

List of Projects

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Labour Market Inequalities in Times of Structural Change

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

April 2024 - September 2026

The project addresses a number of crucial challenges faced by European labour markets at this testing time, when there is a major structural shift in job characteristics, task composition, the required skill sets of workers and, consequently, labour-market equality and efficiency. Different socio-demographic groups are adjusting to the imminent shift at varying speeds, depending on their skills and competencies, the specific job tasks they fulfil, their preferences for certain job characteristics, and the diverse obstacles, extent of discrimination and inequalities they face on the labour market. This project aims to analyse how the structural shift in the task composition of jobs, the job skill demands and the skill profiles of workers, as well as the labour-market challenges presented by the war, impact on inequalities across socio-demographic groups (men/women, immigrants/natives, younger/older workers) in a number of core labour-market outcomes.

Funded by the [Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank](#) (Project No. 18934).

Advice on intra-EU mobility and social security coordination (Lot 2: Statistics and data collection)

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

December 2021 - November 2025

The European Commission is seeking independent expertise in order to have support in the areas of free movement of workers, posting of workers and social security coordination with in-depth research and analysis, as well as to widely disseminate this specific expertise to experts and practitioners at the national level. wiiw is part of a consortium led by HIVA/KU Leuven and is responsible for several ad-hoc reports on specific indicators to mobility.

Towards a world integrated and Socio-economically balanced European economic development scenario (TWIN SEEDS)

European Commission, Horizon Europe

October 2022 - September 2025

The objective of the TWIN SEEDS project is to investigate changes in international trade and production patterns, specifically in global value chains (GVCs), both those of a longer-term nature (driven by the "twin seeds": technological developments and geo-political changes) and those that are taking place in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. The project will examine the impacts of these changes on employment, job quality, social and regional cohesion, on patterns of growth and competitiveness, as well as their environmental implications. The analysis will provide the basis to map out forward-looking policy scenarios (including trade and investment, industrial, regional, education/training and social policies) that allow Europe to secure decent work and working conditions, rapid progress towards resource-efficiency and decarbonisation, security of supply for strategic goods and sustainable, inclusive and competitive growth in the years to come. The research will be based on a thorough multi-level (global, national, regional, sectoral, firm level) research framework, relying on a mix of quantitative and qualitative methods, on multidisciplinary knowledge (international economists and trade policy experts, regional economists, international business and organisational experts, political scientists) and on an extensive stakeholder engagement.

Welfare systems and labour market policies for economic and social resilience in Europe (WeLaR)

European Commission, Horizon Europe

September 2022 - August 2025

WeLaR is a three-year research project funded by the Horizon Europe Framework Programme that aims to examine the impact of digitalisation, globalisation, climate change and demographic shifts on labour markets and welfare states in Europe. WeLaR will not only improve the understanding of the individual and combined effects of these trends, but also offer policy proposals helping to adapt welfare systems to these pressing challenges. The project's ultimate goal is to assist in the creation of policies that ensure economic growth is distributed fairly across society and generates opportunities for all. To achieve these goals, the WeLaR team will develop a new framework to study the effects of the four megatrends on the labour market and the welfare state. It will integrate analysis of their impacts on labour supply, demand and market matching, while accounting for the interactions among the four megatrends and the mediating role of institutions and policies. WeLaR will use a mix of quantitative and qualitative methods, as well as stakeholder engagement. The research is carried on by a consortium of 10 institutions from seven European countries and is being coordinated by the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven). wiiw's contributions address primarily intra-family time allocation of paid work and housework, atypical work and intra-EU mobility patterns, the impact of offshoring and automation on the demand for typical and atypical jobs, and the role of unions and policies for the quality of work.

<https://projectwelar.eu/>

The spatial impact of EU policies

European Commission, DG Regional Policy

October 2023 - January 2025

The objective of this study is to assess the impact of the EU initiatives and policies, such as the Common Agricultural Policy, the Common Fisheries Policy, the European Research and Innovation policy (Horizon 2020), the EU Emissions Trading System etc., on economic and social cohesion in the EU. The results of the study will contribute to the current discussion on the reform of EU Cohesion policy by providing insights into: • potential cohesion trade-offs, synergies and complementarities between EU Cohesion policy and other EU policies and initiatives • how to further develop the “do no harm to cohesion” principle and • how Territorial Impact Assessments can be further developed to improve policy coordination. These aspects will be explored not only through the lens of territories, but also that of social groups, thereby investigating whether the reduction of inter-regional disparities goes hand-in-hand with the reduction of intra-regional inequalities. The consortium under leadership of wiiw will also analyse funds disbursed under regional State aid, with a particular attention to the amounts of aid channelled to EU regions under this regime to enhance regional development.

Labour market effects of Austrian foreign trade

Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour and Economy

November 2023 - September 2024

Around a third of Austria's GDP can be attributed to export activities in value added terms and accordingly, around a quarter of employment is directly and indirectly linked to exports. Export markets might undergo a profound change over the next years. Further the labour market will be affected by major changes in the coming years due to demographic developments. This study is therefore dedicated to the interaction between the Austrian export economy and the labour market, whereby two central topics are addressed and linked: Firstly, the expected effects of structural change in foreign trade on the demand for labour in Austria are analysed and quantified. Secondly, the development of the labour supply is discussed and compared with the analyses of the development of labour demand. The aim is to quantitatively analyse the development of employment given the demographic developments on the one hand and the expected structural developments and effects on employment stemming from Austrian foreign trade on the other.

Beschäftigungs- und Lohnstrukturen, Verwendung von IKT in Haushalten und Erwerbsverläufe - Analysen basierend auf neuen österreichischen Mikrodaten

AK - Wien

March 2023 - June 2024

Verwendung von IKT und Beschäftigungs- und Lohnstrukturen: Analysen basierend auf neuen österreichischen Mikrodaten Ziel der Studie ist es, wichtige Fragestellungen auf Basis von Mikrodaten für Österreich zu analysieren. Die Studie konzentriert sich auf zwei Themenbereiche: IKT-Nutzung und Beschäftigungsentwicklung in österreichischen Unternehmen und IKT-Nutzung und Lohnungleichheit in österreichischen Unternehmen

Challenges for Cohesion: Looking ahead to 2035

Monday, 29 April 2024

2/3

This European research project focusses on the challenges emerging from globalisation, demographic change, digital and green transitions and their impact on the economic cohesion of European regions until 2035. The research includes the development and analysis of vulnerability indices related to each challenge. One macroeconomic (CAM) and four well-established regional economic models (GEM-E3, E3ME, MASST-5, EU-EMS) are employed to assess how the three challenges might affect EU regions' potential future growth patterns and thus also regional cohesion until the year 2035. The study also includes detailed qualitative work on the regions' adaptive and mitigating capacities with respect to these challenges. The results of this research project are important contributions to the European debate on the future of EU Cohesion policy. The project is a collaborative venture of seven leading European research institutes and is coordinated by the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw).