

ZEW LUNCH DEBATE SERIES:  
ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN EUROPE

# On Angel's Wings: Can Business Angels Stimulate European Innovation?

Venue: Representation of the State of  
Baden-Württemberg to the European Union

22 November 2017, 12 – 2 pm

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



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**Georg Licht** heads the ZEW Research Department “Economics of Innovation and Industrial Dynamics”. His research and scientific policy advising activities focus on the economics of innovation and technological change as well as the economics of small firms. Licht is adviser to the EC, the OECD, and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.



**Philippe Gluntz** is founder and president of Paris Business Angels, president of France Angels and chairman of Business Angels Europe (BAE). He founded GSI and has been COO of Alcatel Group and CEO of ADP Europe. Mr Gluntz has been involved in angel investing for 15 years.



**Ute Günther** is co-president of Business Angels Netzwerk Deutschland e.V. (BAND) and serves as Vice President of Business Angels Europe (BAE). Her further activities include several infrastructure projects and a seat on the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy’s “Young digital economy” advisory board. She holds a PhD in philosophy.



**Eurico Neves** is the CEO and Founder of INOVA+ S.A. He has been involved in the creation of more than ten new firms. He worked for the European Commission at DG Enterprise and is a board member at the Portuguese Association of Information Technologies companies (ANETIE) and the Portuguese Business Angels Association (APBA).



**Helen Köpman** is Deputy Head of DG CONNECT’s “Startups & Innovation” unit. She joined the European Commission in 2003 after a number of years of professional experience in the management of ICT service development in international companies including AT&T and Cap Gemini.



**Maikel Pellens** is a senior researcher in the ZEW Research Department “Economics of Innovation and Industrial Dynamics”. His research activities focus on the economics of innovation and science. Pellens has contributed policy advice to the EC, and is affiliated to KU Leuven (Belgium).



Baden-Württemberg

VERTRETUNG DES LANDES BEI DER EUROPÄISCHEN UNION

ZEW

## On Angel's Wings: Can Business Angels Stimulate European Innovation?

Wednesday, 22 November 2017, 12 – 2 pm

While Europe boasts leading global companies, top universities and cutting-edge R&D centres, research findings are still all too rarely being brought to the European market. In this light, “business angels” have become a crucial source of funding for innovative start-ups, providing young European innovators with financial and other types of support to help them scale up their businesses. However, business angels are playing vastly different roles in the various financial ecosystems in Europe and are supported through a wide variety of mechanisms by different Member States.

How should Europe maximize the potential of angel investment in order to meet the challenges of rapidly evolving innovation dynamics? When, where, and how should these investors be supported in their activities? More generally, are business angels a valid tool for boosting European innovation and scale-up?

These questions, which we would like to address in this Lunch Debate alongside the latest ZEW research on the topic, are especially pertinent given Commissioner Moedas's vision for European innovation and the European Innovation Council.

» 12:00 **Lunch**

» 12:30 **Welcome Address**

**Johannes Jung**, Head of the Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg to the EU

### **Presentation**

**Maikel Pellens**, ZEW

“On Angel's Wings: Can Business Angels Stimulate European Innovation?”

### **Panel Debate / Debate with the Audience**

**Georg Licht**, ZEW

**Philippe Gluntz**, Paris Business Angels

**Helen Köpman**, DG Connect, European Commission

**Eurico Neves**, Inova+ S.A.

**Moderation:** Ute Günther, BAND

# ZEW Lunch Debate Series

## »» About the ZEW Lunch Debate Series

With our ZEW Lunch Debates we aim to encourage discussion on current economic challenges in Europe. They shed light on different aspects of the crisis that have a particular impact on economic growth, welfare, social inclusion, and quality of life. Events in this series provide a platform for controversial and open debate: a ZEW economist delivers an introductory statement, external experts give their response. The audience is invited to contribute their expertise.

## »» Upcoming Lunch Debate

> EU Budget

**24 January 2018**

For enquiries, get in touch with us at [LunchDebates@zew.de](mailto:LunchDebates@zew.de)

## »» About ZEW

The Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW) in Mannheim is one of Germany's leading economic research institutes and enjoys a strong reputation throughout Europe. The institute conducts research of the highest quality and provides science-based economic policy advice. ZEW is a member of the Leibniz Association and covers a broad spectrum of research areas, from innovation policy including ICT questions, to labour markets, to fiscal and monetary governance, to environmental economics and energy policy. In 2016, the institute celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



Baden-Württemberg

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