecast for Eastern Europe, 15. April 2021
- › Panel discussion: 'Does EU membership facilitate convergence? Discussing the experience of the EU's eastern enlargement and the challenges of the future', with Beata Javorcik, Debora Revoltella, Jan Svejnar, István P. Székely, Moderator: Michael Landesmann, 11. März 2021
- › Presentation and panel discussion: 'The EU Budgetary Package 2021 to 2027 Almost Finalised. An Assessment', with Thomas Reininger (OeNB), Zsolt Darvas (Bruegel), Margit Schratzenstaller (wifo) and Michael Landesmann (wiiw), 1. März 2021

- › Panel discussion: 'Social Consequences of Covid-19', with Maria Jepsen, Bart Vanhercke, Georg Fischer & Michael Landesmann, 19. Jänner 2021
- › Panel discussion: 'Can Iran's economy come back to life under a Biden presidency?', with Sanam Vakil, Hassan Hakimian, Mahdi Ghodsi & Richard Grieveson, 12. Jänner 2021

30 Years of Reforms since the Collapse of the USSR: Lessons from Economic Transformation

Date

15 December 2021, 3:00 pm CET

Venue

Webinar

Description

Today – three decades after the dissolution of the USSR – two competing views on the history of transformation prevailed. For the developed world, the end of the Soviet Union marked the ultimate triumph of liberal democracy and market economy ('the end of history', according to Francis Fukuyama). For many citizens of the former USSR, however, the transition years are associated with economic collapse, growing social insecurity and political conflict.

These differing perceptions are hard to reconcile without understanding the reasons and outcomes of the economic transformation in the former USSR. The unravelling of the structural problems inherited from the command economy - a dominant public sector, heavily subsidised firms, high budget deficits or a lack of small and medium-sized enterprises - to name a few - has taken much longer than expected and is still not fully completed. The Soviet legacy still weighs heavily on its successor states and continues to influence their economic and political development.

Our panel discussion – with all panellists being both active researchers and witnesses of the economic transformation – will provide an account on the key results of the transition process and answer the most important questions:

- › Who are the winners and losers of three decades of economic transformation?
- › What were the biggest reform mistakes and why did the implementation frequently proceed in a push-pull manner?
- › What are the main legacies of the transition process and how do they determine the modern development agenda of post-Soviet countries today?
- › What does this mean for the future of the post-Soviet states?

Speakers

[Sergei Guriev](#), Professor of Economics at the [Instituts d'études politiques in Paris \(Sciences Po\)](#). He was Chief Economist at the [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development](#) (2016-2019) and earlier Rector at the [New Economic School](#) (NES) in Moscow.

[Tymofiy Mylovanov](#), President of [Kyiv School of Economics](#), Associate Professor of the [University of Pittsburgh](#), former Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Agriculture of Ukraine

[Olga Pindyuk](#), Economist and Country Expert for Ukraine and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) at the [Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies](#)

Moderation: [Valerie Hopkins](#), Moscow Correspondent, [The New York Times](#)

Related News

[30 years without the USSR: outcomes and lessons](#)

Related Publications

[Monthly Report No. 12/2021](#)

Expanding the Technological Frontier of Macroeconomic Modeling

Panel discussion on the break-up of Yugoslavia

Date

23 June 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

It is now 30 years since the start of the dissolution of Yugoslavia. The traumatic break-up and difficult legacy have spawned a huge amount of scholarly work in political science, international relations, and economics. Meanwhile, as the latest discussion around territorial changes reminds us, many of the most contentious issues of the 1990s are still very much alive. In this webinar, political and economic experts from the region will discuss why Yugoslavia broke apart so dramatically and the developments since. Panellists will exchange views on why both the region's EU integration and economic catch-up processes have been so disappointing in the past 30 years, and how policy might now change at the local and EU levels to achieve stability and economic prosperity for the countries of the former Yugoslavia.

The panel

[Vesna Pusić](#), Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia

[Mojmir Mrak](#), Full Time Professor and Jean Monnet Chair holder at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana

[Vladimir Gligorov](#), wiiw Senior Research Associate and former Country Expert for the Western Balkans

[Veton Surroi](#), Founder and former Leader of the political party ORA and of the Kosovo Albanian newspaper Koha Ditore

[Branimir Jovanovic](#) (Chair), wiiw Economist and Balkan Expert

Panelists' backgrounds

[Vesna Pusić](#) is a Croatian sociologist and politician who served as First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs in the centre-left cabinet of Zoran Milanović (2011-2016). She was chairing Croatia's National Committee for Monitoring EU Accession Negotiations. Today, she is Professor of Sociology and Political Theory at the University of Zagreb Associate and member of the InterAction Council. Ms. Pusić is the author of five books and numerous scientific and professional articles.

[Mojmir Mrak](#) is Full Time Professor and Jean Monnet Chair holder at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana. He has more than 25 years of experience in designing and implementing the Slovenian Government's policy in areas of international finance and EU accession. Between 1997 and 2004, he acted as the Chief Advisor of the Slovenian Government on financial aspects of the country's EU accession process. His main research fields include international capital flows, national and EU public finances, and EU accession. Mojmir Mrak is author, co-author and editor of numerous books published by international publishers and respective international journals.

[Vladimir Gligorov](#) is wiiw Senior Research Associate and former country expert for the Western Balkans. He was co-founder of the Democratic Party of Serbia in 1989 and supporter of many democratic movements in former Yugoslavia at that time. He was also associated with the Columbia University, Belgrade University, the Institute of Economic Sciences in Belgrade, the Center for the Study of Public Choice at George Mason University and Uppsala University, Sweden. Vladimir Gligorov has been a regular contributor to Oxford Analytica, the Wall Street Journal and writes for several newspapers and weeklies in Southeast Europe.

[Veton Surroi](#) is founder and former leader of the political party ORA and of the Kosovo Albanian newspaper Koha Ditore. In 1989, he established the first opposition group in Kosovo, the Kosovar branch of the "Yugoslav Democratic Initiative" (UJDI). Veton Surroi was also member of the Kosovar parliament (2004-2008) and participated in the Vienna negotiations on the independence of Kosovo. He received many awards for his work as a journalist and politician, among other the prize of the International Federation of Journalists, the Dutch peace award – the Geuzen Prize and the SEEMO Human Rights Award.

[Branimir Jovanovic](#) (Chair) is wiiw Economist and Country expert for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. His current research focuses on economic inequality, poverty, fiscal policy, taxation, social policies, labour rights, as well as financial crises and post-crises recoveries. Previously, he has done research on monetary policy, credit activity, exchange rates, trade, FDI, remittances, current account sustainability, forecasting, house prices. He has been adviser to the Minister of Finance of North Macedonia between 2017 and 2019 and researcher at the Central Bank of North Macedonia between 2007 and 2015. He has a PhD from University of Rome "Tor Vergata".

Related Publications

[Monthly Report No. 6/2021](#)

Westbalkan: Geschichte in Jugoslawien, Zukunft in der EU?

Online-Diskussion anlässlich des 30. Jahrestages des Zerfalls Jugoslawiens

Datum

23 June 2021, 10:00 am CEST

Ort

Webinar

Beschreibung

Die meisten Nachfolgestaaten Jugoslawiens, ebenso wie Albanien, befinden sich seit nunmehr 15 Jahren im Wartesaal der EU. Selbst für jene Länder, die den Beitrittsprozess begonnen haben, liegt die EU-Mitgliedschaft noch in weiter Ferne. Angesichts der politischen Dynamik in Teilen Westeuropas darf bezweifelt werden, ob sie jemals Realität wird. Die Enttäuschung über diesen langwierigen Prozess ist in der Region deutlich spürbar. Viele Menschen verlassen weiterhin ihre Heimat, während der politische und wirtschaftliche Einfluss Chinas, Russlands und der Türkei stetig wächst.

In diesem Panel diskutieren namhafte ExpertInnen über den aktuellen Stand des EU-Erweiterungsprozesses sowie darüber, wie dieser beschleunigt werden kann. Was können die EU, aber auch die Länder des Westbalkans selbst dafür tun, um ihn voranzutreiben? Welche Rolle spielen dabei Erweiterungs-Befürworter wie Österreich und die regionale Zusammenarbeit zwischen den Westbalkanstaaten? Sollten vielleicht Vorstufen eines EU-Beitrittes in Betracht gezogen werden, um die Zukunft des Westbalkans in der EU zu sichern?

Panel

[Valentin Inzko](#), Hoher Repräsentant und EU-Sonderbeauftragter für Bosnien und Herzegowina

[Klaus Wölfer](#), Botschafter a.D.

[Hannes Swoboda](#), wiiw Präsident

[Adelheid Wölfl](#), Südosteuropa-Korrespondentin, Der Standard

[Mario Holzner](#) (Chair), wiiw Geschäftsführer

Panelisten

[Valentin Inzko](#) ist seit 1981 in der österreichischen Südosteuropa-Diplomatie tätig. Er war österreichischer Botschafter in Slowenien und Bosnien-Herzegowina. Von 1999 bis 2005 leitete er die für Zentral-, Ost- und Südeuropa sowie für Zentralasien und den Südkaukasus zuständige Abteilung im österreichischen Außenministerium. Im Jahr 2009 wurde er zum Hohen Repräsentanten der Internationalen Gemeinschaft für Bosnien und Herzegowina ernannt. Zu seinen weiteren diplomatischen Stationen zählten die Tätigkeit als österreichischer Vertreter bei den Vereinten Nationen und als stellvertretender Direktor der UN-Abrüstungsmission.

[Klaus Wölfer](#) war bis April 2021 Sonderbeauftragter für den Westbalkan bzw. seit 2017 Direktor für Südosteuropa und EU-Erweiterung im österreichischen Außenministerium und koordinierte als solcher Österreichs Beziehungen zu den Staaten der Region bzw. Fragen des EU-Erweiterungs-, Stabilisierungs- und Assoziierungsprozesses. Der Balkanexperte war bereits von 1986 bis 1990 als Botschaftssekretär an der österreichischen Botschaft in Belgrad (SFR Jugoslawien) und danach in Zagreb sowie bis 1995 am Balkan-Desk in Wien tätig. Von 2006 bis 2017 war Klaus Wölfer österreichischer Botschafter in Jakarta, Singapur und zuletzt in Ankara (2012 bis 2017).

[Hannes Swoboda](#) ist Präsident des wiiw und des Internationalen Instituts für Frieden, sowie Vorsitzender des Institutsvorstandes des Sir Peter Ustinov Institutes. Nach Österreichs EU-Beitritt wurde er ins Europäische Parlament berufen und war dort von 2012 bis 2014 Vorsitzender der Fraktion der Progressiven Allianz der Sozialisten und Demokraten. Durch seinen regionalen Fokus auf Südosteuropa, Zentralasien und Russland und seine beträchtlichen Beiträge im Kampf gegen politischen Extremismus ist Swoboda ein anerkannter Experte der europäischen Integration.

[Adelheid Wölfl](#) hat einen Master in vergleichenden Sozialwissenschaften und ihre Ausbildung zur Journalistin bei dem Wochenmagazin profil und an der Universität Wien gemacht. Ab 2004 arbeitete sie zunächst als Redakteurin im Ressort Außenpolitik in Wien, wo sie sich für den Raum Südosteuropa spezialisierte. Sie ist seit 2012 Korrespondentin für den Standard und für viele andere Zeitungen und lebt in Sarajevo, von wo aus sie die gesamte Region bereist.

[Mario Holzner \(Chair\)](#) ist Geschäftsführer des wiiw und koordiniert dort die Institutsarbeit zur europäischen Wirtschaftspolitik. Er hat lange Zeit über den Westbalkan geforscht und sich in jüngerer Zeit mit Fragen von Infrastrukturinvestitionen in einem größeren Europa beschäftigt und eine europäische Seidenstraße konzipiert. Mario Holzner ist außerdem Lektor für angewandte Ökonometrie an der Universität Wien.

Publikation

[Monthly Report No. 6/2021](#)

Getting stronger after COVID-19?

Nearshoring potentials in the Western Balkans

Date

27 May 2021, 10:00 am CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

The pandemic brought global supply chains into disarray and has made companies think about increasing the resilience of their production through shorter supply chains, geographically closer locations and increased inventories. A new study by the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, the Western Balkans Chamber Investment Forum (WB6 CIF), GTAI and the Western Balkans Chamber Partnership examines how the Western Balkans could benefit from a possible restructuring of international production and a nearshoring trend.

The strengths and potentials of the Western Balkans as an investment location will be discussed by a panel of chamber and company representatives.

Agenda

Welcome: Tatjana Sterjova Duskovska, Secretary General, WB6 CIF

Presentation of the main study findings: Branimir Jovanović, Economist, wiiw
Sophia Kluge and Olga van Zijverden, Coordinators of the Chamber Partnership Western Balkans

Panel discussion: Strengths and potentials of the WB6

Bojan Stanić (Assistant Director of Sector for Strategic Analysis, Services and Internationalization, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia)

Dirk Bantel (Managing Director, Vossloh-Schwabe), Zoran Nikolovski (Aktiva)

Conclusions: Implications and action points

Ognjenka Lalović, Director Economy Department, Foreign Trade Chamber of BiH

Discussion, Q&A with audience

The event will be moderated by Ravik Mima

Organisation

The study was prepared in cooperation with the Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Albania, the Foreign Trade Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Kosovo Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, the Economic Chamber of Macedonia, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, the Western Balkans six Chamber Investment Forum, the Chamber Partnership Western Balkans, and Germany Trade and Invest. It was financially supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany).

Publication

[Getting Stronger After COVID-19: Nearshoring Potential in the Western Balkans](#)

Getting stronger after COVID-19?

Nearshoring potentials in the Western Balkans

Date

19 May 2021, 10:00 am CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown global supply chains into disarray, decimating foreign direct investment and generating uncertainty unlike anything seen since World War II. **In our new study**, 'Getting Stronger after COVID-19: Nearshoring Potential in the Western Balkans', we investigate whether Western Balkan economies can benefit from possible restructuring of international production after the pandemic, and what can be done to benefit fully from these potential changes. **The main findings of the study will be presented in this online event** by some of its co-authors.

The study was prepared in cooperation with the Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Albania, the Foreign Trade Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Kosovo Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, the Economic Chamber of Macedonia, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, the Western Balkans six Chamber Investment Forum, the Chamber Partnership Western Balkans, and Germany Trade and Invest. It was financially supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany).

The panel

[Olga van Zijverden](#) is coordinating the "Chamber Partnership Western Balkans". She holds a Masters Degree in European Studies and has previously worked on various publicly funded projects for European Institutions and German Federal Ministries.

[Sophia Kluge](#) works at the Chamber Partnership Western Balkans project, supporting the WB6 chambers of commerce in strengthening their regional network. She has Master's degrees in Sociology and South-East European Studies and has worked particularly in the fields of education policy, social inclusion and development cooperation in the Western Balkans.

[Tatjana Sterjova Duskovska](#) is the Secretary General of the Western Balkans 6 Chamber Investment Forum. She has more than 10 years of experience in the Economic Chamber of North Macedonia. She holds a PhD in law.

[Branimir Jovanovic](#) is an Economist at wiiw, covering the Western Balkans. He has carried out applied economic research projects on a wide range of topics. He was an adviser to the Minister of Finance of North Macedonia between 2017 and 2019 and was a researcher at the Central Bank of North Macedonia between 2007 and 2015. He holds a PhD from the University of Rome 'Tor Vergata'.

[Richard Grieveson](#) (Chair) is Economist and Deputy Director at wiiw. His research focus includes Turkey and the Balkans, CESEE country analysis and forecasting, migration, economic history, and sovereign risk.

Publication

[Getting Stronger After COVID-19: Nearshoring Potential in the Western Balkans](#)

Can mass Antigen testing for COVID-19 be an effective tool for mitigating the disease? Lessons from Slovakia

Martin Kahanec (CEU) on Epidemiology, Economics, Politics

Date

30 March 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

More than a year since the first outbreak in China in December 2019, most countries are still struggling to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. Mass antigen testing has been proposed as an instrument to mitigate the spread of the disease and allow the economy to re-open. We investigate the potential benefits of mass antigen testing for the mitigation of the pandemic using data from a uniquely designed testing that took place in Slovakia in Autumn 2020. Slovakia was the first country in the world to implement and repeat mass rapid antigen testing. After the first round of nation-wide testing, only districts above an ex-ante unknown prevalence threshold were re-tested.

Comparing districts in the neighbourhood above and below the threshold using a quasi-experimental design, we find that repeated mass antigen testing reduces infections by about 25-30% and results in a decrease in R_0 of 0.3 two weeks after the testing. These effects peaked about 15 days after the second round of testing and gradually dissipated afterwards. These results suggest that mass testing could be an effective tool in curbing the spread of COVID-19 but for lasting effects it would need to be conducted regularly in relatively short intervals.

Since this analysis was undertaken, the virus has spread rapidly in much of Central Europe, including Slovakia. After presenting his main results, Martin Kahanec will discuss what has gone wrong since the Autumn in the region with wiiw Executive Director Mario Holzner, and give his thoughts on how testing strategies can help to get on top of the current wave of the pandemic. Questions will also be taken from the audience.

Martin Kahanec is Professor and Acting Dean of the School of Public Policy at the Central European University in Vienna. His main research interests are labor and population economics, migration, EU mobility, ethnicity, and reforms in European labor markets. Martin Kahanec has published in peer-reviewed academic journals, contributed chapters in collected volumes including the Oxford Handbook

of Economic Inequality (OxfordUP) and the International Handbook on the Economics of Migration (Edward Elgar), and has edited several scientific book volumes and journal special issues.

Publication

[Paper: The Impact of Mass Antigen Testing for COVID-19 on the Prevalence of the Disease](#)

Ukraine's integration in the EU common market

Date

1 December 2021, 4:00 pm CET

Venue

Webinar

Description

For more than seven years, relations between Ukraine and the EU have been governed by the Association Agreement (AA), the most ambitious international agreement Ukraine has ever concluded. The most specific commitments of the Parties were undertaken in the framework of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) and economic cooperation aiming at achieving Ukraine's integration into the EU internal market. Ukraine is obliged to adopt and practically implement the *acquis* - legal norms, regulations and technical standards of the EU - in exchange for commitments of the EU to integrate Ukraine into the internal market of the EU. In general, except for the European Economic Area and the candidate countries, the EU has never been so open to its internal market to third countries.

Albeit with delays, Ukraine has been fulfilling its obligations regarding adjustment of technical barriers, customs procedures, telecommunications, postal and courier services, inland water transport, the natural gas market and the first three stages of public procurement. However, actual progress in economic integration into the EU market till now has been made in only two areas. It is essential that the EU strengthens its commitments to regular verification of Ukraine's progress in and to deepening of the economic integration within the AA (in particular, concluding agreements with Ukraine on road, railroad, and inland waterway transport). Additionally, it is important to integrate the European Green Deal into the framework of Ukraine's economic integration into the EU market. This primarily affects energy, transport, technical regulation and sanitary and phytosanitary measures, public procurement, and financial services. Without considering the Green Deal, effective AA modernisation and sectoral integration would be impossible.

Speaker

[Veronika Movchan](#), Academic Director, Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting, Ukraine

Veronika Movchan is an Academic Director of the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (IER) and a member of the VoxUkraine Editorial Board. She specializes in trade policy analysis and modeling. Recently she has been focused on impact analysis of the DCFTAs with the EU.

[Olga Pindyuk](#) (**Moderator**), Economist, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

Olga Pindyuk is Economist at wiiw. Her research focuses on foreign trade, in particular trade in services, and financial markets. She is also country expert for Ukraine and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). She has extensive experience with services trade data and does research on modelling trade costs in services trade and on linkages between producer services trade and manufacturing. Previously, she worked as a consultant with the World Bank (Ukraine office) and the DFID Ukraine Trade Policy Project.

Related Link

[Study Integration within the Association: Implementation Dynamics of the EU-Ukraine Agreement, IER, 2021](#)

wiiw Autumn Economic Forecast for Eastern Europe

The latest economic forecasts for 2021-2023

Date

20 October 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

wiiw will present its latest economic forecasts 2021-2023 for 23 countries of Eastern Europe, with a detailed analysis of the current economic situation and most relevant trends.

The following questions will be addressed:

- › Why has the economic recovery in Eastern Europe been stronger than expected?
- › What is the pandemic's impact on regional labour markets?
- › What are the main drivers of the recent increase in inflation?
- › What is the outlook for inflation? Is the tightening of monetary policy in many Eastern European countries justified?
- › Why do budget deficits remain high in many countries despite the economic recovery?
- › What could be the economic fallout from the unfolding fourth wave of the pandemic?

Presentation

The presentation will be held **in English**. Attendees will have the **opportunity to ask questions**.

Presenter: Vasily Astrov

Moderator: Richard Grieveson

[Vasily Astrov](#) is Economist at wiiw and editor of the wiiw Monthly Report. He is also country expert on Russia and other CIS countries. His research focuses on macroeconomic analysis and energy issues.

[Richard Grieveson](#) is Economist and Deputy Director at wiiw. His research focus includes Turkey and the Balkans, CESEE country analysis and forecasting, migration, economic history, and sovereign risk.

Publication

[Recovery Beating Expectations](#)

India's Covid Crisis in the global context

Panel discussion with prominent experts from India and abroad

Date

12 May 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

The exponential explosion of COVID-19 cases in India has revealed major deficiencies in the country's political and public health system. However, global mechanisms of vaccine production and distribution have also helped to push the world's largest vaccine producer into a humanitarian catastrophe.

Questions that will be addressed:

- › India accounts currently for over 40% of global daily infections. How has it come to this and how can this wave of the pandemic be contained?
- › What are the implications for other developing and emerging economies?
- › What has to be done at the global level and what is preventing a more comprehensive global vaccination campaign?
- › Is the EU doing enough to fight COVID-19 globally? Can there be a significant shift of policy in the coming months?

The panel

[Shada Islam](#) is an influential specialist on EU affairs who works independently as a commentator, advisor, analyst and strategist on Europe, Asia, Africa, Geopolitics, Trade, Migration, Inclusion, Diversity and Women's Empowerment. She is a member of the European Policy Centre's Strategic Council and a Non-Resident Fellow at the Center for Global Development. Shada is also Visiting Professor at the College of Europe (Natolin) and a Solvay Fellow at the Vrije University Brussel (VUB). She runs her own Brussels-based global strategy and advisory media company, New Horizons Project (NHP). In 2017, she was selected as one of the 20 most influential women in Brussels by the magazine Politico. [Recent article](#).

[Jayati Ghosh](#) is professor of economics at University of Massachusetts and was for many years professor of economics at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her core areas of study include international economics, employment patterns in developing countries, macroeconomic policy, and issues related to gender and development. She is executive secretary of International Development Economics Associates (IDEAS) and a regular columnist for several Indian journals and newspapers, a member of the National Knowledge Commission and is closely involved with a range of progressive organisations and social movements. She is co-recipient of the International Labour Organisation's 2010 Decent Work Research prize. [Recent article](#).

[K. Sujatha Rao](#) served as Union Secretary at the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the government of India, where she played a key role in launching national programs for non-communicable diseases, for the use of antibiotics or the introduction of vaccines. K. Sujatha Rao also worked to help revitalize the country's primary health care system by introducing concepts such as performance-based financing. She was Director General of the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) and represented India on boards of the WHO, Global Fund and UNAIDS. K. Sujatha Rao was also founding board member of the Public Health Foundation of India. Currently, she is member of the global advisory panel of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Senior Leadership Fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health. [Recent article](#).

Webinar: Eastern Europe: Is the worst still to come?

wiiw Spring Economic Forecast for Eastern Europe

Date

15 April 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

wiiw will present its latest **economic forecasts 2021-2023 for 23 countries of Eastern Europe**, with a detailed analysis of the current economic situation and most relevant trends.

The following questions will be addressed:

- › Has Eastern Europe sacrificed public health to keep the economy going over the winter, and do current vaccination rates suggest the region can get ahead of new mutations this year?
- › What do renewed increases in infections and lockdowns mean for growth in 2021 and beyond? Is this a brief setback in the recovery, or is the worst yet to come?
- › Some countries such as Serbia and Turkey have weathered the crisis remarkably well so far; will this last?
- › How much is Eastern Europe exposed to rising interest rates in the US? To what extent has the pandemic affected investor perceptions of Eastern Europe more generally?
- › What does the current crisis mean for the region in the medium and long term? Does it simply reinforce existing challenges, or has the pandemic also driven changes from which Eastern Europe can benefit in the coming years?

The presentation will be held **in English**. Attendees will also have the **opportunity to ask questions**.

Presenters: Richard Grieveson and Olga Pindyuk

Moderator: Mario Holzner

[Richard Grieveson](#), is Economist and Deputy Director at wiiw. His research focus includes Turkey and the Balkans, CESEE country analysis and forecasting, migration, economic history, and sovereign risk.

[Olga Pindyuk](#) is Economist at wiiw. Her research focuses on foreign trade, in particular trade in services, and financial markets. She is also country expert for Ukraine and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

[Mario Holzner](#) is wiiw Executive Director. He coordinates economic policy development and communication with a focus on European economic policy. He has recently worked on issues of infrastructure investment in greater Europe, proposing a European Silk Road.

Does EU membership facilitate convergence?

Discussing the experience of the EU's eastern enlargement and the challenges of the future

Date

11 March 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

The panel will discuss the challenges CEE countries face in the post-Covid environment to tackle the issues of economic and social convergence as EU members or as candidates. A just published two-volume edited book *'Does EU Membership Facilitate Convergence? The Experience of the EU's Eastern Enlargement'* (see [vol.1](#), [vol.2](#)) looked into the lessons of the past decade and a half. Based on the main findings of this volume, the panel will attempt to discuss the challenges of the period ahead.

The following questions will be addressed:

- › How can economic convergence be better linked with social convergence, and through this preserve the coherence of the EU? What is the role of institutional convergence in this regard?
- › How can enlargement help the EU to strengthen its economic potential while also strengthening its cohesion? What are the main lessons of the 2004-2013 Eastern enlargement for future waves of enlargement?
- › How can going green and digital in the post-Covid environment accelerate convergence and support coherence?
- › How can the EU with its heterogeneous membership strengthen internal coherence in the changing geo-political and geo-economic global setting?

The presentation will be held **in English**.

Panel

Beata Javorcik

Chief Economist at the EBRD, responsible for advising the President and other senior members of the Bank's management team on economic issues of strategic relevance to the EBRD regions. Dr Javorcik is on leave from the University of Oxford, where she holds a Statutory Professorship in

Economics (the first woman in this position) and is a Fellow of All Souls College. She is a member of the Royal Economic Society's Executive Committee and a Director of the International Trade Programme at the Centre for Economic Policy Research in London. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Yale and a B.A. in Economics (Summa cum Laude) from the University of Rochester.

Debora Revoltella

Director of the Economics Department of the European Investment Bank (EIB). Since her arrival at the EIB in 2011, Debora Revoltella has designed and led the work for flagship publications such as the EIB Investment Report, a series of policy working papers and other regional specific research. Debora Revoltella holds a degree in Economics and a Master in Economics from Bocconi University as well as a PhD in Economics from the University of Ancona in Italy. In 2001, she joined UniCredit as the Chief Economist for Central and Eastern Europe. Debora Revoltella is member of the Steering Committees of the Vienna Initiative and the CompNet.

Jan Svejnar

Professor of Global Political Economy and Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance at Columbia University. He is also a founder and Chairman of CERGE-EI in Prague. He is a Fellow of the European Economic Association and a Research Fellow of the Center for Economic Policy Research (London) and the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn. He served as Co-Director of the Transition Programme at the Center for Economic Policy Research in London and President of the Association for Comparative Economic Studies. Prior to joining the faculty of Columbia University, Jan Svejnar was the Everett E. Berg Professor of Business Administration and Director of the William Davidson Institute at the University of Michigan. Before Michigan, Jan Svejnar was professor at the University of Pittsburgh and Cornell University. He received MA and PhD in Economics from Princeton University.

István P. Székely

Honorary Professor at Corvinus University of Budapest, and Principal Adviser at the Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs at the European Commission. Before joining the European Commission, he worked at the International Monetary Fund and in the National Bank of Hungary. He has a PhD in economics from the University of Cambridge. His research focuses on financial market and macroeconomic policy issues and on Central and Eastern European economies.

Moderator: Michael Landesmann

Senior Research Associate, former Scientific Director (1996-2016), of the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw), and Professor of economics at the Johannes Kepler University, Austria. He has a D.Phil. from Oxford University and taught and researched at Cambridge University's Department of Applied Economics and Jesus College, Cambridge. His research focuses on international economic integration, industrial structural change, labour markets and migration.

Related Links

[Does EU Membership Facilitate Convergence? The Experience of the EU's Eastern Enlargement \(Vol.1\)](#)

[Does EU Membership Facilitate Convergence? The Experience of the EU's Eastern Enlargement \(Vol.2\)](#)

The EU Budgetary Package 2021 to 2027 Almost Finalised: An Assessment

Online presentation and panel discussion with Thomas Reininger (OeNB), Zsolt Darvas (Bruegel), Margit Schratzenstaller (wifo) and Michael Landesmann (wiiw)

Date

01 March 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

The panel will discuss the current state of play of the EU budgetary package for 2021-2027, including the 'Next Generation EU'-Recovery Instrument EURI. Background to this discussion is Thomas Reininger's recent [wiiw Policy Note](#) which assesses the EU Package in detail.

The following questions will be addressed:

- › Is the establishment of the EURI the optimally feasible policy response to the deep crisis triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic?
- › Would there be superior economic policy approaches at EU level?
- › How relevant is the climate target attached to the EU budgetary package?
- › Is the roadmap towards new own resources likely to hold?
- › Is there significant risk that Member States might not be able to use available EU funding or misuse them?

The presentation will be held **in English**.

Panel

Thomas Reininger

Lead Economist at the Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB), Austria's Central Bank. He works in the Foreign Research Division and focuses on CESEE countries and European economic and monetary integration. His areas of expertise include monetary transmission, financial sector and stability analysis, bank stress-testing and macro-financial risk assessment. In 2019, he was seconded as advisor to the Executive Director of the IMF's Central European constituency.

Zsolt Darvas

Senior Fellow at the Brussels-based think-tank Bruegel and Senior Research Fellow at the Corvinus University in Budapest. His current research works focus on policies addressing the economic fallout from the coronavirus pandemic, European economic governance, EU budget, financial integration and development. In the past, Zsolt Darvas was Deputy Head of the research unit of the Central Bank of Hungary (1994-2005) and did various research projects for multilateral institutions (EC, EP, OECD, World Bank, ADB).

Margit Schratzenstaller

Senior Economist at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO). Her areas of expertise include (European) tax and budget policy, EU budget, family policy, gender budgeting and gender aspects of taxation. During 2006-2008 and 2015-2019, she was Deputy Director of WIFO. Margit Schratzenstaller prepared numerous studies for the European Parliament and the European Commission as well as for national clients. In 2016, she was awarded the Progressive Economy Prize of the European Parliament (2016).

Michael Landesmann

Senior Research Associate at wiiw and Professor of Economics at the Johannes Kepler University Linz. He was Scientific Director of wiiw from 1996 to 2016. His research focuses on European economic integration, structural change, economic growth, general topics in international economic relations, labour markets and migration.

Related Links

[The EU Budgetary Package 2021 to 2027 Almost Finalised: An Assessment](#)

Social Consequences of Covid-19

Panel discussion with Maria Jepsen, Bart Vanhercke, Georg Fischer & Michael Landesmann

Date

19 January 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

A panel discussion on differentiated medium- and longer-term impacts and appropriate policy responses. The following questions will be addressed:

Social consequences of Covid-19

- › Labour market impacts and how they differ for different groups of workers and their families
- › Consequences for the young and vulnerable groups
- › Did Covid-19 bring about a new jump in inequalities?

Social policy responses to Covid-19

- › Labour market and social policies: how do they interact?
- › Which employment and social policies to counter-act social vulnerabilities and unequal impact of Covid-19 crisis?
- › How to deal with the risk for regression on gender equality in labour markets and society?

The presentation will be held **in English**.
Attendees will have the **opportunity to ask questions**.

Panel

[Bart Vanhercke](#) is Director at the Brussels-based European Social Observatory (OSE). His research focuses on the social dimension of the EU's economic governance, a topic on which he also works as associate academic staff at the Research Institute for Work and Society (HIVA) and the Centre for Sociological Research (CeSO) at the University of Leuven. Bart Vanhercke is also Policy Fellow at IZA (Berlin).

[Maria Jepsen](#) is Eurofound's Deputy Director and presently acting Executive Director. She is also associate professor in labour economics at the Free University of Brussels. Her main research interests include gender studies, the impact of welfare states on labour supply, wages and working conditions, and more recently the development of the European social dimension.

[Georg Fischer](#) is Senior Research Associate at wiiw, focusing on employment and social policies at the European level. He retired from the European Commission in July 2017, where his last position was Director for Social Affairs in DG Employment. In the European Commission, he was responsible for the development of social policy initiatives related to the Pillar of Social Rights.

[Michael Landesmann](#) is Senior Research Associate at wiiw and Professor of Economics at the Johannes Kepler University Linz. He was Scientific Director of wiiw from 1996 to 2016. His research focuses on European economic integration, structural change, economic growth, general topics in international economic relations, labour markets and migration.

Can Iran's economy come back to life under a Biden presidency?

Panel discussion with Sanam Vakil, Hassan Hakimian, Mahdi Ghodsi & Richard Grieveson

Date

12 January 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

Iran's economy has suffered badly the last few years, to a large extent because of Trump abandoning the nuclear deal. Biden's victory creates hopes that this can be undone, and a new deal agreed, which in turn would provide relief for the economy. This panel will discuss the possibilities of a new deal, look at what it would mean for the economy in the short run, and also look at some of the most important medium-term reform priorities for Iran.

The presentation will be held **in English**.
Attendees will have the **opportunity to ask questions**.

Panel

Hassan Hakimian is Professor of Economics and Director of the Middle Eastern Studies Department (MESD) at Khalifa Bin Hamad University (HBKU) in Qatar. He is also an Emeritus Professor of Economics at SOAS University of London, where he was Director of the London Middle East Institute (LMEI) during 2010-19. His research focuses on MENA economies, specifically economic sanctions, inclusive growth and the economics of Arab uprisings. He is the author of many articles and books.

Sanam Vakil is the deputy director of the Middle East North Africa Programme, where she leads the Future Dynamics in the Gulf project and the Iran Forum. Sanam's research focuses regional security, Gulf geopolitics and on future trends in Iran's domestic and foreign policy. She is also the James Anderson professorial lecturer in the Middle East Studies department at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS Europe) in Bologna, Italy.

Mahdi Ghodsi is Economist at wiiw. His research focuses on international trade, International trade policy, non-tariff measures, industrial policy, foreign direct investment, global value chains, political economy of sanctions, and the Iran economy. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore - Sede di Milano and a second Ph.D. in international economics from the Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of Warsaw.

Moderation: **Richard Grieveson**, Economist and Deputy Director of wiiw.

4. Pressegespräche

- › Webinar: ‚Herbstprognose Osteuropa‘, Die aktuelle Wirtschaftsprognose 2021-2023, 20. Oktober 2021
- › Webinar: ‚wiiw-Sommerprognose Osteuropa‘, 07 Juli 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Steht Osteuropa das Schlimmste noch bevor?‘, Präsentation der wiiw Frühjahrsprognose für Osteuropa, 15. April 2021

Online-Pressekonferenz Herbstprognose Osteuropa

Die aktuelle Wirtschaftsprognose 2021-2023

20. Oktober 2021, 10:00 Uhr

Ort

Webinar

Beschreibung

wiiw-Direktor Mario Holzner präsentiert die neue wiiw-Konjunkturprognose 2021-2023 für 23 Länder Osteuropas sowie die wichtigsten ökonomischen Trends.

Im Fokus stehen dabei folgende Fragen:

- › Warum fällt die wirtschaftliche Erholung in Osteuropa stärker aus als erwartet?
- › Welche Spuren hat die Pandemie auf den Arbeitsmärkten hinterlassen?
- › Was sind die Hauptursachen für den jüngsten Inflationsanstieg?
- › Wie sind die Inflationsaussichten? Ist die Straffung der Geldpolitik in vielen osteuropäischen Ländern gerechtfertigt?
- › Warum bleiben die Haushaltsdefizite in vielen Ländern trotz der wirtschaftlichen Erholung hoch?
- › Welche wirtschaftlichen Folgen könnte die vierte Corona-Welle für die Region haben?

Die Präsentation erfolgt auf Deutsch in Form eines Webinars via Demio. Teilnehmer*innen werden die Möglichkeit haben, Fragen zu stellen. Eine Pressemitteilung, Vortragsunterlagen sowie der wiiw-Prognosebericht werden zur Verfügung gestellt.

Präsentation

Mario Holzner (Präsentation) ist Direktor des wiiw und koordiniert dort die Institutsarbeit zur europäischen Wirtschaftspolitik. Er hat lange Zeit über den Westbalkan geforscht und sich in jüngerer Zeit mit Fragen von Infrastrukturinvestitionen in einem größeren Europa beschäftigt und eine europäische Seidenstraße konzipiert. Mario Holzner ist außerdem Lektor für angewandte Ökonometrie an der Universität Wien.

Andreas Knapp (Moderation) ist Communications Manager am wiiw und für Pressearbeit und Außenkommunikation zuständig.

wiiw-Sommerprognose Osteuropa

Online-Pressegespräch

7. Juli 2021, 10:00 Uhr

Ort

Webinar

Beschreibung

wiiw-Direktor Mario Holzner präsentiert das Sommer-Update unserer **Wirtschaftsprognose 2021-2023** für [23 Länder Osteuropas](#) sowie **die wichtigsten ökonomischen Trends**.

Im Fokus:

- › Wie erholen sich Osteuropas Volkswirtschaften von der Pandemie und was sind die Auswirkungen für Österreich?
- › Ist der Anstieg der Inflation nur vorübergehend und werden die osteuropäischen Zentralbanken mit Zinserhöhungen reagieren?
- › Was könnte das für die in der Region tätigen österreichischen Banken bedeuten?
- › Ist ein baldiges Ende der lockeren Geldpolitik in Osteuropa zu erwarten?
- › Wie wirken sich die steigenden Rohstoffpreise aus?
- › Werden die Regierungen angesichts der wirtschaftlichen Erholung mit Haushaltskonsolidierungen beginnen?
- › Was würde ein möglicher Anstieg der COVID-19-Infektionen im Herbst für die Region bedeuten?
- › Wird sich der Tourismus in Osteuropa erholen? Welche Auswirkungen hätte das für Österreich?

Die Präsentation erfolgt **auf Deutsch in Form eines Webinars via Demio**. Teilnehmer*innen werden die **Möglichkeit** haben, **Fragen zu stellen**. Eine Pressemitteilung, Vortragsunterlagen, sowie die wiiw-Sommerprognose werden zur Verfügung gestellt.

Publikation

[Monthly Report No. 7-8/2021](#)

Steht Osteuropa das Schlimmste noch bevor?

Präsentation der wiiw Frühjahrsprognose für Osteuropa

15. April 2021, 10:00 Uhr

Ort

Webinar

Beschreibung

wiiw-Experten präsentieren ihre neue **Wirtschaftsprognose 2021-2023 für 23 Länder Osteuropas**, sowie eine detaillierte Analyse über die **aktuelle Wirtschaftslage und wichtigsten Trends**.

Im Fokus stehen die folgenden Fragen:

- › Hat Osteuropa die öffentliche Gesundheit geopfert, um die Wirtschaft über die Wintermonate am Laufen zu halten? Deuten die aktuellen Impfraten darauf hin, dass die Region den neuen Mutationen noch heuer zuvorkommen könnte?
- › Was bedeuten der erneute Anstieg von Infektionen und die Lockdowns für das Wirtschaftswachstum in diesem Jahr? Handelt es sich um einen kurzen Rückschlag, oder steht das Schlimmste noch bevor?
- › Einige Länder wie Serbien und die Türkei haben die Krise bisher bemerkenswert gut überstanden; wird dies von Dauer sein?
- › Wie sieht die Performance Osteuropas im Vergleich zu Österreich aus? Kann Österreich heuer von einer möglichen Erholung in Osteuropa profitieren?
- › Wie ist Osteuropa den steigenden Zinssätzen in den USA ausgesetzt? Inwieweit hat die Pandemie die Wahrnehmung Osteuropas durch Investoren beeinflusst?
- › Was bedeutet die aktuelle Krise mittel- und langfristig für die Region? Verstärkt sie lediglich bestehende Herausforderungen, oder hat die Pandemie Veränderungen bewirkt, von denen Osteuropa in den kommenden Jahren auch profitieren könnte?

Die Präsentation erfolgt **auf Deutsch in Form eines Webinars via Demio**. Teilnehmer*innen werden die **Möglichkeit** haben, **Fragen zu stellen**. Eine Pressemitteilung, Vortragsunterlagen, sowie die wiiw-Sommerprognose werden zur Verfügung gestellt.

Publikation

[Darkest before the dawn?](#)

5. Seminare im Rahmen von Projekten und Kooperationen

5.1. FIW

- › Webinar: ‚Präsentation aktueller FIW-Studien‘, Oliver Reiter, Robert Stehrer (wiiw) und Elisabeth Christen (WIFO), Research Centre International Economics (FIW) in cooperation mit wiiw, 15. September 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Handelspolitische Schutzmaßnahmen: Balanceakt auf einem schmalen Grat zwischen Schutz und Protektionismus‘, Julia Grübler, wiiw, Research Centre International Economics (FIW) in Kooperation mit wiiw, 26. Mai 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Patent Boxes and the Success Rate of Patent Applications‘, Ronald B. Davies, University College Dublin, Research Centre International Economics (FIW), 8. April 2021
- › Webinar: 13th FIW-Research Conference 'International Economics', Online two-day conference, organised by the Research Centre International Economics (FIW), 18. Februar 2021

5.2. JVI

- › Webinar: ‚Pandemics and Inequality: From the Black Death to the Spanish Flue (and Beyond)‘, Presenter: Guido Alfani, Bocconi University, Introduction: Hervé Joly, JVI Director, Moderator: Philipp Heimberger, Open JVI Lecture, vom wiiw organisiertes und durchgeführtes Seminar, 23. November 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Crisis Course – CC‘, unter der Leitung von Philipp Heimberger und Mario Holzner, vom wiiw organisiertes und durchgeführtes Seminar, 22. Oktober – 3. November 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Infrastructure in CESEE: Benchmarking, Macroeconomic Impact, and Policy Issues‘, Open JVI Lecture, vom wiiw organisiertes und durchgeführtes Seminar, unter der Leitung von Elisabeth Hagen (wiiw), 12. Oktober 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Public-Private Partnerships – PPP‘, unter der Leitung von Elisabeth Hagen, vom wiiw organisiertes und durchgeführtes Seminar, 4. – 15. Oktober 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Foreign Direct Investment Policies - FDI‘, unter der Leitung von Olga Pindyuk and Mahdi Ghodsi, vom wiiw organisiertes und durchgeführtes Seminar, 30. August - 10. September 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Human Capital Index – What is it, and why should we care about it?‘, Open JVI Lecture, unter der Leitung von Mario Holzner, vom wiiw organisiertes und durchgeführtes Seminar, 11. Mai 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Public Governance and Structural Reforms - PGS‘ unter der Leitung von Branimir Jovanovic, vom wiiw organisiertes und durchgeführtes Seminar, 3. Mai – 14. Mai 2021
- › Webinar: ‚Competitiveness, Growth and Crisis - CGC‘, unter der Leitung von Roman Stöllinger, vom wiiw organisiertes und durchgeführtes Seminar, 1. März – 12. März 2021

5.3. ANDERE

- › Webinar/Panel discussion: 'Global Gateway – the new European Silk Road? Boosting European connectivity and the EU's strategic autonomy against the backdrop of EU-China rivalry', Hans Dietmar Schweisgut (opening), Romana Vlahutin, Mario Holzner, Plamen Tonchev, Moderation: Dominique David, in Kooperation mit Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe (ÖFZ) and French Institute for International Relations (Ifri), 15. Dezember 2021
- › Webinar, panel discussion, presentation: 'A new growth model for EU-CEE: Avoiding a trap and embracing the megatrends', Ernst Hillebrand, Richard Grieveson, Debora Revoltella, Maruska Vizek, Jan Hagemeyer, Michael Landesmann (Chair), in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) Warsaw, 29. November 2021
- › Hybrid panel discussion: 'Thirty Years On: Is There Still a Post-Soviet Space?', Keynote Speech: Philipp Ther, Speakers: Vasily Astrov, Tinatin Khidasheli, Kristi Raik, Tatiana Romanova, Sebastian Schäfer, Moderation: Hannes Swoboda, in cooperation with the International Institute for Peace (IIP), the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Multilateral Dialogue Vienna, the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM), 15. November 2021
- › Webinar: 'Workshop on International Economic Networks', Leading researchers in International Economics cover state-of-the-art research in a two days workshop, in cooperation with University of Vienna, Vienna Graduate School of Economics (VGSE), Research Centre International Economics (FIW), European Research Council (ERC) and Heinrich Graf Hardegg'sche Stiftung, 29. – 30. Oktober 2021
- › Webinar: 'A new growth model for CEE countries - how to boost productivity and living standards?', Richard Grieveson, Piotr Maszczyk, Michał Brzozowski, Łukasz Czernicki, Zuzana Zavorska, Piotr Arak, Ernst Hillebrand, Tadeusz Kościński, in cooperation with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Warschau and Polski Instytut Ekonomiczny, 15. Oktober 2021
- › Webinar: 'Why has Eastern Europe lagged behind the West for so long? Long-term patterns of economic growth, retardation and path-dependency', Matthias Morys, University of York (UK), Mario Holzner (moderation), in cooperation with Research Center for the History of Transformations (RECET), 27. Mai 2021
- › Webinar: 'The EU's post-covid fiscal policy: will it unify us or divide us?', online discussion with Marco Buti, Natacha Valla, Guntram Wolff, Thomas Wieser and Hans Dietmar Schweisgut, in cooperation with ÖFZ and Science Po, 11 Mai 2021
- › Webinar: Book launch: 'Europe's Income, Wealth, Consumption, and Inequality', with Georg Fischer, Martin Kahanec, Robert Strauss and Olaf van Vliet, in cooperation with CEU's School of Public Policy, 14. April 2021
- › Webinar: Panel discussion: 'Visegrád 4 at 30: economic outlook, regional dynamics, role in the EU', with Roderick Parkes and Milan Nič (DGAP), Eszter Zalan (EUobserver) and Richard Grieveson (wiiw), in cooperation with German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), 11. Februar 2021



Präsentation aktueller FIW-Studien

Oliver Reiter, Robert Stehrer (wiiw) und Elisabeth Christen (WIFO)

Date

15 September 2021, 9:00 am CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

Die Präsentation zweier aktueller FIW-Studien durch die Autor/innen findet am 15. September 2021 in der Zeit von 9:00 bis 11:00 Uhr statt.

9:00 -10:00 Uhr:

Oliver Reiter und Robert Stehrer (wiiw): **"Erkenntnisse aus unruhigen Zeiten – Eine Analyse von anfälligen Sektoren im internationalen Handel im Kontext der COVID19-Pandemie"**

10:00 -11:00 Uhr:

Elisabeth Christen (WIFO): **"Transportkostenwahrheit im internationalen Handel"**

Moderation:

Manfred Schekulin (BMDW)

Diskussion:

Im Anschluss an jede Präsentation via Chatfunktion

Literatur

[FIW Studien](#)



Handelspolitische Schutzmaßnahmen: Balanceakt auf einem schmalen Grat zwischen Schutz und Protektionismus

Julia Grübler, wiiw

Date

26 May 2021, 9:15 am CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

Das Bundesministerium für Digitalisierung und Wirtschaftsstandort und das FIW laden ein zur 41. FIW-Vorlesung: „Handelspolitische Schutzmaßnahmen: Balanceakt auf einem schmalen Grat zwischen Schutz und Protektionismus“

Julia Grübler, MSc (wiiw)

Begrüßung: Sektionschefin Mag. Cynthia Zimmermann (BMDW)

Koreferate: MMag. Dr. Alexandra Leoni (BMDW); Mag. Doris Traxl-Reiner (BMDW)

Diskussionsleitung: Dr. Manfred Schekulin (BMDW)

Literatur

[FIW-Policy Brief Nr. 50 \(Mai 2021\)](#)

Abstract

Das oberste Ziel der Welthandelsorganisation ist eine globale Handelsliberalisierung zum Wohl aller Länder. Da der Abbau von Handelsbarrieren jedoch auch in nicht intendierten wirtschaftlichen Effekten resultieren kann, wurden bereits in den 1960er-Jahren Instrumente entwickelt, um Schäden für die heimische Wirtschaft durch stark steigende Importe – insbesondere jene, die unlauteren Handelspraktiken zuzuschreiben sind – entgegenzuwirken. Antidumping-, Antisubventions- und Schutzmaßnahmen werden jedoch nicht nur multilateral im Rahmen der Welthandelsorganisation geregelt. Über 80% der seit 1996 in Kraft getretenen präferenziellen Handelsabkommen enthalten

entsprechende Bestimmungen; in EU-Abkommen sind sie noch häufiger verankert als in anderen, allerdings mit wesentlich stärkerem Bezug auf die Welthandelsorganisation und die Erarbeitung einvernehmlicher Lösungen. Die empirische Wirtschaftsforschungsliteratur zeigt allerdings auch auf, dass die stark steigende Nutzung der Instrumente nicht zwingend ein Zeichen vermehrt unfairer Handelspraktiken ist, sondern vielmehr auf protektionistischen Missbrauch der Schutzmaßnahmen hindeutet. Die schweren wirtschaftlichen Folgen der COVID-19-Pandemie, die durch die Krise beschleunigte Digitalisierung und die geographisch asymmetrische Erholung von der Gesundheits- und Wirtschaftskrise befeuern die Nutzung bestehender und Entwicklung neuer handelspolitischer Schutzinstrumente. Neben der Beleuchtung von bereits seit längerem etablierten Antidumping-, Antisubventions- und Schutzmaßnahmen streift der Policy Brief auch neuere oder wiederbelebte Instrumente, die ebenfalls dem Schutz der Wirtschaft vor schädigenden Handelspraktiken anderer Länder dienen sollen, aber die Diskussionen rund um steigenden Protektionismus und die Rolle der Welthandelsorganisation weiter intensivieren.

Julia Grübler ist Ökonomin am Wiener Institut für Internationale Wirtschaftsvergleiche (wiiw) und externe Lektorin an der Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien (WU) sowie an der Central European University (CEU). Ihre Forschungsschwerpunkte sind internationale (Handels-)Beziehungen mit besonderem Fokus auf die Politik der Europäischen Union und ihrer Mitgliedsstaaten.

FIW-Vorlesungen ist eine Veranstaltungsreihe, bei der politikrelevante aktuelle Forschungsergebnisse aus dem Bereich internationale Wirtschaft praxisnah präsentiert und diskutiert werden.



Patent Boxes and the Success Rate of Patent Applications

Ronald B. Davies, University College Dublin

Date

8 April 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

The presentation is based on a [paper](#) co-authored with Ryan Hynes and Dieter F. Kogler.

Abstract:

Patent boxes significantly reduce the tax rate applied to income earned from a patent. Existing work finds that those reductions increase the number of patents. That said, not all patents are equally novel. In particular, the patent box encourages the submission of patents of marginal novelty, a selection effect that would reduce the average success rates of patents. At the same time, the increased return to patenting encourages additional effort in innovation development and application preparation, increasing success rates. While this predicts an ambiguous effect, by exploiting the time dimension of these responses, we are able to examine their relative size. Using data from applications to the European Patent Office from 1978 to 2017 and find that the introduction of a patent box increases the average success rate of applications from the large innovators who make up the majority of applications by 6.9 percentage points. This impact only materializes two years after a patent box takes effect, suggesting that improved research effort is the dominant response by firms.

Ron Davies has been a Professor of Economics at University College Dublin since 2008. After earning his Ph. D. at the Pennsylvania State University in 1999, he joined the University of Oregon faculty where he remained until relocating to Dublin where he is currently Head of the School of Economics. Specializing in trade and foreign direct investment, he has a particular focus on the tax and trade policies that affect globalization. This work has recently been published in *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Journal of International Economics*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, and *Canadian Journal of Economics*. He is Editor-in-Chief of *International Tax and Public Finance* and an associate editor of *Review of International Economics* and *Economic and Social Review*. Recent grants include funding from the European Commission to study non-tariff barriers and from the European Patent Office to examine the linkages between international trade and innovation. In addition to his primary affiliation with UCD, Prof. Davies is a fellow with the Oxford University Centre for Business Taxation, the CES-Ifö, and a founder of the Society of International Trade Theory.



13th FIW-Research Conference 'International Economics'

Online two-day conference, organised by the Research Centre International Economics (FIW)

Date

18 – 19 February 2021

Venue

Webinar

Description

The main objective of the conference is to provide a platform for economists working in the field of 'International Economics' to present recent research as well as to discuss current policy. Recent working papers from both young researchers – i.e. Ph.D. students, post-graduate students, young faculty members etc. – and established senior researchers will be presented during parallel sessions focusing on one topic of 'International Economics'.

Highlights:

- › February 18, 2021, 10:00 – 10:15
Opening Remarks
Cynthia Zimmermann (Director General; Division III - EU and International Market Strategies, Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs)
Harald Badinger (Vice Rector and Head of the Institute for International Economics, WU Vienna)
- › February 18, 2021, 17:00 – 17:45
Keynote lecture: 'The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19'
Richard Baldwin (Professor of International Economics, Graduate Institute, Geneva)
- › February 18, 2021, 17:45 - 18:45
Policy Panel: 'The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19'
Margarete Schramböck (Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs)
Lisandra Flach (Head of the ifo Center for International Economics; Professor of Economics, LMU Munich)
Sabine Herlitschka (Chief Executive Officer of Infineon Technologies Austria AG; Member of the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development)
Richard Baldwin (Professor of International Economics, Graduate Institute, Geneva)

Moderation: *Harald Oberhofer* (FIW-Project Lead; Professor of Economics, WU Vienna; Senior Economist, WIFO)

› February 19, 2021, 15:00

Award Ceremony

Announcement of the winners of the Best Paper Award and the Young Economist Award

Attendance of the FIW-Research Conference is free. The conference language is English.

The dial-in links to the individual sessions can be found in the [13th FIW-Research Conference Program](#).



13th FIW-Research Conference 'International Economics' Program

February 18-19, 2021

Online-Conference

Conference will be held in Central European Time (UTC+1)

Keynote Lecture: February 18, 2021, 17:00

Richard Baldwin (Graduate Institute, Geneva)

'The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19'

Scientific Board:

FIW: Harald Oberhofer, Robert Stehrer

Ifo Institute: Lisandra Flach

IOS Regensburg: Olga Popova

IfW Kiel: Gabriel Felbermayr

MTA KRTK: Márta Bisztray

WU Vienna: Harald Badinger

University of Vienna: Alejandro Cunat

University of Ljubljana: Jože P. Damijan

Università di Bologna: Gaetano A. Minerva

University of Economics Bratislava:

Mikulas Luptacik



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FIW is supported by

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 Bundesministerium
Digitalisierung und
Wirtschaftsstandort

We thank the FIW partner institutions for their cooperation in the organisation of this conference.





13th FIW-Research Conference 'International Economics'

Program Outline

Date: February 18-19, 2021 (Thursday 10:00-18:45 CET; Friday from 9:00- 15:30 CET)

Venue: online (zoom)

Registration: <https://fiw.ac.at/index.php?id=1298>

The main objective of the conference is to provide a platform for economists working in the field of 'International Economics' to present recent research as well as to discuss current policy. Recent working papers from both young researchers – i.e. Ph.D. students, post-graduate students, young faculty members etc. – and established senior researchers will be presented during **parallel sessions** focusing on one topic of 'International Economics'.

Attendance of the FIW-Research Conference is free. The conference language is English.

Highlights:

- **February 18, 2021, 10:00 – 10:15**

Opening Remarks

Cynthia Zimmermann (Director General; Division III - EU and International Market Strategies, Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs)

Harald Badinger (Vice Rector and Head of the Institute for International Economics, WU Vienna)

- **February 18, 2021, 17:00 – 17:45**

Keynote lecture: '**The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19**'

Richard Baldwin (Professor of International Economics, Graduate Institute, Geneva)

- **February 18, 2021, 17:45 -18:45**

Policy Panel: '**The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19**'

Margarete Schramböck (Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs)

Lisandra Flach (Head of the ifo Center for International Economics; Professor of Economics, LMU Munich)

Sabine Herlitschka (Chief Executive Officer of Infineon Technologies Austria AG; Member of the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development)

Richard Baldwin (Professor of International Economics, Graduate Institute, Geneva)

Moderation: Harald Oberhofer (FIW-Project Lead; Professor of Economics, WU Vienna; Senior Economist, WIFO)

- **February 19, 2021, 15:00** Award Ceremony

Announcement of the winners of the Best Paper Award and the Young Economist Award



Thursday, February 18, 2021

Session	Session Link	Time (Central European)	Chair
Opening Remarks	Link	10:00 – 10:15	Harald Badinger
Session 1a: Empirical Studies on International Trade	Link	10:30 – 12:00	Klaus Friesenbichler
Session 1b: Trade Models 1	Link	10:30 – 12:00	Michael Pfaffermayr
Session 1c: Empirical Evidence from Developing Countries	Link	10:30 – 12:00	Elisa Navarra
Break			
Session 2a: Bayesian Economics in International Trade Research	Link	13:00 – 14:30	Martin Brun
Session 2b: Global Value Chains 1	Link	13:00 – 14:30	Enxhi Tresa
Session 2c: FDI 1	Link	13:00 – 14:30	Masha Brussevich
Break			
Session 3a: Research on Trade Costs	Link	15:00 – 16:30	Sharat Ganapati
Session 3b: Monetary Policy 1	Link	15:00 – 16:30	Pedro Juarros
Session 3c: FDI 2	Link	15:00 – 16:30	Bruno Pellegrino
Break			
Keynote Lecture: Richard Baldwin (Graduate Institute, Geneva) 'The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19'	Link	17:00 – 17:45	
Policy Panel 'The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19'	Link	17:45 – 18:45	



Friday, February 19, 2021

Session	Session Link	Time (CET)	Chair
Session 4a: Trade Policy 1	Link	09:00 – 10:30	Mahdi Ghodsi
Session 4b: Trade Models 2	Link	09:00 – 10:30	Quentin Lajounie
Session 4c: Migration and Firm Performance	Link	09:00 – 10:30	Almos Telegdy
Break			
Session 5a: Central Banks and the Global Economy	Link	11:00 – 12:30	Marcus Biermann
Session 5b: Trade Policy 2	Link	11:00 – 12:30	Fedodora Teti
Session 5c: Global Value Chains 2	Link	11:00 – 12:30	Dea Tusha
Break			
Session 6a: Economic Policy and Globalisation	Link	13:30 – 15:00	Florian Trouvain
Session 6b: Monetary Policy 2	Link	13:30 – 15:00	Yannick Timmer
Session 6c: Spatial Networks	Link	13:30 – 15:00	Sergey Nigai
Award Ceremony	Link	15:00 – 15:30	Harald Oberhofer
End of conference			



Thursday, February 18, 2021

Opening Remarks

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94206214807>

Time: 10:00 – 10:15

Cynthia Zimmermann (Director General; Division III - EU and International Market Strategies; Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs)

Harald Badinger (Vice Rector and Head of the Institute for International Economics, WU Vienna)

Session 1a – Empirical Studies on International Trade

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95065024642?pwd=ZHpPdMNImp6YWkyT2JYN2ZmMHIPZz09>

Time: 10:30 – 12:00

10:30 **Yunshu Gao** (Renmin University of China)

Does Foreign Investment Raise Firm Innovation?

11:00 **Volker Seiler** (EM Normandie, Métis Lab)

China-to_FOB-Price Transmission in the Rare Earth Elements Market and the End of Chinas Export Restrictions

11:30 **Klaus Friesenbichler** (Austrian Institute of Economic Research)

Firm-level productivity growth, heterogeneity and trade with China: Evidence from the EU



Session 1b – Trade Models 1

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92814220301?pwd=ZDhQTVVaR1RJS3RZaUdSYUZHbnZlZz09>

Time: 10:30 – 12:00

- 10:30 **Phillipp Koch** (EcoAustria - Institute for Economic Research)
Economic Complexity and Growth: Can value-added exports better explain the link?
- 11:00 **Joschka Wanner** (University of Potsdam)
State Dependence and Unobserved Heterogeneity in the Extensive Margin of Trade
- 11:30 **Michael Pfaffermayr** (University of Innsbruck)
Confidence Intervals for the Trade Cost Parameters of Cross-Section Gravity Models

Session 1c – Empirical Evidence from Developing Countries

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99208900007?pwd=V2JlZzhDNmh1Q1RYcTZ1di9yK2QwQT09>

Time: 10:30 – 12:00

- 10:30 **Angella F. Montfaucon** (Southern Africa Institute for Economic Research, Japan)
Effects of Import Taxes on Intra-African trade: New evidence from a case study of Malawi's Imports
- 11:00 **Pavel Chakraborty** (Lancaster University)
Trade Liberalization Business investments and Family Firms
- 11:30 **Elisa Navarra** (ECARES, Université libre de Bruxelles)
Stock market response to firms unethical conduct



Session 2a – Bayesian Economics in International Trade Research

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95579288877?pwd=YVZjZWMyY0l2U210YUFqTFMrem9zUT09>

Time: 13:00 – 14:30

13:00 **Ben Schumann** (European Central Bank)
Global Uncertainty and the Dollar

13:30 **Max Breitenlechner** (University of Innsbruck)
What goes around comes around: How large are spillbacks from US monetary policy really

14:00 **Martin Brun** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)
Slow Rockets and Fast Feathers or the Link between Exchange Rates and Exports

Session 2b – Global Value Chains 1

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97861940972?pwd=WERORTFiZGdOQjZhZXFrRFI5dGZQZz09>

Time: 13:00 – 14:30

13:00 **Joanna Wolszczak-Derlacz** (Gdańsk University of Technology)
Global value chains and labour markets - simultaneous analysis of wages and employment

13:30 **Dagmara Nikulin** (Gdańsk University of Technology)
Working Conditions in Global Value Chains: Evidence for European Employees

14:00 **Enxhi Tresa** (THEMA, CY Cergy Paris Université)
Spillover effect of tariffs in GVCs



Session 2c – FDI 1

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97607980035?pwd=N1NjWk1aNEp0R2dOMWhJVVlxZ21Wdz09>

Time: 13:00 – 14:30

13:00 **Nico Stoeckmann** (Paderborn University)

How migration affects bilateral trade: Demand-side effects in a micro-founded gravity model

13:30 **Amat Adarov** (The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies)

Productivity Drivers: Empirical Evidence on the Role of Digital Capital, FDI and Integration

14:00 **Masha Brussevich** (IMF)

Foreign Sourcing and Missing FDI Spillovers

Session 3a – Research on Trade Costs

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95472349962?pwd=TjNvb2FrQmpNRlp0TDZwaHhCbzc2dz09>

Time: 15:00 - 16:30

15:00 **Jörn Kleinert** (University of Graz)

Endogenous Transport Costs and International Trade

15:30 **Kaan Celebi** (EIIW/University of Wuppertal)

Quo Vadis Britain? - Implications of the Brexit Process on the UK`s Real Economy

16:00 **Sharat Ganapati** (Georgetown University)

Entrepot: Hubs, Scale, and Trade Costs



Session 3b – Monetary Policy 1

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99824319069?pwd=Z0FOR1FmeGQxcGhkbDMxb0FsOW40QT09>

Time: 15:00 – 16:30

- 15:00 **Juha Tervala** (University of Helsinki)
Hysteresis and Full Employment in a small open economy
- 15:30 **Katharina Bergant** (International Monetary Fund)
Dampening Global Financial Shocks: Can Macprudential Regulation Help (More than capital controls?)
- 16:00 **Pedro Juarros** (Georgetown University)
Fiscal Stimulus, Credit Frictions and the Amplification Effects of Small Firms

Session 3c – FDI 2

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98685602640?pwd=cVFCSTZxQVE0VG8xbTFIN3RaTk1NQTO9>

Time: 15:00 – 16:30

- 15:00 **Luis Enrique Escalante Ochoa** (Université du Havre)
Evaluating regional impacts of climate risks on womens welfare, domestic burdentds and food security in Bolivia
- 15:30 **Anna Gasten** (University of Göttingen)
Are FDI restrictions inducing international migration? Evidence from Indonesia
- 16:00 **Bruno Pellegrino** (University of Maryland)
Barriers to Global Capital Allocation



Keynote Lecture and Policy Panel

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97382045830>

Time: 17:00 – 18:45

17:00 Keynote Lecture: 'The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19'

Richard Baldwin (Professor of International Economics, Graduate Institute, Geneva)

17:45 Policy Panel: 'The Future of European Trade Relations after COVID-19'

Margarete Schramböck (Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs)

Lisandra Flach (Head of the ifo Center for International Economics; Professor of Economics, LMU Munich)

Sabine Herlitschka (Chief Executive Officer of Infineon Technologies Austria AG; member of the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development)

Richard Baldwin (Professor of International Economics, Graduate Institute, Geneva)

Moderation: Harald Oberhofer (FIW-Project Lead; Professor of Economics, WU Vienna; Senior Economist, WIFO)



Friday, February 19, 2021

Session 4a – Trade Policy 1

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92211992638?pwd=a1IrdHVEZjUzNzMrM3RSTmxxc21Edz09>

Time: 09:00 – 10:30

09:00 **Ryo Makioka** (Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan)

Do Trade Fairs promote Trade

09:30 **Irene Iodice** (University of Paris 1)

The Sound of Silence. Non transparent technical regulations as obstacles to trade

10:00 **Mahdi Ghodsi** (The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies)

Non-Tariff Measures and the Quality of Imported Products

Session 4b – Trade Models 2

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/91809460726?pwd=Y0pFaks5UVhkMUJjM096cUVQekR3Zz09>

Time: 09:00 – 10:30

09:00 **Katharina Erhardt** (ETH Zürich/MIT)

Empirical Productivity Distributions and International Trade

09:30 **Simona Gamba** (Università Cattolica, Italy)

Free-Riding in Pharmaceutical Price Regulation: Theory and Evidence

10:00 **Quentin Lajaunie** (Université Paris Dauphine)

Non Linear Impulse Response Function for Dichotomous Model



Session 4c – Migration and Firm Performance

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97948820702?pwd=OHhuQW1CaldlckNIWUVvVGRjRS8wUT09>

Time: 09:00 – 10:30

- 09:00 **Armando Rungi** (IMT Lucca)
Talents from Abroad: Foreign Managers and Productivity in the United Kingdom
- 09:30 **Lei Li** (University of Mannheim)
Skill-Biased Imports, Human Capital Accumulation and the Allocation of Talent
- 10:00 **Almos Telegdy** (Corvinus University of Budapest)
Foreign Owners and Expatriate Managers: Effects on Firm Performance

Session 5a – Central Banks and the Global Economy

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99110126823?pwd=bk44aXYxTVZqN09laUZ5MnRUaUdZdz09>

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

- 11:00 **Marco Pinchetti** (Bank of England)
Global Spillovers of the Fed Information Effect
- 11:30 **Kilian Rieder** (Oesterreichische Nationalbank)
Who talks during monetary quiet periods and why? Evidence from the European Central Bank's Governing Council
- 12:00 **Marcus Biermann** (UCLouvain)
Tracing the International Transmission of a Crisis Through Multinational Firms



Session 5b – Trade Policy 2

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/91341079482?pwd=QWdPaUcwWjdGNmpnWDIZck5QTXNGZz09>

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

- 11:00 **Ziran Ding** (Bank of Lithuania)
Optimal Tariffs with Firm Heterogeneity, Variable Markups and FDI
- 11:30 **Yannick Bormans** (KU Leuven)
Targeting government aid during COVID-19: The issue of fixed costs
- 12:00 **Feodora Teti** (ifo Institute)
30 Years of Trade Policy: Evidence from 5,7 Billion Tariffs

Session 5c – Global Value Chains 2

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/91700665933?pwd=RVFWZ2huUIRBeE9iV2FQNzN0QU1tZz09>

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

- 11:00 **Sabina Szymczak** (Gdańsk University of Technology)
Position in Global Value Chains: the Impact on Wages in Central and Eastern European Countries
- 11:30 **Martina Magli** (LMU Munich)
The Direct and Indirect Effect of Services Offshoring on Local Labour Market Outcomes
- 12:00 **Dea Tusha** (WU Vienna)
Labour market restrictions, FDI embeddedness and productivity spillovers: Evidence from Moldova



Session 6a – Economic Policy and Globalisation

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95497552565?pwd=d2RCZnlyWEZBRFdUK3o5RUdFRlBqUT09>

Time: 13:30 – 15:00

- 13:30 **Kaan Celebi** (EIIW/University of Wuppertal)
The Economic Impact of Trump: Conclusions from an Impact Evaluation Analysis
- 14:00 **Phillipp Heimberger** (The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies)
Does economic globalisation promote economic growth? A meta analysis
- 14:30 **Florian Trouvain** (University of Michigan)
Structural Change, Inequality and Capital Flows

Session 6b – Monetary Policy 2

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95382334640?pwd=S0Q5NFN1MWJsOTISZHduNTM4WkROdz09>

Time: 13:30 – 15:00

- 13:30 **Graziano Moramarco** (University of Bologna)
Exchange Rates and Political Uncertainty: The Brexit Case
- 14:00 **Georgios Georgiadis** (European Central Bank)
Markets vs. Policies: can the US-dollar`s dominance in global trade be dented?
- 14:30 **Yannick Timmer** (IMF)
The Dominant Currency Financing Channel of External Adjustment



Session 6c – Spatial Networks

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99346099292?pwd=dXdZNGpFVFVDWVUOWVWSlpVayt6UT09>

Time: 13:30 – 15:00

- 13:30 **Sotiris Blanas** (IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca)
International Sourcing, Domestic Labour Costs and Producer Prices
- 14:00 **Piyush Panigrahi** (UC Berkeley)
Endogenous Spatial Production Networks
- 14:30 **Sergey Nigai** (University Colorado, Boulder; Cesifo)
Highways and Globalization

Award Ceremony

Session Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92752856426?pwd=ZmRHMm9XRHA2bERDVnM1dDIZRnJKdz09>

Time: 15:00 - 15:30

Two prizes for the best contributions to the Research Conference will be awarded – the '**Best Conference Paper Award 21**' and the '**Young Economist Award 21**'. Each award is worth € 1000.

The 'Young Economist Award 21' is intended for Ph.D. students, young faculty members and young researchers in similar positions. To be considered for this award all authors of the paper have to be 34 or younger at the time of submission.

END OF CONFERENCE



Organizing Institutions:

The 13th FIW-Research Conference 'International Economics is jointly organized by FIW, the Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS) Regensburg, the University of Ljubljana, the Università di Bologna, University of Economics Bratislava, the ifo institute, ifW Kiel and Centre for Economic and Regional Studies (KRTK).

About FIW:

The FIW - Research Centre International Economics (<https://www.fiw.ac.at/>) is a cooperation between the Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU), the University Vienna, the Johannes Kepler University Linz and the University of Innsbruck, WIFO, wiiw and WSR. FIW is supported by the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBFW) and the Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs (BMDW).

Questions may be addressed to fiw-pb@fiw.ac.at or alexander.hudetz@wifo.ac.at.

The conference programme will be published on <https://fiw.ac.at>.

Pandemics and Inequality: From the Black Death to the Spanish Flu (and Beyond)

Open JVI Lecture

Date

23 November 2021, 11:00 am CET

Venue

Webinar

Description

Recent research has explored the distributive consequences of major historical epidemics, and the current crisis triggered by Covid-19 prompts us to look at the past for insights about how pandemics can affect inequalities in income, wealth, and health. The fourteenth-century Black Death, which is usually believed to have led to a significant reduction in economic inequality, has attracted the greatest attention. However, the picture becomes much more complex if other epidemics are considered. This lecture will cover the worst epidemics of the past, from the great plagues of medieval and early modern times to the cholera waves of the nineteenth century and the Spanish Flu of the twentieth. It will show how the distributive outcomes of lethal epidemics do not only depend upon mortality rates, but are mediated by a range of factors, chief among them the institutional framework in place at the onset of each crisis. It will also explore how past epidemics affected poverty, arguing that highly lethal epidemics could reduce its prevalence through two deeply different mechanisms: redistribution towards the poor, or extermination of the poor. The lecture will also argue that if treated carefully, history of epidemics and pandemics has much to offer towards a better understanding of the current crisis.

Introduction

Hervé Joly, Director of Joint Vienna Institute (JVI)

Presenter

Guido Alfani, Professor of Economic History, Department of Social and Political Sciences, Bocconi University

Moderator

Philipp Heimberger, Economist, the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies

Crisis course: past and current crises and future challenges, November 22 - December 3, 2021

Week 1

	Monday, November 22	Tuesday, November 23	Wednesday, November 24	Thursday, November 25	Friday, November 26
Topic	Introduction day and participants round table	Introduction wiiw and forecast, Open Lecture	Economy crises in economic downturns and social policy	Laour- and monetary policy and financial markets in crises	(Anti-)cyclical fiscal policy and participants' presentations
09:00-10:30	Seminar opening <i>Patrick Amir Imam, Deputy Director of the JVI,</i> Introduction to the seminar, <i>Artem Kochnev, wiiw, Course Director</i>	L-01 Information on the wiiw research Institute, Richard Grieveson, Deputy Director, wiiw L-02 'wiiw Forecast for Central East and Southeast Europe', Vasily Astrov, wiiw	L-04 Economic crises in retrospect, <i>Dmitry Kuvshinov, Pompeu Fabra University</i>	L-06 Labour market policies - the Austrian experience, <i>Thomas Leoni, FH Wiener Neustadt, Austrian Network for Higher Education</i>	L-08 Fiscal policies during crises, <i>Philipp Heimberger, wiiw</i>
11:00-12:30	P-01 Participants round table discussion about the state of the economy and crisis impact, <i>Artem Kochnev, wiiw</i>	L-03 Open Lecture Pandemics and inequality: From the black death to the spanish flu (and beyond), <i>Guido Alfani, Bocconi University, Introduction Herve Joly, JVI Director</i> <i>Moderator: Philipp Heimberger</i>	L-05 The response of ECB to COVID crisis and its impact on real economy, <i>Philipp Poyntner, WU - Institute for International Economics</i>	L-07 Monetary policy in crises, <i>Marko Skreb, Former Governor of the Croatian National Bank, Croatia</i>	PP-01 Crisis response experiences , Participants' Presentation, Lead: <i>Artem Kochnev, wiiw</i>

Week 2

	Monday, November 29	Tuesday, November 30	Wednesday, December 1	Thursday, December 2	Friday, December 3
Topic	Russian financial crisis and labour market	Panel on transition crisis and post-crisis reconstruction	Crisis effects on trade and health issues in times of COVID-19	Future (long run) challenges	Panel discussion & Vienna initiative
09:00-10:30	L-09 The 1998 Russian financial crisis, <i>Artem Kochnev, wiiw</i>	P-02 Panel on the legacy crises in CESEE countries: from transition to the global financial crisis <i>Michael Landesmann, Rumen Dobrinsky, wiiw, Senior Research</i>	L-12 Trade and value chains - degrowth and deglobalisation?, <i>Niko Korpar, wiiw</i>	L-14 Climate crisis policies, <i>Claudia Kettner-Marx, Austrian Institute of Economic Research</i>	P-03 Panel on crises policy lessons, <i>Michael Landesmann, wiiw</i> <i>Franz Nauschnigg, Expert</i> <i>Chair: Artem Kochnev, wiiw</i>
11:00-12:30	L-10 CESEE labour markets during crises, <i>Hermine Vidovic, wiiw</i>	L-11 Post-crisis reconstruction costs: the case of Donbas Region, <i>Artem Kochnev, wiiw</i>	L-13 Health reform and the pandemic, <i>Maria Hofmarcher-Holzacker, Health System Intelligence</i>	L-15 Demography and automation, <i>Sandra Leitner, wiiw</i>	L-16 Vienna Initiative, <i>Franz Nauschnigg, Expert</i>
12:30-14:00					Wrap-up and feedback <i>Artem Kochnev</i>

Infrastructure in CESEE: Benchmarking, Macroeconomic Impact, and Policy Issues

Open JVI Lecture

Date

12 October 2021, 2:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

Scaling up infrastructure investment as part of the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic presents a unique opportunity to lift long-term growth in a sustainable manner, and accelerate the digital and green transformation in Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe. With the crisis stretching budgets, achieving value for money will be even more relevant. This webinar will examine the region's infrastructure gaps and assess the potential returns of infrastructure investment. It will articulate policies that can help countries maximize the benefits of infrastructure investment, focusing on the role of infrastructure governance to ensure spending efficiency, stimulate more cross-border collaboration and greater private sector participation.

Presenters

Ms. Petia Borissova Topalova, International Monetary Fund

Mr. Gabriel Di Bella, International Monetary Fund

Ms. Elisabeth Hagen (Moderation), Senior Research Associate, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies

The webinar will be held in English. Participants are encouraged to ask written questions to the presenters using the webinar's Q&A feature.

A list of JVI webinars on topical issues in the field of financial stability, fiscal policy, and macroeconomics can be found [here](#). The schedule of JVI courses – including virtual courses – can be found [here](#).

JVI Virtual Course Program, Public- Private Partnership - PPP, October 4-15, 2021

Organized by The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies - wiiw

Week 1

	Monday, October 04	Tuesday, October 05	Wednesday, October 06	Thursday, October 07	Friday, October 08
	Introduction day				
09:00 - 10:30	Seminar opening, Patrick Amir Imam, JVI, Deputy Director L01 Presentation wiiw, Richard Grieveson, Executive Director L02 Introduction to the seminar Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw, Course Director	L04 - PPPs: Macroeconomic perspective Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw	W01 Workshop Assessment tools: Project preparation in break out rooms and presentation in plenary <i>Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw</i>	L07- Legal and technical aspects of PPPs <i>Stefan Eder, Benn-Ibler RA, Lawyer's office</i>	L09 - Ensuring PPP bankability to attract lenders and investors <i>John Seed, EBRD</i>
11:00- 12:30	L03 - PPPs - Basic building blocks Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw	L05 - PPPs: Microeconomic perspective Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw	L06 - Case Study: Austrian ASFINAG model for PPP infrastructure investment <i>Volker RUX, ASFINAG</i>	L08 Understanding and addressing corruption risks in public infrastructure, including PPPs <i>Hamish Goldie-Scot, Engineering Outcomes Ltd</i>	L10- Project preparation and the role of the multilateral banks <i>Jan van Schoonhoven, EBRD</i>

Week 2

	Monday, October 11	Tuesday, October 12	Wednesday, October 13	Thursday, October 14	Friday, October 15
09:00- 10:30	L11 - Financing Public-Private Partnerships <i>Judit Kerekes, Kommunalkredit</i>	L13 - Case Study: Health Care Sector <i>Thomas Konermann, VAMED AG</i>	L16- Case Studies: Public Private Partnerships in North Macedonia/South East Europe <i>Bojana M. Hristovska and Tamara M. Spasova, Analytica think tank</i>	PP01 - Cases presented by participants	W02 ctd. Workshop Project presentations in plenary Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw
11:00- 12:30	L12 - Case study: Contracting as instrument for increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings, <i>Gabriele Brandl, Austrian Energy Agency</i>	L14 - Case Study: Infrastructure Sector, <i>Peter Pelz, Bonaventura</i>	L17 Good Governance and PPP in the Danube Region <i>Thomas Prorok, KDZ - Centre for Public Administration Research</i>	W02 Workshop Project preparation in break out rooms Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw	Wrap-up and evaluation, <i>Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw, Course Director</i>
14:00 - 15:30		L15 - Open Lecture, Infrastructure in Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe : Benchmarking, Macroeconomic Impact, and Policy Issues <i>Petia Topalova, Gabriel Di Bella, IMF</i>			

JVI Virtual Course Program, Foreign Direct Investment Policies, August 30 - September 10, 2021

Week 1					
	Monday, August 30	Tuesday, August 31	Wednesday, September 1	Thursday, September 2	Friday, September 3
	Introduction day and Near-shoring after COVID-19	Impact of Covid-19 and International investment policy regime	Information on wiiw, World investment and political risk	Investment promotion and FDI definition, developments, conclusions	The influence of the public sector and determinants of FDI
09:00 - 10:30	Seminar opening <i>Herve Joly, JVI, Director; Introduction to the seminar</i> <i>Olga Pindyuk, wiiw, Course Director;</i> 09:45-10:45 L01 Near-shoring perspectives after COVID-19: Can the Western Balkans benefit?, <i>Branimir Jovanovic, wiiw</i>	L02 Impact of COVID-19 on FDI and international production, <i>Bruno Casella, UNCTAD</i>	L04 Information on wiiw, its research, topics and its facilities, <i>Richard Grieveson, Deputy Director, wiiw</i> L05 wiiw Forecast for Central East and Southeast Europe, <i>Richard Grieveson, Deputy Director, wiiw</i>	L07 Investment promotion and location marketing, FDI in Lower Austria, <i>Slavisa Milanovic, EcoPlus</i>	L09 The influence of the public sector environment on firms' investment decisions abroad, <i>Vera Kunczer, WU Vienna</i>
11:00- 12:30	L01 ctd Near-shoring perspectives after COVID-19: Can the Western Balkans benefit?, <i>Branimir Jovanovic, wiiw</i> 11:30 P01 Participants round table discussion about the state of the economy and crisis impact, <i>Olga Pindyuk, wiiw</i>	L03 Open Lecture: The international investment policy regime: the need to reform and implications for developing countries, <i>Hamed El-Kady, UNCTAD</i>	L06 World investment and political risk, <i>Marton Kerkapoly, World Bank Group,</i>	L08 Foreign direct investment: The case of Austria: Definition, developments, conclusions, <i>Kujtim Avdiu, OeNB – Austria's National Bank</i>	L10 Determinants of foreign direct investment: Horizontal vs. Vertical FDI, <i>Mahdi Ghodsi, wiiw</i>
Week 2					
	Monday, September 6	Tuesday, September 7	Wednesday, September 8	Thursday, September 9	Friday, September 10
	Digital transformation and innovation, Siemens	International Investment Agreements and determinants of FDI and Introduction of Case Study	Incentive-programmes and Investment promotion in Austria	Case study: Slovak automotive industry and Workshop	Case study investment decision process and Participants presentations
09:00- 10:30	L11 Technology and innovation: impact of FDI, <i>Oktawian Kuc, UNCTAD</i> 9:45 L12 Digital transformation and attracting FDI in services, <i>Olga Pindyuk, wiiw</i>	L14 International investment agreements as a determinant of FDI and their impact on FDI, <i>Christian Bellak, University of Economics, Vienna</i>	L17 Incentive-programmes of the AWS for foreign investors, <i>Bernd Litzka, Austrian Wirtschaftsservice – AWS</i>	L19 The future of industry in Slovakia: from automotive to beyond state of the art technologies, <i>Stanislav Polonsky, Central Europe Forum</i>	L20 Case study: The investment decision process of a real estate investor, <i>Miroslav Tantchev, Robul Bauträger GmbH</i>
11:00- 12:30	L13 Siemens – a strong partner for innovation and technology, <i>Gerold Zakarias, Siemens</i>	L15 contd. International investment agreements as a determinant of FDI and their impact on FDI, <i>Christian Bellak, University of Economics, Vienna</i> 12:00 L16 Introduction to case study 'Anglia', <i>Ghodsi/Pindyuk</i>	L18 Investment promotion in Austria: The activities of ABA – Invest in Austria, <i>Birgit Reiter-Braunwieser, ABA-Invest in Austria</i>	W01 Workshop: Anglia – presentation of results, <i>Ghodsi/Pindyuk</i>	P02 <i>Participants presentations</i>
13:00- 13:30					Wrap-up and evaluation, <i>Pindyuk Olga, wiiw</i>

Human Capital Index – What is it, and why should we care about it?

Open JVI Lecture

Date

11 May 2021, 2:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

Measuring the human capital that a child born today can expect to attain by her 18th birthday, the Human Capital Index (HCI) highlights how current health and education outcomes shape the productivity of the next generation of workers. In this way, it underscores the importance for governments and societies of investing in the human capital of their citizens. This lecture will introduce the HCI, will elaborate why should economists and public officials care about it, and how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected it.

Panel

Opening Remarks

Hervé Joly, Director of Joint Vienna Institute (JVI)

Speakers

Mr. Paul Andres Corral Rodas is currently leading the Human Capital Index work as Acting Chief Economist for Human Development at The World Bank. He previously worked as a data scientist with the Poverty and Equity Global Practice, where he focused on small area estimation methods and applications. He has published peer-reviewed articles on agriculture and development for specific African countries and is the author of multiple Stata commands. He holds a PhD in economics from American University and an MSc degree in agricultural economics from the University of Hohenheim. ([LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#))

Ms. Ritika D'Souza is a Research Analyst at the Chief Economist for Human Development Office. She works on the Human Capital Index (HCI) and related analytics, including methodologies for the socioeconomic and spatial disaggregation of the HCI. Previously, she worked in the South Asia Chief Economist's Office, where her research covered the areas of nutrition, education, gender, and jobs. She has also managed the field implementation of impact evaluations of agriculture, food security, and

nutrition projects in Nepal and Rwanda with the World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) group. She holds a master's degree in public administration from the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University. ([LinkedIn](#))

Moderator

Mr. Mario Holzner is Executive Director at wiiw. He is also coordinating economic policy development and communication with a focus on European economic policy. He has recently worked on issues of infrastructure investment in greater Europe, proposing a European Silk Road. Mario Holzner is also a lecturer in applied econometrics at the University of Vienna, Department of Economics. He obtained his PhD in economics at the Vienna University of Economics and Business in 2005. ([wiiw website](#))

The webinar will be held in English. Participants are encouraged to ask written questions to the presenters using the webinar's chat form.

A list of JVI webinars on topical issues in the field of financial stability, fiscal policy, and macroeconomics can be found [here](#). The schedule of JVI courses – including virtual courses – can be found [here](#).

JVI Virtual Course Program, Public Governance and Structural Reforms, May 3-14, 2021

Week 1					
	Monday, May 3	Tuesday, May 4	Wednesday, May 5	Thursday, May 6	Friday, May 7
	Introduction and industrial policy	Rule of law and social protection	wiiw work and outcome orientation	Environment and health	Structural reform and panel discussion
09:00 - 10:30	Seminar opening <i>Hervé Joly, JVI, Directo</i> L01- Introduction to the seminar <i>Branimir Jovanovic, wiiw, Course Director</i>	L03- 'Judicial independence and the rule of law in transition' <i>Stefan Voigt, University of Hamburg and CESifo</i>	L05- 'Information on wiiw, its research, topics and its facilities' <i>Richard Grieveson, wiiw,</i> L06- 'wiiw Spring Forecast for CESEE: Darkest before the dawn?' <i>Richard Grieveson, wiiw, Deputy Director</i>	L08- 'Environmental policy for successful transition & sustainability' <i>Claudia Kettner-Marx, Austrian Institute of Economic Research</i>	L10- 'Structural reform and macroeconomic policy' <i>Andreas Breitenfellner, OeNB</i>
11:00- 12:30	L02- 'New industrial policy' <i>Wolfgang Polt, Policies-Center for Economic and Innovations Research</i>	L04- 'Reforming social protection during and after the COVID-19 crisis in South East Europe' <i>Paul Stubbs, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb</i>	L07- 'Outcome orientation in Austria: performance management & regulatory impact assessment' <i>Marie Stöger and Nnamdi Sieber, Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sports</i>	L09- 'Health care reform' <i>Maria Hofmarcher-Holzhacker, Health System Intelligence</i>	PD- 'Panel discussion: role of structural reform' <i>Michael Landesmann, wiiw, Andreas Breitenfellner, OeNB</i> Chair: Branimir Jovanovic, wiiw
Week 2					
	Monday, May 10	Tuesday, May 11	Wednesday, May 12	Thursday, May 13	Friday, May 14
	Transition report and innovation	Development policies	Banking and finance	Privatisation and group work	Group work and presentations
09:00- 10:30	L11- 'EBRD Transition report' <i>Ralph de Haas, EBRD</i>	L13- '2030 agenda for sustainable development, the way forward' <i>Sabine Schneeberger, Marco Schimpl, Austrian Federal Chancellery</i>	L15- 'Combatting the pandemic: effects on financial market supervision & regulation' <i>Thomas Stern, FMA - Financial Market Authority Liechtenstein</i>	L17- 'Privatization policy - an instrument for structural reforms?' <i>Elisabeth Hagen, wiiw, Former Executive Director</i>	W - Group work Break out sessions, 5 groups, working together on a project. The project is to prepare a report for the CESEE region on one topic covered during the course.
11:00- 12:30	L12- 'Trends and challenges for research technology and innovation policy' <i>Wolfgang Polt, Policies-Center for Economic and Innovations Research</i>		L16- 'The role of the state in financial market reforms' <i>Marko Skreb, Central Banking Consultant, Croatia</i>	W - Group work Break out sessions, 5 groups, working together on a project. The project is to prepare a report for the CESEE region on one topic covered during the course.	PP- Presentation of the group work. Each group presents their work for 10 mins, followed by 5 minutes questions and comments.
12:30- 14:00					Wrap-up and evaluation, <i>Branimir Jovanovic, wiiw</i>
14:00- 15:30		L14- Open lecture - Opening address <i>Hervé Joly, JVI Director</i> 'Human capital index' <i>Paul Andres Corral Rodas and Ritika D'Souza, World Bank</i>			

JVI Online Course Program, Competitiveness, Growth and Crises (CGC), March 1-12, 2021

Week 1					
	Monday, March 01	Tuesday, March 02	Wednesday, March 03	Thursday, March 04	Friday, March 05
	Introduction to CGC / structural challenges	Productivity	Productivity	Industrial competitiveness	Global value chains
09:00 - 10:30	Seminar opening Herve Joly, JVI L-1 Introduction & Overview Roman Stöllinger, wiiw	L-3 Productivity – measurement & some evidence from OECD Belen Zinni, OECD	L-5 Non-price competitiveness Konstantins Benkovskis, Bank of Latvia/SSC Econ	L-6 Competitive Industrial Performance Report Petra Kynclova, UNIDO	L-7 Production, integration, GVCs Gaaitzen de Vries, University of Groningen
11:00- 12:30	L-2 Structural & institutional challenges in (potential) EU candidate countries Branimir Jovanovic, wiiw	L-4 Boosting growth: improving productivity of individual firms vs the allocation of resources Konstantins Benkovskis, Bank of Latvia/SSC Econ	P-1 Participants Presentations	P-2 Participants Presentations	L-8 Smile Curve Economics: Functional Specialisation & Value Creation Roman Stöllinger, wiiw
Week 2					
	Monday, March 08	Tuesday, March 09	Wednesday, March 10	Thursday, March 11	Friday, March 12
	Trade and Competitiveness	Competitiveness Indicators/ Practical Training Sessions	Practical Training Sessions	Industrial Policy	COVID-19 & economic crisis
09:00- 10:30	L-9 Trade policy and competitiveness Julia Grübler, wiiw Oliver Reiter, wiiw	L-11 Competitiveness in CESEE: Alexandra Bykova, wiiw	W-2 Training & presentation of the workshop output on competitiveness indicators, Instructors as in W-1	L-12 Competitiveness & EU industrial policies Michael Peneder, wifo	P-3 Participants Presentations
11:00- 12:30	L-10 wiiw Database Alexandra Bykova, wiiw David Zenz, wiiw	W-1 Training session on competitiveness indicators Alexandra Bykova, wiiw David Zenz, wiiw	W-2 Training & presentation of the workshop output on competitiveness indicators, Instructors as in W-1	L-13 Smart, mission-oriented, strategic: New Approaches in EU Industrial Policy Making Roman Stöllinger, wiiw	L-14 COVID-19 and economic crisis Richard Grieveson, wiiw
13:00- 13:30					Evaluation and closing session Roman Stöllinger, wiiw

Moderation Roman Stöllinger

Moderation Branimir Jovanovic



*In cooperation with Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe (ÖFZ)
and French Institute for International Relations (Ifri)*

Global Gateway – the new European Silk Road?

Boosting European connectivity and the EU's strategic autonomy against the backdrop of EU-China rivalry

Date

15 December 2021, 09:00 am CET

Venue

Webinar

Description

Over the past year, the topic of connectivity has picked up steam in the European Union. Just a couple of days ago, the European Commission launched its Global Gateway, the new European Strategy to boost “smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport and strengthen health, education and research systems across the world”. The initiative, aimed to mobilise up to €300 billion in investments between 2021 and 2027, is new in two ways: it is an attempt to internalise the logic of strategic competition with China, which has gained ground in the past years; and it is an attempt to increase EU visibility through better branding, given the scope of the EU's existing engagements worldwide. But will this renewed strategy be fit for the challenges the EU ambitions to meet? How will it interact with China's Belt and Road initiative in Europe and beyond?

wiiw in collaboration with the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe (CFA/ÖFZ) and the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) would like to invite you to discuss these issues and many others. The event will take place in the framework of the Rencontres de Schwarzenbergplatz and at the occasion of the inauguration of the night train Vienna-Paris.

Programme

9:00 Opening

Hans Dietmar Schweisgut, Secretary General of the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe and former Head of the European Union Delegation to China

9:10 Panel Discussion

Romana Vlahutin, Ambassador at Large for Connectivity, European External Action Service

Mario Holzner, Executive Director of the Vienna Institute for international Economic Studies

Plamen Tonchev, MERICS European China Policy Fellow and Head of Asia Unit at the Institute of International Economic Relations, Athens

Moderation: *Dominique David*, President of the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe and Advisor to the Executive Chairman of the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI)

10:30 end of the event

A new growth model for EU-CEE

Avoiding a trap and embracing the megatrends

Date

29 November 2021, 03:00 pm CET

Venue

Webinar

Description

The economic catching-up process of many EU-CEE countries has slowed down since 2007 and their current growth model could soon reach its limits. In particular, their strong specialisation in low value-added production could be evidence of a development trap. Moreover, the countries face fundamental demographic, environmental and technological challenges.

Against this background, the [Friedrich Ebert Foundation \(FES\) Warsaw](#) and wiiw will present the study '[A New Growth Model in EU-CEE. Avoiding the Specialisation Trap and Embracing Megatrends](#)'. After the presentation, experts will discuss the following questions:

- › Do functional specialisation patterns indicate that the EU-CEE growth model is hitting the limits?
- › What are the policy priorities to avoid being stuck in a development 'trap'?
- › Can industrial policy be designed in a way that is appropriate for EU-CEE institutions?
- › How well prepared is EU-CEE for the green transition?

Panelists

[Ernst Hillebrand](#) is Director of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung's office in Warsaw. He has previously headed up the foundation's International Political Analysis department, the Unit for Central and Eastern Europe, as well as leading FES offices in Paris, London and Rome.

[Richard Grieveson](#) is Deputy Director at the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) and Research Associate at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. He specialises in the economies of Central, East and Southeast Europe.

[Debora Revoltella](#) is Director of the Economics Department of the European Investment Bank (EIB). Since her arrival at the EIB in 2011, she has designed and led the work for flagship publications such as the EIB Investment Report, a series of policy working papers and other regional specific research.

[Maruska Vizek](#) is Assistant Director and Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Economics (EIZ) in Zagreb. From 2016 to 2020 she was EIZ director. Her research is focused on applied macroeconomics, international finances and international economics.

[Jan Hagemeyer](#) is the Vice President of the Center for Social and Economic Research (CASE) and Associate Professor at the University of Warsaw. Prior to joining CASE, he was affiliated with the National Bank of Poland where he headed the Division for Structural Analysis. Jan Hagemeyer's research focuses inter alia on international trade, trade policy, global value chains, firm performance and productivity.

[Michael Landesmann](#) (Chair) is Senior Research Associate at wiiw and Professor of Economics at the Johannes Kepler University Linz. He was Scientific Director of wiiw from 1996 to 2016. His research focuses on East–West economic integration, structural change, economic growth, general topics in international economic relations, globalisation and labour markets and migration.

Press Releases

[English](#)

[German](#)

Related Projects

[A new growth model in EU-CEE](#)

Related Publications

[Avoiding a Trap and Embracing the Megatrends: Proposals for a New Growth Model in EU-CEE](#)



Thirty Years On: Is There Still a Post-Soviet Space

Public panel discussion on the prospects for future relations between the EU and its neighbours to the East

Date

15 November 2021, 06:30 pm CET

Venue

Hybrid event: Sky Lounge, Oskar-Morgenstern-Platz 1, Vienna + facebook stream

Description

How did the dissolution of the USSR impact the European Community, and later the EU? The Baltic states joined the EU but for the rest of Eastern Europe only the Eastern Partnership framework was put on offer, with perspectives of deeper economic and political cooperation but without clear membership prospects. Relations between the EU and Russia have been quite intense over the last thirty years. Despite multiple political crises and disagreements, economic cooperation, business ties and people-to-people contacts have abounded. The EU and Russian influences in the Eastern Neighborhood overlapped and sometimes clashed, but otherwise co-existed relatively peacefully up until the events in Ukraine in 2013. After Maidan protests and especially the annexation of Crimea, the geopolitical situation on the continent has changed irreversibly. Further crises unfolded, including the war in Eastern Ukraine.

More recently, Russia-EU relations have reached a new low, with Moscow dismissing relations with Brussels as inessential and focusing on bilateral ties with EU member states, the internal political crisis in Belarus spilled over the border and gained a geopolitical dimension, the full-scale war between Armenia and Azerbaijan brought victory to Baku and enhanced Turkish standing in the region, while Moldova elected a pro-European party in a landslide. Do these drastic developments point to an emergence of a new geopolitical situation on the European continent? How should the EU, Russia and the Eastern Neighborhood countries build relations with one another in order to manage this transition without major conflicts and human losses?

The panel will discuss the impact of the dissolution of the Soviet Union on European security and how the latter has changed after thirty years. It will look at the EU's relations with Russia and Eastern

Neighborhood countries, discuss the role of the Baltic states in formulating the EU policy towards Eastern Partners and Russia, and assess how states' relations on the European continent might evolve in the near future.

The event is organised by the [International Institute for Peace](#), in cooperation with [Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Multilateral Dialogue Vienna](#), the [Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe \(IDM\)](#), the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw), and with the support of the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna cordially invite you to the public panel on the following topic:

Panel

Keynote Speech:

PHILIPP THER, Professor of Central European History at the University of Vienna

Speaker:

VASILY ASTROV, Economist at the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies

TINATIN KHIDASHELI, Chair of Civic IDEA, former Georgian Defense Minister

KRISTI RAIK (online), Director of the Estonian Foreign Policy Institute at the ICDS

TATIANA ROMANOVA, Associate Professor at St. Petersburg State University, Russia

SEBASTIAN SCHÄFFER, Managing Director at the Institute for Danube Region and Central Europe

Moderation:

HANNES SWOBODA, President of the IIP and former MEP

Online streaming

The event will be streamed via <http://www.facebook.com/IIPVIENNA>



universität
wien



Workshop on International Economic Networks

Leading researchers in International Economics cover state-of-the-art research in a two days workshop

Date

29-30 October 2021

Venue

Webinar

Description

The University of Vienna's Economics Department, the Vienna Graduate School of Economics (VGSE), the Research Centre International Economics (FIW), the European Research Council (ERC), the Heinrich Graph Hardegg'sche Stiftung and the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) host a two-day workshop drawing together researchers interested in international economics, global value chains and economic geography. The workshop's format will allow for detailed presentations and discussion about the research strategies underlying the presented papers.

Related Links

[Programme](#)

WORKSHOP ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC NETWORKS (WIEN)

Date: October 29th, 30th, 2021

Online Platform: Zoom (details to be announced)

Registration: <https://fiw.ac.at/en/events/fiw-workshops/28th-fiw-workshop-on-international-economic-networks/registration>

Schedule (Central European Time)

October 29th

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 13:50 – 14:00 | Opening |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Anders Akerman (Stockholm U.): “Imports and the CO2 Emissions of Firms” (with Rikard Forslid and Ossian Prane) |
| 14:30 – 15:00 | Dennis Novy (U. Warwick): “Import Liberalization as Export Destruction? Evidence from the United States” (with Holger Breinlich, Elsa Leromain and Thomas Sampson) |
| 15:00 – 15:10 | Break |
| 15:10 – 15:55 | Keynote: Natalia Ramondo (Boston U.): “The Ricardian Model of Trade: Old Insights, New Tools” (with Nelson Lind) |
| 15:55 – 16:10 | Break |
| 16:10 – 16:40 | Federico Hunneus (Central Bank of Chile): “Spatial Production Networks” (with Costas Arkolakis and Yuhei Miyauchi) |
| 16:40 – 17:10 | Yuan Zi (U. Oslo): “Sparse Production Networks” (with Andrew B. Bernard) |
| 17:10 – 17:20 | Break |
| 17:20 – 17:50 | Jan David Bakker (UCL): “Cities, Heterogeneous Firms, and Trade” (with Alvaro Garcia-Marin, Andrei Potlogea, Vico Voigtländer and Yang Yang) |
| 17:50 – 18:20 | Woan Foong Wong (U. Oregon): “Entrepôt: Hubs, Scale, and Trade Costs” (with Sharat Ganapati and Oren Ziv) |

October 30th

- 15:00 – 15:30 **Alessandro Ferrari** (U. Zurich): “Global Value Chains and the Business Cycle”
- 15:30 – 16:00 **Anna Gumpert** (LMU): “Multinational Firms and Global Innovation” (with Kalina Manova, Christina Rujan and Monika Schnitzer)
- 16:00 – 16:10 Break
- 16:10 – 16:55 **Keynote: Andreas Moxnes** (U. Oslo): “TBA” (with Coauthor(s))
- 16:55 – 17:10 Break
- 17:10 – 17:40 **Stephen R. Yeaple** (Penn State): “Multinationals, Markets, and Markups” (with Wolfgang Keller)
- 17:40 – 18:10 **Swapnika Rachapalli** (U. Toronto): “Learning between Buyers and Sellers Along the Global Value Chain”
- 18:10 – 18:20 Closure



In cooperation with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Warschau and Polski Instytut Ekonomiczny

A new growth model for CEE countries - how to boost productivity and living standards?

Date

15 October 2021, 09:30 am CEST

Venue

Online (facebook event)

Description

Central Eastern Europe (CEE) has undergone a profound transformation over the last thirty years. Yet, while the CEE economies have been able to narrow the gap to the EU average, the gap to the successful post-industrial economies of Northern and Western Europe remained relatively stable. Why and what can CEE countries do about it?

On behalf of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, wiiw addressed these issues in a major study [A new growth model in EU-CEE. Avoiding the specialisation trap and embracing megatrends](#) which will be presented and discussed. The authors identify six priority areas for action to make sure the region makes full use of the "substantial opportunities for EU-CEE in a greener, digitized, automated world".

Speakers

Richard Grievson, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

Piotr Maszczyk, Department of Economics II of Collegium of World Economy, Warsaw School of Economics

Michał Brzozowski, Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of Warsaw

Łukasz Czernicki, Ministry of Finance

Zuzana Zavorska, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw)

Piotr Arak, Polish Economic Institute

Ernst Hillebrand, Friedrich Ebert Foundation

Opening remarks: **Tadeusz Kościński**, Minister of Finance, Development Funds and Regional Policy

Online streaming

The event will be streamed live on this [facebook page](#).



In cooperation with Research Center for the History of Transformations (RECET)

Why has Eastern Europe lagged behind the West for so long? Long-term patterns of economic growth, retardation and path-dependency

Matthias Morys, University of York (UK)

Date

27 May 2021, 04:30 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

The collapse of communism in Central, East and South-East Europe (CESEE) led to great hopes for the region and for Europe. Three decades on, the picture is mixed: in many CESEE countries, the transformation process is incomplete, and the economic catch-up has taken longer than anticipated. The current situation has highlighted the need for a better understanding of the long-term political and economic implications of the CESEE experience. Drawing on his own research as well as his editorship of the recently published “Economic History of Central, East and South-East Europe, 1800 to the Present” (Routledge 2020), Matthias Morys outlines where quantitative economic history research stands on the origins and persistence of this fundamental West-East-divide, and suggests some lessons for the 22 countries in the region today.

[Matthias Morys](#) is a Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in the Department of Economics at the University of York (UK). He earned a Ph.D. (2006) from the London School of Economics and worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Oxford prior to coming to York. His research interests include monetary and financial history of the 19th and 20th centuries, globalisation in historical perspective, and the economic history of Central, East and South-East Europe.

Moderator: [Mario Holzner](#) is the Executive Director of wiiw. He is also coordinating economic policy development and communication with a focus on European economic policy. He has recently worked on issues of infrastructure investment in greater Europe, proposing a European Silk Road. Mario Holzner is also a lecturer in applied econometrics at the University of Vienna, Department of Economics.



In cooperation with Österreichisch-Französisches Zentrum für Annäherung in Europa and Sciences Po

The EU's post-covid fiscal policy: will it unify us or divide us?

Online discussion with Marco Buti, Natacha Valla, Guntram Wolff, Thomas Wieser and Hans Dietmar Schweisgut

Date

11 May 2021, 2:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

Fighting the pandemic and mitigating the socio-economic impact in the European Union required an unprecedented and coordinated effort at the Union level and by member states. In addition to immediate support measures and the ECB's Pandemic Emergency Purchase Programme, EU leaders have agreed a recovery package of € 1.8 trillion, combining the EU budget for 2021 – 27 and NextGeneration EU, under which the Commission will be able to borrow € 750 billion. This complements the measures at national level made possible by suspending budgetary rules and state aid restrictions.

While we are still far from being able to declare an end to the health crisis and a return to economic growth, the impact of huge expenditures in member states on the level of their public debt will not only raise the issue of the sustainability of public finances post-Covid but will force us to rethink the framework of public finances and their role at the EU level. The recent report by the Arthuis Commission requested by the French Prime Minister addresses these issues with regard to France, but it certainly contains messages for other member states as well, even if the huge difference in debt levels among member states which has been greatly aggravated by the crisis, will be one of the most difficult issue to deal with in the quest for a new coordinated fiscal framework.

It will be essential to ensure that different conditions and perceptions in member states will not turn out to become too divisive for combining the need for sustainable public finances with the one for future-oriented policies to ensure Europe's growth and competitiveness. With NGEU the EU has provided a timely tool for fiscal solidarity. The quality and speed of implementation of green, digital and forward-

looking projects will be key for the credibility of action at the EU level and, more generally, the political legitimacy of fiscal policies for quite some time to come.

Our discussion will therefore focus on the following issues:

- › Will EU member states manage their recovery paths in line with the priorities of NGEU? What will be the political consequences of success or failure to do so?
- › Will there be divergent fiscal paths or will we see a more coordinated process?
- › How to take account of divergent speeds of adjusting very different debt levels while aiming at a coordinated EU approach?
- › Rather than engaging on a politically divisive public discourse on the timing and extent for fiscal consolidation, how can we build on the unifying effect of focusing on investment to modernise our economies?
- › What are the risks of shifting the focus of the debate in such a way?

Agenda

Welcome: **Hans Dietmar Schweisgut**, Secretary General of the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe

Discussion

Marco Buti, Chef de cabinet of Paolo Gentiloni, European Commissioner for Economy

Natacha Valla, Dean, Sciences Po Paris, School of Management and Innovation

Guntram Wolff, Director of Bruegel

Moderation: **Thomas Wieser**, Former chairperson of Eurogroup Working Group, non-resident fellow of Bruegel

Related Downloads

[Programme - The EU's post-covid fiscal policy](#)

Online Discussion

The EU's post-covid fiscal policy: will it unify us or divide us?

11 May 2021, 14h00-15h15

Welcome: **Hans Dietmar Schweisgut**, Secretary General of the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe

Discussion

Marco Buti, Chef de cabinet of Paolo Gentiloni, European Commissioner for Economy

Natacha Valla, Dean, Sciences Po Paris, School of Management and Innovation

Guntram Wolff, Director of Bruegel

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* * *

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Europe's Income, Wealth, Consumption, and Inequality

Book launch with Georg Fischer, Martin Kahanec, Robert Strauss and Olaf van Vliet

Date

14 April 2021, 1:30 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

Introduction and Book Launch (13:30-14:00)

Opening remarks by *Martin Kahanec*, Dean of the School of Public Policy at CEU

Statement on the OUP's International Policy Exchange Series by *Douglas J. Besharov*, Series Editor; University of Maryland

Book launch presentation by *Robert Strauss*, Co-editor of "[Europe's Income, Wealth, Consumption, and Inequality](#)"; Formerly the European Commission

Globalization, Flexibilization, Technology and Inequality (14:00-14:30)

From Social Protection to Social Investment: European Responses to Globalization, Technological Change, Labour Market Flexibilization, and Migration presented by *Olaf van Vliet*, Leiden University

Europe's Migration Experience and Its Effects on Economic Inequality presented by *Martin Kahanec*, Central European University

Panel Discussion: Global Trends, Local Inequality Impacts (14:30-15:00)

Anil Duman (Central European University)

Georg Fischer (Co-editor of "[Europe's Income, Wealth, Consumption, and Inequality](#)"; wiiw; Formerly the European Commission)

Zsoka Koczan (EBRD)

Wiemer Salverda (University of Amsterdam)

Martin Kahanec (Moderator)

Discussion

Closing Remarks

Georg Fischer (wiiv)

End (15:30)

Related Downloads

[Agenda Book Launch](#)

BOOK LAUNCH: EUROPE'S INCOME, WEALTH, CONSUMPTION, AND INEQUALITY

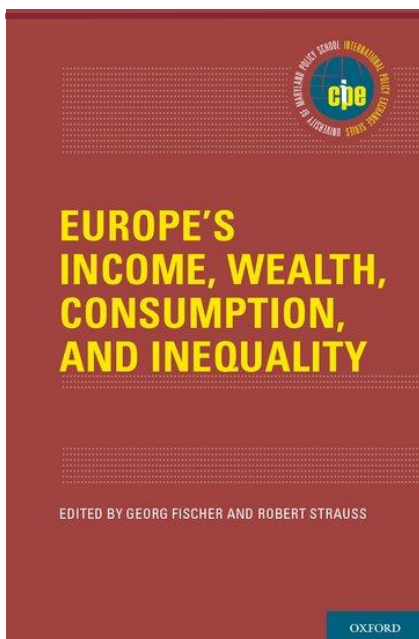
EDITED BY GEORG FISCHER AND
ROBERT STRAUSS

Wednesday, April 14, 13:30-15:30

[Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 923 5470 2994 ; Passcode:
574385

*Online event hosted by CEU's School of Public Policy
and co-hosted by wiiw*



Event Program

PART I: INTRODUCTION AND BOOK LAUNCH (13:30-14:00)

Opening remarks – (Martin Kahanec, *Dean of the School of Public Policy at CEU*)

Statement on the OUP's International Policy Exchange Series – (Douglas J. Besharov, *Series Editor; University of Maryland*)

Book launch presentation – (Robert Strauss, *Co-editor of "Europe's Income, Wealth, Consumption, and Inequality"; Formerly the European Commission*)

PART II: GLOBALIZATION, FLEXIBILIZATION, TECHNOLOGY AND INEQUALITY (14:00-14:30)

Chapter 10 presented by Olaf van Vliet, *Leiden University*:

From Social Protection to Social Investment: European Responses to Globalization, Technological Change, Labour Market Flexibilization, and Migration – *Olaf van Vliet, Vincent Bakker, and Lars van Doorn*

Chapter 14 presented by Martin Kahanec, *Central European University*:

Europe's Migration Experience and Its Effects on Economic Inequality – *Martin Guzi, Martin Kahanec, and Magdalena M. Ulceluse*

PART II PANEL DISCUSSION: GLOBAL TRENDS, LOCAL INEQUALITY IMPACTS (14:30-15:00)

Anil Duman (*Central European University*)

Georg Fischer (*Co-editor of "Europe's Income, Wealth, Consumption, and Inequality"; wiiw; Formerly the European Commission*)

Zsoka Koczan (*EBRD*)

Wiemer Salverda (*University of Amsterdam*)

Martin Kahanec (*Moderator*)

DISCUSSION (15:00-15:30)

CLOSING REMARKS

Georg Fischer (*wiiw*)

END (15:30)

Visegrád 4 at 30: economic outlook, regional dynamics, role in the EU

Online panel discussion with Roderick Parkes and Milan Nič (DGAP), Eszter Zalan (EUobserver) and Richard Grieveson (wiiw)

Date

11 February 2021, 4:00 pm CEST

Venue

Webinar

Description

February 2021 marks the 30th anniversary of the Visegrád agreement. It's time to look back and forward. The four countries have made remarkable economic progress in the past 30 years: per capita GDP in the Czech Republic is at around 90% of the EU level and higher than in some 'older' EU member states, and Poland has achieved particularly strong and sustained convergence performance since the mid-1990s. However, this has not translated into rewards for mainstream political forces nor influence at the EU level. So, what is the future for this regional grouping in the EU? Does anything bind the four Central European countries beyond their geography, economic interests and elites? Have they missed the window for constructive influence in the EU, or might the shift of global power eastwards play in their favour? And does the current trend of deepening of Franco-German relations herald a heightening of Europe's East-West tensions or a fundamental reshuffle of the EU's political coalitions?

Questions to be addressed include:

- › Why have the Visegrad countries performed better in economic terms than most of the rest of CEE in the last three decades? What characterises their relative success?
- › Why has this not translated into more influence at the EU level?
- › What was the crucial turning point: the migration crisis of 2015 or internal developments in V4 countries, such as the illiberal counter-revolution of Viktor Orbán and Jarosław Kaczyński?
- › To what extent has the rise to power of Orbán and Kaczyński been driven by economic factors?

- › The idea of these four countries as a distinct group persists. Why is this? How has the V4 survived recent cracks over the rule of law and the EU budget by Hungary and Poland?
- › What is the future of this region within the EU after the pandemic? Do V4 political elites still share similar national aspirations within the EU?
- › What should be the future-oriented EU agenda of V4 governments with Germany and Austria?

Panel

[Milan Nič](#), Head, Robert Bosch Center for Central/Eastern Europe and Russia, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

[Eszter Zalan](#), Journalist, EUobserver, Brussels

[Richard Grieveson](#), Deputy Director, wiiw

Chair: [Roderick Parkes](#), Head of Europe program, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

IMPRESSUM

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Nachdruck nur auszugsweise und mit genauer Quellenangabe gestattet.

Offenlegung nach § 25 Mediengesetz: Medieninhaber (Verleger): Verein "Wiener Institut für Internationale Wirtschaftsvergleiche", A 1060 Wien, Rahlgasse 3. Vereinszweck: Analyse der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung der zentral- und osteuropäischen Länder sowie anderer Transformationswirtschaften sowohl mittels empirischer als auch theoretischer Studien und ihre Veröffentlichung; Erbringung von Beratungsleistungen für Regierungs- und Verwaltungsstellen, Firmen und Institutionen.



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