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www.diw.de/english

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DIW Berlin

Dear readers,

For the first time, the Six Institute's Joint Forecast will be tendered throughout Europe this autumn. This was announced by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technologie) in February. The number of participating institutions will be reduced from currently six to less than five, and the contract for the Joint Forecast will be awarded for three years. The decision of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, to allow for increased competition is expressly welcomed by DIW Berlin. The Department Macro Analysis and Forecasting of DIW Berlin has a very strong scientific team which is superbly prepared for both, national and international competition. It has very good chances of success with regard to being involved with the community diagnosis in the future.

Our Institute has already been successful within the Initiative for Excellence of the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG): DIW Berlin has reached the second round and participates in the Cluster of Excellence applications of three Berlin universities.

Every three months, the DIW-Newsletter provides information on the latest events concerning DIW Berlin as well as of current human resources matters, events, calls for papers, employment opportunities, articles and more. If you like our newsletter we would very much appreciate it if you would forward it to potential readers.

With kind regards,



Dr. Alexander Fisher
Managing Director
German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin)



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- Olaf Groh-Samberg
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- Berlin Lunchtime Meeting: Take Advantage of the Opportunities for Shaping Europe's Future Capabilities - The Agenda with Regard to the Energy Policy of the German Presidency of the EU Council

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News from DIW Berlin

Declaration of DIW Berlin on the provision of Policy Advice to the public

With regard to the current (middle of April 2007) public discussion regarding the role of economic research institutes in the provision of policy advice, the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) states:

1) DIW Berlin is an independent institute which is wholly committed to scientific interests. In accordance with the terms of its Charter, it is required to provide the general public with up-to-date information about the results of its research. Together with its employees, it expresses itself in a coordinated and strategic way within the context of its advisory activities. It is thereby a consultant and no self proclaimed player in the everyday business of economic policy.

2) In accordance with the terms of the Charter, the communication of the results of the research has solely been a matter for the President, who has involved employees of the Institute in this work on a temporary basis as part of an arrangement which has been put into effect for years. According to the latter, the President is responsible for the Institute as a whole, while heads of departments are directly responsible for their employees. Employees may only make

statements with the close agreement of their heads of departments and specifically on the basis of the quality-controlled results of scientific research. Subjected to quality control are products which pass through a strict internal system of assessment, for example the Wochenberichte, the Discussion Papers or Fachgutachten in which the heads of the individual departments and the Institute's management are involved.

3) DIW Berlin is an independent scientific institute which does not let itself be coerced either with regard to the obtaining and communicating of the results of research or the adoption of strategic viewpoints by its employees. This means the repulsion of pressure from the political community as well as the rejection of advice about the assignment of employees. Both would call into question the independence of the Institute. This does not release the Institute from its permanent obligation to lay itself open to criticism and public debate in connection with its activities. This is a part of the everyday business and normal state of affairs of DIW Berlin in a number of ways.

4) DIW Berlin must reserve for itself the right of suitable assignment of its employees for whom the relevant heads of departments will primarily be responsible. Particularly where an employee retires or changes job within the Institute or moves to a new company, the Institute will have to develop and assign suitable staff in good time for the purposes of safeguarding its work.



Reform of Joint Forecast

Joint Forecast will be tendered throughout Europe from the autumn of 2007, said the Ministry of Economic Affairs after a meeting with the presidents of the economic research institutes at the end of February. It has been agreed that independence and proven economic excellence in economic research will be the criteria for participating in the tendering procedure. Another requirement will be the submission of a tender which covers all aspects of Joint Forecast. Expert reports will have to be submitted in the German language also in future.

Overall, the number of institutes involved, which is currently six, will be reduced to less than five. The contract for Joint Forecast will in future be awarded for a period of three years. A medium-term forecast will also be prepared in the spring of every year. In addition, a representative of the BMWi will also participate as a silent observer.

DIW Berlin expressly welcomes the decision of the Ministry of Economic Affairs to allow more competition. However, the number of competitors will continue to be small in future, since all of the criteria will only be met by the Leibniz Association in Germany, although several foreign institutes - for example in Holland, Austria and Switzerland - will be able to submit a tender.

The Macro Analysis and Forecasting Department of DIW Berlin has a very good chance of being allowed to participate in Joint Forecast in future, as its use of advanced quantitative methods and the importance placed on the new Keynesian approach particularly mean that it has something unique to offer compared with competitors. Most of the academics in the Department also have doctorates or have even qualified as professors. The many years of

experience of the academics in Business Cycle Analysis and its methods have been proven in many academic publications. This means that the Macro Analysis and Forecasting Department of DIW Berlin has a very strong academic team which is exceptionally well prepared for national as well as international competition.



DIW Berlin is involved with the Application Regarding Clusters of Excellence of Three Berlin Universities

The application of Freie Universität Berlin regarding clusters of excellence on the subject "Successful learning in modern knowledge societies: Individual and institutional prerequisites" with the collaboration of Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schupp, Deputy Director of the Department "German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP)" of DIW Berlin, has entered the second round of the excellence initiative of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

The application of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin on the subject "Risk and Security" has entered the second round as well. Prof. Dr. Tilman Brück, Head of the "International Economics" Department, Prof. Dr. Claudia Kemfert, Head of the "Energy, Transportation, Environment" Department and Prof. Dr. Gert G. Wagner, Head of the Department "German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP)", all of DIW Berlin, are involved with the application.

Technische Universität Berlin managed to enter the finals with its cluster "Human Centric Communication Cluster (H-C3)", with the collaboration of Prof. Dr. Christian Wey. Christian Wey runs the Department "Information Society and Competition" of DIW Berlin.

The Joint Committee for the Excellence Initiative, which consists of the Expert Committee of the DFG and the Strategic Committee of the Wissenschaftsrat (Advisory Body to Federal Government and the States), reached decisions on more than 305 project proposals on January 12, 2007. The selected universities will now be able to submit refined applications by April 13, with a decision on their sponsorship being reached in October.

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2007/20070115_exzellenzcluster.html



Committee of Industrial Economics of the Verein für Socialpolitik met at DIW Berlin

The more than 40 members of the Committee of Industrial Economics of the Verein für Socialpolitik (Association for Social Policy) were wholly satisfied with their rotational meeting at DIW Berlin on March 12 and 13. Prof. Dr. Dietmar Harhoff, Chairman of the Committee, oversaw an extensive and exciting programme.

The President and the Vice-President of DIW Berlin, Prof. Dr. Klaus F. Zimmermann and Prof. Dr. Georg Meran, welcomed the members of the Committee and made it clear that DIW Berlin

was very pleased that the meeting was being held at their premises. The topics of the meeting ranged from competition in rail traffic through efficient electricity portfolios to pricing in media markets.

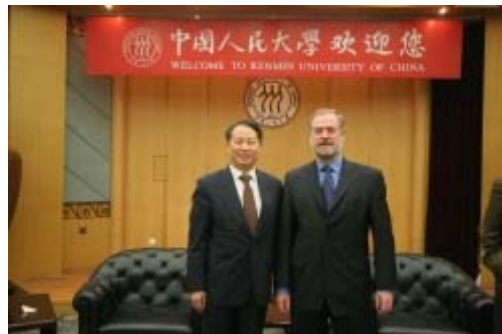


Prof. Dr. Georg Meran, Vice-President of DIW Berlin, welcomes the members of the Committee (Picture: DIW Berlin)



Personnel

In a formal and festive ceremony on December 20, 2006 in Beijing, China, **Prof. Dr. Klaus F. Zimmermann** has been appointed Honorary Professor of Renmin University of China (Beijing) in recognition of his outstanding contributions to labor economics. Zimmermann was awarded this high honor from the hands of Prof. Tianquan Cheng, Chairman of the University Council of Renmin University, in front of a larger number of distinguished Chinese labor economists, government officials, and many research students. Laudation was given by Prof. Xiangquan Zeng, Dean of the School of Labor Relations & Human Resources of Renmin University and Director of its China Institute for Employment Research (CIER).



Tianquan Cheng, Renmin University and Prof. Dr. Klaus F. Zimmermann, President of DIW Berlin



The Head of the “Energy, Transportation, Environment” Department at DIW Berlin and Professor of Environmental Economics at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Prof. Dr. Claudia Kemfert, has been appointed as a member of the “High Level Group on Energy” of the EU Commission. The President of the EU Commission, José Manuel Barroso, has been able to find well-known experts in the field of energy and climate protection for this Group in Europe.



Prof. Dr. Claudia Kemfert and José Manuel Barroso

Further Information:

<http://www.diw.de/programme/jsp/presse.jsp?PCODE=566&language=en>



Prof. Dr. Gert G. Wagner, Head of the Socio-Economic Panel Study at DIW Berlin, was appointed to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the "International Data Forum". The Panel will be established in Beijing in June 2007 by the following organizations: International Social Science Council (ISSC), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Deutsche Forschungs-Gemeinschaft (Germany) (DFG), Economic and Social Research Council of the UK (ESRC), National Science Foundation of the USA (NSF), Netherlands Research Organisation (NWO), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), and Social Science Research Council (SSRC, New York).



Prof. Dr. Klaus F. Zimmermann, President of DIW Berlin, and **Prof. Dr. Gert G. Wagner**, Head of the German Socio-Economic Panel Study at DIW Berlin (SOEP), are members of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the politico-economic monthly journal "Wirtschaftsdienst" of the Deutsche Zentralbibliothek für Wirtschaftswissenschaften (ZBW) since January 2007.



At the expert talks of DIW Berlin and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung held on February 9, 2007 on the topic "Germany and Syria: Potential and need for greater economic cooperation", Dr. Abdallah Al-Dardari, Syrian Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, and **Prof. Dr. Tilman Brück**, Head of Department International Economics at DIW Berlin, discussed the current economic situation in Syria with German and Syrian representatives from the fields of economics and politics.

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2007/20070209_syrien_brueck.html



PD Dr. Joachim Frick, Deputy Head of Department Socio-Economic Panel Study at DIW Berlin (SOEP), was elected to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Swiss Household Panel (SHP).

Jan Goebel, Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP), received his doctorate "with distinction" and is now Dr. rer. oec. at the Institut für Volkswirtschaftslehre und Wirtschaftsrecht (Economics and Economic Law Institute) at the Technische Universität Berlin.



Olaf Groh-Samberg, Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP), received his doctorate in sociology "summa cum laude" at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster.



Dörte Höppner, Head of the Service Department Information and Organization of DIW Berlin, is going to leave DIW Berlin at her own request on April 30, 2007 to take up a position in the private economy.



New Research Appointments at DIW Berlin

DIW Berlin President, Prof. Dr. Klaus F. Zimmermann, has appointed the following new Research Professors and Research Affiliates:



Prof. Dr. Heike Trappe, Universität Rostock and Rat für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsdaten (Council for Social and Economic Data) was retroactively appointed as a Research Professor as of January 1, 2007 on the recommendation of Prof. Dr. Gert G. Wagner, Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP).



Dr. Philipp Köllinger, Erasmus Universität Rotterdam, was appointed as a Research Affiliate

on the proposal of Prof. Dr. Christian Wey, Department of Information Society and Competition, effective from April 1, 2007.



Prof. Dr. Stefan Liebig, Universität Duisburg-Essen, was appointed as a Research Professor on the recommendation of Prof. Dr. Gert Wagner, Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP), effective from April 1, 2007.



Eva Sierminska, Ph.D., Luxembourg Wealth Study (LWS), was appointed as a Research Affiliate on the recommendation of Prof. Dr. Gert G. Wagner, Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP), as of January 1, 2007



Publications

Weekly Report of DIW Berlin Nr. 1/2007

OSS Adoption: Who is Leading and Why?

Daniel Nepelski and Sushmita Swaminathan

It is no secret that open source software (OSS) is gaining ground, yet the drivers for OSS adoption still seem rather unclear. This report aims to compare various industries within select countries in the EU and tries to explain their OSS adoption patterns. The results indicate that companies in Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary are leading OSS adopters. Further, it was found that company adoption of OSS is largely dependent on in-house IT development and expertise. The focus on internal development and capacities is often characteristic of larger firms, which is corroborated by our findings. Finally, the analysis showed that companies tend to OSS, the higher their requirements for open standards and interoperability.



Weekly Report:

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/weeklyreport/aktuell/index.jsp>



Quarterly Journal of Economic Research 4/2006

The Future of the German Banking Sector

The Quarterly Journal of DIW Berlin enters in the lengthy discussion about the future organization of the German banking sector. It draws a first balance of the reform of the German Three-Column-System, analyses current developments on a European comparison scale as well as investment financing and savings behavior and allows for a perceptive view of it in practice. Five central issues can be derived from the in part controversial contributions: Use time, overcome particular interests – think macroeconomic, develop innovative financing instruments, counter the insecurity of savers by stability, re-establish the role of the state in finance intermediation.

Quarterly Journal of Economic Research 1/2007

Energy Policy between Competitiveness, Security of Supply, and Sustainability

With a total of twelve contributions, the Quarterly Journal reflects the controversial opinions on energy policy. All authors agree on the urgency and importance of climate protection. The contributions arrive at the following conclusion: Climate protection is of significance and has to produce solutions faster. The emission rights trade should be improved, in particular, uniform rules should apply in Europe. Most authors consider the public sale of emission rights to be positive. Energy efficiency improvements can render a substantial contribution to climate protection and security of supply. Renewables play an important role and can contribute to security of supply and climate protection throughout Europe and worldwide. However, strong promotion of renewables will also be necessary in future and they can become competitive over the next 20 years. Competition in the power and gas market has to be improved. Above all, network regulation has to be improved as well. Without effective network regulation there will be no adequate competition. Russia will continue to play an important role in supplying Western Europe with energy. Since Russia possesses worldwide energy reserves of great significance, it has a strategic dominance as against Europe.



Quarterly Journal of Economic Research:

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/vierteljahrshefte/index.html>



Evaluation of the Measures for the Implementation of Proposals of the Hartz-Commission

DIW Berlin, the Institute for the Study of Labor (Forschungsinstitut zur Zukunft der Arbeit, IZA), Bonn, and the Institut für angewandte Sozialwissenschaft (infas), Bonn, have, by order of the Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs) prepared an opinion on the measures for the implementation of the Hartz-Commission proposals. The corrections in the promotion of professional further education and the reform in the area of the transfer payments were evaluated.

For more information and the documents to download please see (in German only):

http://www.diw.de/deutsch/dasinstitut/info/2007/20070109_evaluation_hartz.html



Data Documentation 17

Regional Data in the German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP).

Gundi Knies and C. Katharina Spieß



Data Documentation:

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/datadoc/aktuell/index.jsp>



New Discussion Papers

Is the Regional Perspective Useful? Rural and Urban Quality of Life; an Assessment.

Discussion Paper No 650

Annette Spellerberg, Denis Huschka, Roland Habich

A Cartel Analysis of the German Labor Institutions and Its Implications for Labor Market Reforms.

Discussion Paper No 651

Justus Haucap, Uwe Pauly, Christian Wey

Parties Matter in Allocating Expenditures: Evidence from Germany.

Discussion Paper No 652

Niklas Potrafke

Political Effects on the Allocation of Public Expenditures: Empirical Evidence from OECD Countries.

Discussion Paper No 653

Niklas Potrafke

Biases in Estimates of the Smoking Wage Penalty.

Discussion Paper No 654

Silke Anger, Michael Kvasnicka

Cognitive Abilities and Labour Market Outcomes.

Discussion Paper No 655

Silke Anger, Guido Heineck

The Russian-Ukrainian Political Divide.

Discussion Paper No 656

Amelie Constant, Martin Kahanec, Klaus F. Zimmermann

Ethnic Self-Identification of First-Generation Immigrants.

Discussion Paper No 657

Laura Zimmermann, Klaus F. Zimmermann, Amelie Constant

Ethnic Persistence, Assimilation and Risk Proclivity.

Discussion Paper No 658

Holger Bonin, Amelie Constant, Konstantinos Tatsiramos, Klaus F. Zimmermann

mhbounds - Sensitivity Analysis for Average Treatment Effects.

Discussion Paper No 659

Sascha O. Becker, Marco Caliendo

Published in: The Stata Journal 7(2007) Iss.1, 71-83

The Store-of-Value-Function of Money as a Component of Household Risk Management.

Discussion Paper No 660

Ingrid Größl, Ulrich Fritsche

Self-employment - a Way to End Unemployment? Empirical Evidence from German

Pseudo-Panel Data.

Discussion Paper No 661

Daniela Glocker, Viktor Steiner

'Marginal Employment' and the Demand for Heterogenous Labour: Empirical Evidence from a Multi-Factor Labour Demand Model for Germany.

Discussion Paper No 662

Ronny Freier, Viktor Steiner

GEE Estimation of a Two-Equation Panel Data Model: An Analysis of Wage Dynamics and the Incidence of Profit-Sharing in West Germany.

Discussion Paper No 663

Markus Pannenberg, Martin Spiess

Dynamic Panel Data Approach to the Forecasting of the GDP of German Länder.

Discussion Paper No 664

Konstantin A. Kholodilin, Boriss Siliverstovs, Stefan Kooths

Schooling and Citizenship: Evidence from Compulsory Schooling Reforms.

Discussion Paper No 665

Thomas Siedler

Does Parental Unemployment Cause Right-Wing Extremism?

Discussion Paper No 666

Thomas Siedler

Unit Labor Cost Growth Differentials in the Euro Area, Germany, and the US: Lessons from PANIC and Cluster Analysis.

Discussion Paper No 667

Ulrich Fritsche, Vladimir Kuzin

GTAP-E: An Energy-Environmental Version of the GTAP Model with Emission Trading.

Discussion Paper No 668

Truong P. Truong, Claudia Kemfert, Jean-Marc Burniaux

Intertemporal Labor Supply Effects of Tax Reforms.

Discussion Paper No 669

Peter Haan

The Impact of Income Taxation on the Ratio between Reservation and Market Wages and the

Incentives for Labour Supply.
Discussion Paper No 670
Marco Caliendo, Ludovica Gambaro, Peter Haan

Turning Unemployment into Self-Employment: Effectiveness and Efficiency of Two Start-Up Programmes.
Discussion Paper No 671
Hans J. Baumgartner, Marco Caliendo

Representative Wealth Data for Germany from the German SOEP: The Impact of Methodological Decisions around Imputation and the Choice of the Aggregation Unit.
Discussion Paper No 672
Joachim R. Frick, Markus M. Grabka, Eva M. Sierminska

Individual Well-Being in a Dynamic Perspective.
Discussion Paper No 673
Conchita D'Ambrosio, Joachim R. Frick

Does the Dispersion of Unit Labor Cost Dynamics in the EMU Imply Long-run Divergence?: Results from a Comparison with the United States of America and Germany.
Discussion Paper No 674
Sebastian Dullien, Ulrich Fritsche

Money Demand in Estonia.
Discussion Paper No 675
Boriss Siliverstovs

Social Expenditures as a Political Cue Ball?: OECD Countries under Examination.
Discussion Paper No 676
Niklas Potrafke

Social Security in Germany: A Prey of Political Opportunism?
Discussion Paper No 677
Niklas Potrafke

Benefit-Entitlement Effects and the Duration of Unemployment: An Ex-ante Evaluation of Recent Labour Market Reforms in Germany.
Discussion Paper No 678
Hendrik Schmitz, Viktor Steiner

Outward FDI and Domestic Investment.
Discussion Paper No 679
Dierk Herzer, Mechthild Schrooten

Dual Class Stock in Russia: What Explains the Price Differential between Common and Preferred Shares?

Discussion Paper No 680
Alexander Muravyev

Firm Size, Wages and Unobserved Skills: Evidence from Dual Job Holdings in the UK.
Discussion Paper No 681
Alexander Muravyev

Short-Run and Long-Term Effects of Childbirth on Mothers' Employment and Working Hours across Institutional regimes: An Empirical Analysis Based on the European Community Household Panel.
Discussion Paper No 682
Johannes Geyer, Viktor Steiner

From Bottom to Top: The Entire Distribution of Market Income in Germany, 1992 - 2001.
Discussion Paper No 683
Stefan Bach und Viktor Steiner



These and other new Discussion Papers can be found on our website:
<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/diskussionspapiere/aktuell/index.jsp>



**Articles by DIW Berlin Staff Members in Refereed Journals (ISI Master Journal List)
(December 19, 2006 to March 23, 2007)**

Explaining Income Nonresponse: A Case Study by Means of the British Household Panel Study (BHPS).

Jörg-Peter Schräpler
In: Quality & Quantity 40 (2006), 6, 1013-1036

Bundling of Social and Private Goods and the Soft Budget Constraint Problem.

Lars-Hendrik Röller, Zhentang Zhang
In: Journal of Comparative Economics 33 (2005), 1, 47-58

Dynamic Measures of Individual Deprivation.

Walter Bossert, Conchita D'Ambrosio
In: Social Choice and Welfare 28 (2007), 1, 77-88

Endogenous Costs and Price-Cost Margins: An Application to the European Airline Industry.
Damien J. Neven, Lars-Hendrik Röller, Zhentang Zhang
In: The Journal of Industrial Economics 54 (2006), 3, 351-368

A Schumpeter-inspired Approach to the Construction of R&D Capital Stock.
Jürgen Bitzer, Andreas Stephan
In: Applied Economics 39 (2007), 2, 179-189

Polen im EU-Binnenmarkt: eine Bilanz nach zwei Jahren.
Mechthild Schrooten
In: Osteuropa 56 (2006), 11-12, 127-131

Agglomeration and Tax Competition.
Rainald Borck, Michael Pflüger
In: European Economic Review 50 (2007), 3, 647-668

Efficiency Analysis of German Electricity Distribution Utilities: Non-Parametric and Parametric Tests.
Christian von Hirschhausen, Astrid Cullmann, Andreas Kappeler
In: Applied Economics 38 (2006), 21, 2553-2566

A Macroeconomic Model for the Euro Economy.
Massimiliano Marcellino, Christian Dreger
In: Journal of Policy Modeling 29 (2007), 1-13

Export-Led Growth Hypothesis: Evidence for Chile.
Boriss Siliverstovs, Dierk Herzer
In: Applied Economics Letters 13 (2006), 5, 319-324

Sensitivity Analysis for Average Treatment Effects.
Sascha O. Becker, Marco Caliendo
In: The Stata Journal 7 (2007), 1, 71-83

German Exports to the Euro Area.
Sabine Stephan
In: Empirical Economics 31 (2006), 4, 871-882

Testing the Effectiveness of French Work-sharing Reform: A Forecasting Approach. Camille Logeay, Sven Schreiber
In: Applied Economics 38 (2006), 17, 2053-2068

On the Estimation and Forecasting of International Migration: How Relevant is Heterogeneity across Countries?

Boriss Siliverstovs, Herbert Brücker
In: Empirical Economics 31 (2006), 3, 735-754

The European Electricity and Climate Policy: Complement or Substitute?
Claudia Kemfert
In: Environment and Planning / C 25 (2007), 1, 115-130

Ein Zehn-Punkte-Plan für eine nachhaltige Energiepolitik in Deutschland. Claudia Kemfert
In: Gaia 16 (2007), 1, 16-21

Apply with Caution : Introducing UK-Style In-Work Support in Germany.
Peter Haan, Michal Myck
In: Fiscal Studies 28 (2007), 1, 43-72

The Environmental and Economic Effects of European Emissions Trading.
Claudia Kemfert, Michael Kohlhaas, Truong P. Truong, Artem Protsenko
In: Climate Policy 6 (2006), 4, 441-455



Upcoming Events

CESSA Conference

DIW Berlin will host the 1st CESSA conference "Natural Gas, Nuclear Energy, and Security of Supply", jointly with the Chair of Energy Economics at Dresden University of Technology and Technische Universität Berlin.

Date: Mai 31 to June 1, 2007

Further Information: <http://www.diw.de/cessa/>

ECINEQ 2007

2nd meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality

Date: July 12 to 14, 2007

Location: Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (BBAW)

Further Information:

<http://www.diw.de/deutsch/dasinstitut/abteilungen/ldm/archiv/ar2007/ecineq2007>

More Events:

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/veranstaltungen/index.html>



Previous Events

Healthcare Reforms: We have clearly not met our own Targets! Berlin Lunchtime Meeting on February 28, 2007

"Healthcare reforms: we have clearly not met our own targets!" – it was with this unequivocal

statement that Prof. Dr. Friedrich Breyer, a nationally and internationally renowned healthcare economist, began his critical talk on the healthcare reforms of the Federal Government. He thinks that the shortcomings mainly lie with the healthcare fund, but he thinks that they can also be attributed to the lack of competition which exists in statutory health insurance as well as between statutory and private health insurance funds. Jens Spahn, a member of the German Bundestag and a representative of the CDU/CSU Bundestag fraction on the Healthcare Committee, referred to the guidelines of the Economic Advisory Council which increase competition within the system of the statutory health insurance funds. It was true that healthcare reforms would not solve all of the problems of the health service straightaway, but they were a step in the right direction. In particular, finance in the form of contributions, taxation, premiums, and the cutback of services must be clarified in the longer term. Unlike Friedrich Breyer, he does not see demographics as being a particular cost factor, but thinks that advances in medical technology are.



Left to right: Prof. Dr. Georg Meran, Vice-President of DIW Berlin, Jens Spahn and Prof. Dr. Friedrich Breyer (Picture: DIW Berlin)

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2007/20070228_blm_bericht.html



Take Advantage of the Opportunities for Shaping Europe's Future Capabilities - The Agenda with Regard to the Energy Policy of the German Presidency of the EU Council Berlin Lunchtime Meeting, January 31, 2007

How can Germany have an effect on European energy policy during its Presidency of the EU Council? Can politics manage to promote economic growth while sparing the environment? Dr. Joachim Pfeiffer, a Member of the Bundestag (Lower House of German Parliament) and the Co-ordinator of Energy Matters of the CDU/CSU fraction, provided the first look at the energy policy agenda of the German Presidency of the Council at the Berlin Lunchtime Meeting which was held on January 31. About 80 high-ranking guests attended his lecture in the dbb forum in Friedrichstraße in Berlin. Joachim Pfeiffer outlined a two-path strategy: On the one hand, the EU was to intensify its external energy relations; on the other, an internal energy market with common goals for competition, environmental protection, and security of supply was planned.

As important areas requiring action internally, Joachim Pfeiffer mentioned the attainment of an internal market for gas and electricity, the further penetration of the market of renewable energy sources and the curbing of energy consumption. In the case of climate protection, Germany should adhere to the EU goal for the reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases. He also recommended that the running time of nuclear power plants be increased for reasons of economic, climate, and supply policy. Energy research, which must definitely be expanded, is also to play an important role.



Left to right: Dr. Joachim Pfeiffer, Member of the Bundestag and Co-ordinator of Energy Matters of the CDU/CSU fraction, Dr. Regina Vogel, Deputy Director of the Anglo German Foundation and Prof. Dr. Claudia Kemfert, Head of the Department Energy, Transportation, Environment at DIW Berlin and Professor for Environmental Economics at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. (Picture: Uwe Hetzner)

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2007/20070131_blm_bericht.html

Up-to-date results of research which are relevant to policy are regularly presented to the Berlin Lunchtime Meeting. The events offer representatives in the fields of research, politics and the private economy a platform for discussion and an exchange of ideas.



Carreer

Job Opportunities at DIW Berlin

DIW Berlin is hiring the Head of Department for the Department Innovation, Manufacturing, Service:

http://www.diw.de/english/karriere/stellenangebote/archiv_stellenangebote/20070412_abteilungsleitung_id.html

DIW Berlin is hiring the Head of Department for the Department of Macro Analysis and Forecasting:

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German Institute for Economic Research

Koenigin-Luise-Strasse 5, 14195 Berlin, Phone: +49 (30) 89789-0, Fax: +49 (30) 89789-200,

E-Mail: newsletter@diw.de

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Editor: **Sabrina Ortmann**

V.i.S.d.L.P.: **Dr Alexander Fisher**



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