



Conference

EUROPE AFTER THE EURO-CRISIS: WHERE IS THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION HEADED?

Tuesday, 12 June 2018

IMK
Institut für Makroökonomie
und Konjunkturforschung

Das IMK ist ein Institut
der Hans-Böckler-Stiftung



**FRIEDRICH
EBERT
STIFTUNG**

2ND MACROECONOMIC CONFERENCE OF THE DGB, THE FES AND THE IMK

The economy of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) is growing again. The crisis appears to be over and the European Commission is no longer talking about »recovery« but rather about economic expansion. Even unemployment rates are falling. For many among the powers-that-be this vindicates the policy course they pursued during the euro crisis. Austerity and structural reforms may have been »painful« but ultimately they did the trick. Other observers, however, point out that the crisis came to an end – after many long years – not because of, but despite the austerity measures and cuts, and on the basis of an extremely expansionary monetary policy. Countries such as Spain, for example, were able to achieve recovery only when they let up on austerity.

Only if the crisis is analysed correctly can the right conclusions be drawn for the sustainable stabilisation of the euro zone. Against the background of continuing discussion of whether and how EMU might be deepened there is an urgent need to test the feasibility of the many concrete proposals emanating from France, Brussels and Berlin. What new regulations and institutions could really help to reduce imbalances between the member states and put the euro zone on a sustainable footing, and what proposals might be counterproductive?

The participants in the discussion are in agreement at least on one thing: more convergence is needed between the member states. But what such convergence might look like and how it is supposed to be achieved are far from clear. Is it up to the countries themselves to undergo adjustment – above all by means of wage cuts and structural reforms, in order to become more competitive and »toughen up« – or are more investment needed and an active industrial policy, not to mention more cross-border solidarity and support for achieving more equal living standards in Europe?

What about economic conditions in EMU? How can we stabilise the euro zone with new economic policy institutions and how can we achieve »upward convergence« – a socially just and economically advancing reduction of disparities and inequalities between the EMU member states? These and other questions are to be discussed at the second Macroeconomic Conference with experts from both Germany and abroad. The German Confederation of Trade Unions (DGB), the Macroeconomic Policy Institute (IMK) and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) cordially invite you to take part.



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Conference venue

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung,
Building 1, Conference hall,
Hiroshimastraße 17,
10785 Berlin

PROGRAMME

10:00
OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Kurt Beck, Chairman of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)

10:05
WELCOME SPEECH

Stefan Körzell, Member of the National Executive Board of the German Trade Union Confederation (DGB)

10:20
PRESENTATION

RECOVERY IN EUROPE – THE OUTCOME OF SUCCESSFUL CRISIS POLICIES?

Peter Bofinger, University of Würzburg and Council of Economic Experts

10:40
PODIUM DISCUSSION

Nacho Álvarez, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
Peter Bofinger, University of Würzburg and Council of Economic Experts
Fabien Dell, European Commission
Catherine Mathieu, Observatoire Français des Conjonctures Économiques (OFCE), Paris

12:10

Lunch

13:10
PRESENTATION
COMMENT

EUROPE IN THE FUTURE – THE PLANS FOR DEEPENING THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

Jean Pisani-Ferry, Sciences Po Paris and Hertie School of Governance, Berlin
Shahin Vallée, Soros Fund Management

13:40
PODIUM DISCUSSION

Dierk Hirschel, ver.di
Jean Pisani-Ferry, Sciences Po Paris and Hertie School of Governance, Berlin
Helene Schuberth, Austrian National Bank (OeNB), Vienna
Achim Truger, Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR)
Shahin Vallée, Soros Fund Management

15:10

Coffee Break

15:40
PRESENTATION

EUROPE IN UNITY – CONVERGENCE PROCESSES BETWEEN THE MARKET AND THE STATE

Maria Demertzis, University of Amsterdam and Bruegel, Brussels

16:00
PODIUM DISCUSSION

Kajsa Borgnäs, Stiftung Arbeit und Umwelt
Maria Demertzis, University of Amsterdam and Bruegel, Brussels
Christopher Gosau, German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (DIHK), Brussels
Frank Iwer, IG Metall
Cansel Kiziltepe, Member of the German Bundestag (SPD), Member of the Finance Committee

17:30
SPEECH

GERMANY IN EUROPE – WHAT DOES THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAVE IN STORE?

Michael Roth, Member of the German Bundestag (SPD), Minister of State for Europe at the German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

17:50
CLOSING REMARKS

Gustav Horn, Director of the Macroeconomic Policy Institute (IMK), Düsseldorf

18:00
END OF THE EVENT AND RECEPTION

Opportunity for informal conversations

German-English simultaneous translation will be provided.

MODERATION: **Thomas Fricke**, Chief Economist of the European Climate Foundation, Columnist for SPIEGEL ONLINE

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INFORMATION

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Dominika Biegón and **Florian Moritz**

Department of Economic, Financial and Tax Policy,
Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (DGB), Berlin

Fabian Lindner

Macroeconomic Policy Institute (IMK),
Hans-Böckler-Stiftung (HBS), Düsseldorf

Markus Schreyer

Department of Economic and Social Policy,
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Berlin

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

Irin Nickel

Department of Economic and Social Policy,
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Berlin
irin.nickel@fes.de
Tel. +49 (0)30 26935-8318
Fax +49 (0)30 26935-9229

We kindly request that you register by 1 June 2018 by e-mail at wirtschaftspolitik@fes.de, or by using the attached reply form.

Due to the limited number of places and the great interest in the event participation can be confirmed only after registration has closed. Participation is possible only if registration has been confirmed. We apologise for any inconvenience.

There is no conference fee and participants shall cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.

Photographs and film footage of guests and colleagues at the event can be published on the FES website, in social networks or in FES publications. Your participation in the event constitutes a declaration of consent to this on your part.

HOW TO GET HERE

Bus 100, 187 to Lützowplatz
Bus M29 to Hiroshimasteg
Bus 200 to Tiergartenstraße

Unfortunately there are no parking facilities.

If there are any questions concerning barrier-free access to the event, please contact the FES colleague responsible for organisation.



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10785 Berlin**REGISTRATION**

I hereby declare that I shall participate in the event

Surname, First Name

Institution/Position

Address

E-mail

Date/Signature

I hereby register in my place/in addition

Surname, First Name

Institution/Position

Address

E-mail

**Reply by e-mail to wirtschaftspolitik@fes.de
or by clicking on the registration button.
Registration closes on 1 June 2018.**

Friedrich-Ebert-StiftungDepartment of Economic and Social Policy
Hiroshimastr. 17
10785 Berlin