

ZEW LUNCH DEBATE SERIES:  
ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN EUROPE

# Making the Most of the European Fiscal Board

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

27 April 2017, 12 – 2 pm

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

ENTERPRISES  
BREXIT  
FISCAL POLICY  
Competition  
EUROZONE  
ICT  
**TAXATION**  
R&I  
EMPLOYMENT  
Innovation  
FINANCIAL MARKETS

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT



**Friedrich Heinemann** heads ZEW's Research Department "Corporate Taxation and Public Finance" and is professor of economics at Heidelberg University. His research addresses federalism and European integration issues. Heinemann is a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Berlin Institute for European Politics (IEP).



**Danuta Hübner** is a member of the European Parliament, where she chairs the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and sits on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs. As Poland's first-ever European Commissioner Hübner was entrusted with the trade, then the regional policy portfolio (2004-2009). She holds a PhD in economics.



**Niels Thygesen** is chair of the European Fiscal Board and professor of economics at the University of Copenhagen. He has been an adviser to the Danish government as well as to the IMF and the OECD. Thygesen has worked primarily on European integration, serving as a Member of the Delors Committee on the European Monetary Union.



**Xavier Debrun** is division chief of the research department at the IMF. His research interests include international coordination, currency unions and macro-fiscal issues. The Belgian national holds a PhD in international economics and is one of the key academic writers on fiscal boards.



**Maithreyi Seetharaman** is an economics and business journalist, television anchor and executive editor. She is currently the co-chair of Fortune Magazine's "Most Powerful Women International".



Baden-Württemberg

VERTRETUNG DES LANDES BEI DER EUROPÄISCHEN UNION

ZEW

## Making the Most of the European Fiscal Board

Thursday, 27 April 2017, 12 – 2 p.m.

In late 2016, the European Fiscal Board (EFB) started its work. It was set up by the Commission as an independent advisory board on fiscal matters. The Board's role is to evaluate the implementation of EU fiscal rules, to advise the Commission on the fiscal stance appropriate for the euro area as a whole and to cooperate with Member States' national fiscal councils.

In this Lunch Debate, we will shed light on the functioning of the EFB and try to give a first assessment of its strengths and weaknesses. Are the EFB's aims a "mission impossible"? Or are there ways for the new institution, this "watchdog for another watchdog", to succeed e.g. in depoliticising the decisions on the Stability and Growth Pact, including sanctions? How does cooperation with both the Commission and the national fiscal councils materialise? Are there ways to make it more effective? These are just some of the questions addressed in what promises to be a thought-provoking debate.

» 12:00 Lunch

» 12:30 Welcome Address

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

### Presentation

Friedrich Heinemann, ZEW

### Panel Debate and Debate with the Audience

Danuta Hübner

Niels Thygesen

Xavier Debrun

Friedrich Heinemann

Moderation: Maithreyi Seetharaman

# ZEW Lunch Debate Series



## » About the ZEW Lunch Debate Series

With our ZEW Lunch Debates we aim to encourage discussion of the economic challenges facing the European Union. Taking place quarterly since 2014, the ZEW Lunch Debates address a diverse range of topics that have a particular impact on economic growth, welfare, social inclusion, and quality of life in Europe. Events in this series provide a platform for controversial, open and committed debate: a ZEW economist delivers an introductory statement to which external experts then respond. The audience is invited to contribute their expertise.

## » Upcoming Lunch Debates

- › Brexit and Its Implications for the Financial Markets  
**27 September 2017**
- › Business Angels  
**Autumn 2017, exact date to be confirmed**

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 scientifically 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 issues, to labour markets, to fiscal and monetary governance, as well as environmental economics and energy policy.



Baden-Württemberg

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