

Conference programme „Economic Growth in Europe“
Joint conference of the Centre of European Economic Research (ZEW) and
the Arbeitskreis Europäische Integration (AEI)

- Date:* 23-24 February 2006
- Venue:* Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW)
L7,1
68161 Mannheim
Germany
Conference website: www.zew.de/growthineurope
- Registration:* Arbeitskreis Europäische Integration
Matthias Heddenhausen
SWP
Ludwigkirchplatz 3-4
10719 Berlin
aei@aei-ecsa.de
- Conference fees:* €70 (Non-member), €50 (Members of AEI and students)

Topic

Most member states of the European Union have in many respects fallen behind the objectives defined in the Lisbon agenda. This failure is most evident regarding the aim of economic growth. Improving growth rates in Europe is particularly relevant for the long-term outlook, in which the demographic change in Europe will probably contribute to a further reduction of the rate of economic growth. Against this background, the conference deals with the following questions: Ex post, how can the different growth performances of industrial countries be explained? What are the future prospects for the European potential growth rates? How would different growth scenarios affect the stability of public finances and the social security systems? What policies and which institutions are able to positively affect long-term growth?

Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Mannheim

The ZEW is a non-profit economic research institute with the legal form of a limited liability company (GmbH). Founded in 1990, it took up work in April 1991 and meanwhile belongs to the leading German economic research institutes, which are all members of the Leibniz Association. The ZEW is engaged in the field of applied empirical economic research. It has particularly distinguished itself nationally and internationally by its work on internationally comparative issues in the European context. The ZEW's main tasks comprise economic research, economic policy counselling, and knowledge transfer. The institute primarily addresses decision makers in politics, trade and industry, and administration as well as scientists and the interested public.

Arbeitskreis Europäische Integration (AEI), Berlin

The Arbeitskreis Europäische Integration e.V. (AEI) is an interdisciplinary scientific association which is concerned with questions of European integration and development of the European Union. Among the approximately 400 members of the AEI are professors from universities, research staff from scientific institutes and various organisations, whose primary work is in the field of European integration. The AEI understands itself as the central forum in Germany for the continuous interdisciplinary analysis of the European integration and the development of the European Union. Together with similar associations in the other European Union member states it belongs to the European Community Studies Association (ECSA). The AEI was founded in 1969.

AGENDA

Thursday, February 23

09:30

Welcome and Introduction

Friedrich Heinemann, ZEW

09:45-11:15

Growth performance in the European Union (1)

Human capital, the structure of production, and growth

Antonio Ciccone, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

The role of creative destruction for growth and job creation in Europe and the United States: a micro perspective

Stefano Scarpetta, World Bank

11:15-11:30

Coffee Break

11:30-13:00

Growth performance in the European Union (2)

The 'Lisbon Goal' of the EU: rhetoric or substance?

Wilhelm Kohler, University of Tübingen

Economic growth in Europe: pursuing the Lisbon strategy

Fabienne Ilzkovitz, European Commission

13:00-14:00

Lunch Break

14:00-15:30

Europe's social model, aging and growth

Growth and longevity from the industrial revolution to the future of an ageing society

David de la Croix, Université catholique de Louvain

Europe's social model - A reason of low growth?

Horst Siebert, Kiel Institute for World Economics and Johns Hopkins University, Bologna

15:30-16:00

Coffee Break

16:00-17:30

Fiscal policy and growth

Public debt, public investment and economic growth

Alfred Greiner, University of Bielefeld

Public sector efficiency: evidence for the new EU member states and emerging markets

António Afonso, European Central Bank and ISEG/UTL-Technical University of Lisbon

19:00

Conference Dinner (Delta Park Hotel)

Friday, February 24

09:00-10:30

New empirical and theoretical approaches (1)

On the relation between government size and economic development: some methodological and econometric remarks

Gebhard Kirchgässner, University of St. Gallen

Multi-country endogenous growth models

Lutz Arnold, University of Regensburg

10:30-10:45

Coffee Break

10:45-12:15

New empirical and theoretical approaches (2)

A meta-analysis of beta-convergence: the legendary two-percent

Maria Abreu, Cambridge-MIT Institute, University of Cambridge

Policy and regional growth: drivers of regional productivity development

Martin Eichler und Michael Grass, BAK Basel Economics

Once again: investigating hours worked

Marcus Kappler, ZEW

13:00

Lunch