

List of Projects

Michael Landesmann

Genetic innovation, intermediate goods and energy prices in an agent-based model

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

March 2023 - August 2026

Agent-based models have been receiving ever more attention in recent years. Especially since the crisis of 2008, there have been calls for new research tools. Agent-based models are an interesting option: they allow study of the behaviour of heterogeneous agents and the effects of such heterogeneity on the total economy. We propose introducing three novel extensions to a state-of-the-art agent-based model: First, we allow for rich interactions between industries by incorporating intermediate goods into the production process. Secondly, the model is extended to enable a new way to model technological change (“genetic optimisation”). Thirdly, we propose to account for the biophysical dimension by including energy usage as a factor of production.

Funded by the [Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank](#) (Project No. 18830).

EU-Asia relations: technological competition and trade policies in an era of regionalisation (*wiiw Team Leader*)

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

June 2023 - May 2026

This project analyses various aspects of EU-Asia relationships with a focus on East and Southeast Asia. It addresses two main aspects which characterise current global economic developments: a tendency towards competing regional integration (‘regionalisation’) and fiercer technological competition. In a first module it analyses intra- and interregional research collaborations of firms, the positioning of EU and East and Southeast Asian countries in terms of the functional specialisation of global value chains, and technology spillovers from multinationals from emerging East and Southeast Asian economies and multinationals from advanced economies to domestic EU firms. The second module focuses on the roles of competing trade policy arrangements and technological complementarity in regional vs. inter-regional integration processes, the impact of different trade policy designs on trade structures in the context of industry-specific technology catching-up and leap-frogging, and global and regional competition with respect to regulatory standards. The policy relevant conclusions with respect to innovation and trade derived from the results will be summarised in a Policy Note.

Funded by the [Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank](#) (Project No. 18833).

Advice on intra-EU mobility and social security coordination (Lot 2: Statistics and data collection)

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

December 2021 - November 2025

The European Commission is seeking independent expertise in order to have support in the areas of free movement of workers, posting of workers and social security coordination with in-depth research and analysis, as well as to widely disseminate this specific expertise to experts and practitioners at the national level. wiiw is part of a consortium led by HIVA/KU Leuven and is responsible for several ad-hoc reports on specific indicators to mobility.

Towards a world integrated and Socio-economically balanced European economic development scenario (TWIN SEEDS) (*wiiw Team Leader*)

European Commission, Horizon Europe

October 2022 - September 2025

The objective of the TWIN SEEDS project is to investigate changes in international trade and production patterns, specifically in global value chains (GVCs), both those of a longer-term nature (driven by the "twin seeds": technological developments and geo-political changes) and those that are taking place in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. The project will examine the impacts of these changes on employment, job quality, social and regional cohesion, on patterns of growth and competitiveness, as well as their environmental implications. The analysis will provide the basis to map out forward-looking policy scenarios (including trade and investment, industrial, regional, education/training and social policies) that allow Europe to secure decent work and working conditions, rapid progress towards resource-efficiency and decarbonisation, security of supply for strategic goods and sustainable, inclusive and competitive growth in the years to come. The research will be based on a thorough multi-level (global, national, regional, sectoral, firm level) research framework, relying on a mix of quantitative and qualitative methods, on multidisciplinary knowledge (international economists and trade policy experts, regional economists, international business and organisational experts, political scientists) and on an extensive stakeholder engagement.

What are the economic and institutional must haves for candidate countries to make an accelerated enlargement possible? (*wiiw Team Leader*)

*European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs
October 2024 - June 2025*

This project, commissioned by the EU Commission's DG EcFin, attempts to identify "the minimal economic preconditions for the accession of candidates to the European Union, presuming a scenario under which there would be strong political pressure to admit new Member States much quicker than the current enlargement approach and procedures can deliver." (quoted from the tender document). The research set out to identify such minimum conditions by focusing on the following selection criteria: (i) relevance to provide macroeconomic stability for longer-term growth (and convergence), (ii) potential spillover effects on existing member states, and (iii) implications for proper use of EU funding and mutually beneficial participation in EU programs. Given these criteria we focus in our analysis on (a) external accounts (b) the fiscal situation (c) labour markets and social indicators and (d) institutional factors.

Research Centre International Economics (Forschungsschwerpunkt Internationale Wirtschaft, FIW)

*Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
October 2013 - February 2025*

wiiw is part of a consortium which is setting up a "Centre of Excellence on International Trade". It provides the appropriate infrastructure and assistance for a research community in international trade. Thus it can achieve a sustainable coordination among different research projects, research institutes and other activities in the broad field of economics of international trade (FIW German abbreviation). This project will also create a network of experts and assure the integration of international projects. The Centre of Excellence fulfils the following tasks: (1) to develop a research programme which assists external political decisions and activities concerning the European Union and other multinational organisations in a sustainable fashion, (2) to provides access to relevant databases in an easy and transparent way, and (3) to encourage and enhance the development of know-how with regard to foreign economic affairs in Austria. This Centre of Excellence will be an important source of information for the research community in Austria, the Austrian government with regard to foreign affairs as well as the social partnership. It collects and increases the knowledge of the given research institutes and provides it to the public in a user-friendly manner.

<http://www.fiw.ac.at/>

Untangling the impacts of technological transformations, globalisation and demographic change to foster shared prosperity in Europe (UNTANGLED)

*European Commission, Horizon 2020
February 2021 - January 2024*

Technological transformations, globalisation and demographic changes are the three key mega-trends posing socio-economic challenges and opportunities for the EU. UNTANGLED aims to fill knowledge gaps about these trends by pursuing three main goals: (1) to provide detailed analyses at the macro-, regional-, sectoral-, and micro-level concerning the effects of these trends on labour market outcomes and inequality, and their winners and losers; (2) to develop comprehensive, model-based scenarios of the impacts of these trends in the next decades, overall and for various subpopulations, sectors and regions; (3) to develop policy recommendations fostering shared prosperity. The project is commissioned to a consortium coordinated by the Catholic University of Leuven. wiiw is one of 14 partners and leads a workpackage on meso-level analysis.

Long-term impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on labour market integration of refugees (FIMAS reCOV)

(wiiw Team Leader)

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

March 2023 - December 2023

FIMAS reCOV was the sixth wave of the Austrian longitudinal study on integration processes of refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran in Austria. Its core focus lay in labour market integration, but also in the interactions with other integration domains such as social and cultural integration, educational integration, residential integration, integration into the health and other areas of the welfare system, which favour or hinder labour market integration. The project FIMAS reCOV followed up our longitudinal analysis by focusing on the impact of the Covid-crisis with its different phases (lockdowns, recoveries) on integration processes and labour market experiences of the different sub-groups of refugees (differentiated by age, gender, educational attainment, country of origin) and identified the particular challenges they face. The overall sample included over 2,700 respondents of which about a third had also participated in at least one of the previous five FIMAS waves. FIMAS reCOV built on and continued the previous five surveys FIMAS, FIMAS+INTEGRATION, FIMAS+INTEGRATION², FIMAS+YOUTH and FIMAS+Frauen.

How to dovetail Ukraine's reconstruction with EU integration and accession

Bertelsmann Stiftung

January 2023 - December 2023

The reconstruction of Ukraine and its accession to the EU constitute one of the biggest challenges for the international community, the EU and the country itself for many decades. Ukraine received candidate status from the EU in 2022 and could open negotiations even this year. Meeting the Copenhagen Criteria for EU accession, however, will be a monumental task. A joint assessment released in March 2023 by the Government of Ukraine, the World Bank Group, the European Commission, and the United Nations, estimated that the cost of reconstruction and recovery in Ukraine had grown to US \$411 billion (€383 billion). The costs were expected to be spread out over 10 years, and to use a mixture of private and public money. This research team argued that these two historic processes—reconstruction and EU integration—and how to further develop Ukraine as a functioning market economy capable of meeting the demands of EU internal market competition must be thought together to achieve the best possible outcomes – for the EU and Ukraine alike. Shedding light on what exactly the main challenges are, how Ukraine compares with previous joiners, and what can be learned from the successful EU accession of EU-CEE countries, was the ultimate ambition of this report. Within a series of research reports and policy briefs a group of economists from wiiw, the Bertelsmann Foundation, the Kiev-based Growford Institute and the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting analysed in detail five key and complementary areas of economic reconstruction: trade and FDI, regional policy, infrastructure, demographics, finance. They also investigated how these reconstruction areas could be structured as part of the EU accession process, and provided policy proposals for Ukraine and the EU.

Jobs, mental health and social policy in times of COVID-19 (wiiw Team Leader)

FWF - Austrian Science Fund

November 2021 - October 2023

In this project, a research team at wiiw is investigating important structural and distributional social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to the impact of the crisis on different economic sectors and on their organisation, the topics of employment and re-employment as well as the perspectives of different social groups are taken into account. For this purpose, a model is developed that captures the main features of the social and structural impacts in the medium and long term ('agent-based stock-flow consistent model'). Besides factors of labour market economics, it also includes changes in technology, productivity and work organisation as well as economic policy decisions. Four empirical studies shed light on important components of the theoretical model. These include structural developments of economic activities, different employment models, homeworking and effects on mental health, analysis of government measures.

Labour market trajectories of refugees and other migrants

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

January 2021 - June 2023

In view of the large influx of refugees into Austria between 2014 and 2016 and the substantial socio-cultural and economic integration challenges this poses, the project analyses some particular aspects of labour market integration of refugees in Austria. It uses two unique longitudinal databases which provide information on refugee

integration over time, namely a newly constructed database provided by Statistics Austria ('Register-based Labour Market data') for the period 2015-2021 as well as five successive survey rounds among refugees in Austria (FIMAS) which have been conducted over the period 2016-2022. It sheds light on refugees' job stability and mobility across different labour market statuses, their home-to-host country occupational trajectories and associated status losses and gains, the impact of public integration programmes on the likelihood of finding employment, and the role of specific stressors and resilience factors for refugees' mental health.

Industrial Policy for a New Growth Model: A toolbox for EU-CEE countries

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

July 2022 - December 2022

The Central Eastern European member states of the EU (EU-CEE) marked impressive advancements in their socio-economic developments over the past decades and can be even regarded as one of the most dynamic regions in Europe. The countries' EU membership as well as their deep integration into regional and global value chains (GVCs) played a crucial role in this catch-up process. However, the period following the Great Recession has seen unimpressive labour productivity growth along with a somewhat slower, in some cases even derailed, convergence process. In the light of EU-CEE's positioning as 'factory economies' and their struggle to occupy the more sophisticated stages of manufacturing value chains, the key challenge faced by the region is to occupy higher value-added activities within the value chain. This study aims to strategically evaluate the countries' policy options in achieving this goal, and to design an appropriate industrial policy toolkit for them, taking full account of the ongoing megatrends. It aims to guide policy makers in making the best possible use of the available policy space and taking full advantage of EU membership, while at the same time steering the industrial policy discussions at the EU-level to one that better fits the position and capabilities of the EU-CEE. The study defines industrial policy in the EU context and explores lessons learned from past successful industrialisers. It maps the EU-CEE's industrial development, with a particular focus on green and digital aspects, in order to identify most promising growth areas, along with key areas of vulnerability. Subsequently, it dives deep into the discussion of flagship industrial policy instruments and discusses how they could be more effectively deployed in EU-CEE.

Processes of labour market integration of female refugees in Austria (FIMAS+Frauen) (wiiv Team Leader)

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

February 2022 - September 2022

FIMAS+Frauen is the fifth wave of the Austrian longitudinal study on integration processes of refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran in Austria. Its core focus is on labour market integration, but also on the interactions with other integration domains such as social and cultural integration, educational integration, residential integration, integration into the health and other areas of the welfare system, which favour or hinder labour market integration. The project FIMAS+Frauen focusses on female refugees and their integration processes and experiences and identifies the particular challenges they face. The overall sample includes over 2,800 respondents of which a quarter has also participated in at least one of the previous four FIMAS waves. FIMAS+Frauen builds on and continues the previous four surveys FIMAS, FIMAS+INTEGRATION, FIMAS+INTEGRATION², and FIMAS+YOUTH.

Migration and Human Capital in the Western Balkans (wiiv Team Leader)

European Training Foundation (ETF)

December 2019 - October 2021

The project looks at migration dynamics from a human capital perspective in the six Western Balkan countries which have experienced high and persistent emigration since the 1990s and, since the early 2000s, increasingly more skilled emigration. It studies the interrelationship between migration flows (with a specific attention to skilled migration), human capital formation and utilisation (linked to labour market dynamics). It aims to understand the causes of the extremely high outflows of labour (and skilled labour in particular) from the region as well as their effects, taking into account the absorptive capacity of local labour markets, possible mismatches between local educational and training structures and labour market needs and other economic and institutional contexts of the countries. It also examines how, for different scenarios, the continuation of migration trends could influence the skills pool and its utilisation in the future. The focus of the analysis is on the post-2010 period, with projections until 2030. In the course of the project, a novel cohort-based approach has been developed and applied to estimate the extent and skill composition of net-migration, which is unavailable from official home-based migration statistics for the six Western Balkan countries. The project's output will include country fiches for each of the six WB countries with detailed policy recommendations, a regional synthetic report, and a number of quantitative statistical and econometric papers.

Processes of labour market integration of young refugees in Austria (FIMAS+YOUTH) (wiiv Team Leader)

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

January 2021 - September 2021

Building on the surveys FIMAS, FIMAS+INTEGRATION and FIMAS+INTEGRATION², the project FIMAS+YOUTH represents the fourth wave of the Austrian longitudinal study on the integration processes of refugees. Generally, the FIMAS project series aims to shed light on the integration processes of refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran in Austria by following them dynamically over time. Its core focus is on labour market integration as well as its interaction with other integration domains (i.e. social integration, educational integration, residential integration, etc.) that favour or hinder labour market integration. The project FIMAS+YOUTH focusses on young refugees, aged 15 to 25, and their integration processes and experiences. The overall sample comprises over 2,700 respondents of which a quarter has also participated in at least one of the previous three FIMAS waves. In addition to a comprehensive project report on the integration experiences of young refugees based on the fourth wave, we conducted a first analysis exploiting the panel dimension of the FIMAS dataset. The timing of the FIMAS+YOUTH survey allowed us to analyse specifically how the COVID-19 crisis impacted on different aspects of labour market integration of refugees in Austria. We found a rather strong negative impact of the crisis on refugees with high levels of education and on women, while other groups of refugees managed to benefit from the opening up of opportunities in specific segments of the labour market (such as food and parcel delivery, etc.)

A new growth model in EU-CEE

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

August 2020 - May 2021

The eleven EU member states from Central, East, and Southeast Europe (EU-CEE) have undergone three decades of transition to market capitalism and convergence with Western Europe. There have been many successes and challenges, and the level of economic and social development varies widely across the region. The study finds that the convergence process, especially for the more advanced countries, has slowed since 2007 and that the current growth model may well be reaching its limit. The authors find that it will take decades for EU-CEE's more developed countries to halve the remaining gap to Germany and other rich countries in Western Europe. This implies that it is high time to think about a new growth model for the region. The study outlines the main priorities for a strategic transition to a new growth model of EU-CEE and shows substantial opportunities in a greener, digitised, automated world.

Migration from Africa, Middle East and EU Eastern Partnership countries towards the EU-27: Challenges and prospects ahead

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

January 2019 - March 2021

Over the last three decades the fall of the Berlin wall and EU enlargement towards the East have been important events which have further nurtured intra EU mobility. Nevertheless, in the coming decade the mobility to the EU will be dominated by another corridor which is directed from South - Africa, Middle East and EU neighbouring countries (AME) - to the North (the EU). The mobility from AME to the EU can be seen as both supply and demand driven. It is supply driven because of underdevelopment of AME with respect to the EU, wars, political and social instability which have afflicted AME regions, but also the impact of climate change and massive displacements of populations especially on the African continent due to hazardous weather conditions. It is demand driven because EU countries are undergoing a strong decline in working age population and will increasingly depend on workers from abroad - including AME countries. As a consequence, there is a great need to better understand potential mobility from AME to the EU, identify its main drivers and what could be the role of migration governance in this context. This project sheds light on determinants of AME-EU mobility, likely future scenarios and on some of the policy challenges.

ArBeI International - Grundlagen- und angewandte Arbeitsmarktanalysen

Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection (BMASGK)

July 2017 - June 2020

Der Prozess der Globalisierung sowie die zunehmende Integration Europas stellen den Arbeitsmarkt in Österreich vor große Herausforderungen. Zunehmende wirtschaftliche Verflechtungen (v.a. über Handel, Direktinvestitionen, Offshoring, Migration) haben erhebliche Auswirkungen auf die Bedingungen am Arbeitsmarkt, auf Lohn- und Einkommensentwicklungen und Beschäftigungsstrukturen. Evidenzbasierte Handlungsempfehlungen für die

Wirtschaftspolitik im Allgemeinen und die Arbeitsmarktpolitik im Besonderen erfordern daher eine Analyse mit einer internationalen und vergleichenden Perspektive. Für Österreich bedeutet das, die arbeitsmarktrelevanten Entwicklungen seiner Nachbarländer, v.a. der mittel- und osteuropäischen Nachbarn, der Beitrittskandidaten und der EU Nachbarregionen genau zu analysieren, und natürlich auch eine globale Perspektive zu entwickeln. Dieses vom österreichischen Sozialministerium beauftragte Forschungsprojekt beschäftigt sich mit diesen Themen. Es ist auf drei Jahre angelegt und in vier Teilbereiche gegliedert: (1) Technologie, Globalisierung und Konvergenz in der EU, (2) Mobilität von Arbeitskräften und Migrationstrends, (3) Konjunktur, Beschäftigung und Arbeitslosigkeit und (4) institutionelle Rahmenbedingungen und deren Effekte auf Wachstum, Beschäftigung und Ungleichheit.

Labour markets: demography, migration and skills (*wiiw Team Leader*)

European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs

March 2019 - November 2019

This study reviewed labour market developments pre- and post-EU Enlargement in the CESEE countries. The paper analysed some current developments, their impact on labour market developments (such as on wages and wage structures) pre- and post-EU membership and develop scenarios into the future. The implications for macroeconomic developments and catching-up/convergence processes were drawn out.

This paper was commissioned by the European Commission, DG ECFIN, in the course of a conference and a volume commemorating the 15 years of the 2004 enlargement of the EU.

Integration of recent refugees and third country nationals into the Austrian labour market (*wiiw Team Leader*)

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

October 2016 - June 2019

The aim of this project was to investigate the opportunities and challenges of integrating refugees and migrants in the Austrian labour market. A particular focus of the analysis was to follow the dynamics of labour market integration, building on a variety of longitudinal databases, including our own survey (FIMAS) covering recent refugees/asylum seekers as well as register-based labour market career data from Statistics Austria. The aim was to follow the experiences of different groups of refugees and migrants coming from different countries of origin with their specific personal characteristics, social contexts and participations in various policy programmes. Analytically, labour market integration was analysed along a number of different dimensions of integration (such as social network formation, cultural integration, integration into the health and other aspects of the welfare system, training and educational integration, etc) to check how these interact to facilitate or hinder labour market integration. An important part of the project addressed the vulnerability of refugees to mental health problems and identified the effect of stressors and resilience factors on their mental health situation. Various state-of-the-art statistical methods were applied to analyse the heterogeneity of experiences, effectiveness of policy programmes and interaction between different dimensions of integration.

Demographic and economic development in Central and East European countries (CEECs)

City of Vienna

December 2017 - December 2018

The influx from Central and East European countries (CEECs) played an important role in the population development of Austria and Vienna between 2000 and 2016. This has also led to a significant change in the employment structure in Vienna, which has partly resulted in the displacement of both domestic and other foreign workers. In this context the study assesses the current and future migration potential to Austria and Vienna from the Central and Eastern European countries and the two Western Balkan countries Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. Economic development in the CEECs has been very positive for some years now and forecasts also point to steady economic growth with significantly higher growth rates than the EU average. In line with this, the labour market situation in these countries generally improved. This and the general demographic developments in the region lead to a general slowdown in mobility flows from CEECs. Nonetheless, demographic developments in the region and the Western Balkans remain worrying as population is shrinking and the working-age population even more so. Demographic long-term scenarios even suggest that the population in the region will continue to shrink sharply in the coming decades. Summarising, these developments point towards a flattening of trends, if not a weakening of existing mobility flows to Austria and Vienna in the medium term. Finally, there are no indications that the patterns of mobility flows to Austrian regions (i.e. with respect to individual provinces) will shift significantly.

Studies in the Areas of European Competitiveness

*European Commission, DG Grow
August 2014 - July 2018*

The purpose of this framework contract is to provide the European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry, with background studies concerning the competitiveness of European industries. These background studies are mainly used for the preparation of the Commission's European Competitiveness Report which is published annually in order to provide analytical input to the policy debate on issues related to competitiveness and to underpin proposals and recommendations regarding the Europe 2020 strategy and future enterprise policy.

Migration and Globalisation - Impacts and Interaction *(wiiw Team Leader)*

*Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank
March 2016 - March 2018*

This project contributes to the current debate on the effects of immigration by considering how migration impacts upon and interacts with other forces of globalisation. The project will largely focus on the EU-27 countries, examining the impact of intra-EU and extra-EU migration flows on trade, FDI and off-shoring. The project will focus on four major issues, namely: (i) the impact of immigration on (North-South) FDI flows; (ii) the relationship between migration and services trade flows; (iii) the interactions between migration, trade and FDI flows; (iv) migration and offshoring and their impact upon labour markets and inequality in EU economies.

Tradability of Output and the Current Account in Europe

*Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank
July 2015 - December 2016*

One aspect in the debate about current account imbalances in Europe is the consequence of 'de-industrialisation' observable in several European countries. This project highlights the role of tradability of output as a key determinant of the current account balance. The relationship between a country's specialisation in the production of tradables will be investigated empirically for 46 European countries over the period 1995-2014. To this end a tradability index is developed which can be understood as a country's expected degree of openness given its economic structure. The tradability hypothesis to be tested in this project suggests that countries specialising in the production of relatively more tradable output have a tendency to run current account surpluses. It is shown that this relationship is also predicted by intertemporal models of the current account. The tradability hypothesis is tested using both panel regressions and cross-country regression techniques.

Innovation in the CESEE region: from pre-crisis credit boom to the effects of the financial crisis

*Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank
July 2014 - December 2015*

In Europe's Emerging Market Economies a change in the underlying growth and catching-up model of the last decades is becoming apparent. The proposed study was one of very few studies on developing and emerging economies in Central, East and Southeast Europe (CESEE) focusing on innovation activity in this region. It analysed drivers and effects of innovative activities at the firm level for a comprehensive set of countries in the CESEE region. The study looks at three phases of economic and financial development, namely 'financial normalcy' (2000-04), the emergence of the credit and housing 'bubble' (2004-08) and the 'crisis' (from 2008 onwards) and at two innovation strategies (make and buy) and analyses the role of (i) credit constraints as an impediment to innovation activities and success, of (ii) foreign-controlled enterprises and their potentially superior innovation and firm performance and of (iii) the strategic choice of R&D cooperation partners for innovation success.

How to Stabilize the Economy of Ukraine and Put it on a Sustainable Growth Trajectory

*United Europe e.V.
December 2014 - June 2015*

On behalf of United Europe and Bertelsmann Stiftung, wiiw explored the possible ways how to stabilise the Ukrainian economy and analysed the economic effects of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. To that end, wiiw analysed the macroeconomic developments, foreign trade and FDI relations, as well as industrial and regional patterns. The study was presented jointly with the clients, representatives of the EU Commission (Commissioner J. Hahn) and of the Ukrainian parliament in the framework of a Policy Dialogue in Brussels. A similar presentation in Kyiv also generated considerable attention among international as well as Ukrainian media and policy-makers. The study was furthermore supported by the Austrian Central Bank (OeNB), Bertelsmann Stiftung, DER-think tank, ING Bank NV, Porsche Holding Gesellschaft m.b.H and Raiffeisen Bank International AG.

Recent patterns of labour mobility in the European Union

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

July 2013 - March 2015

In the EU the level of labour mobility is comparably low, but rising due to intensified labour market flexibility and increasing migration flows. The project analysed changing patterns of labour mobility in a detailed manner in the countries, regions and economic sectors of the EU by applying a descriptive and an econometric approach. A specific focus was put on whether international migrants respond more flexibly to labour market demands. Moreover, the effects of external shocks during the financial and economic crisis on the scale and structure of labour mobility was analysed. The project drew on two micro-datasets: the EU labour force survey for performing a worker flow analysis and the MICRO-DYN database, which provides data based on EU-wide firm-level data to perform a job flow analysis. In the econometric approach we applied regional, country, sectoral and workers characteristics to detect the reasons for differences in the European wide map of labour mobility.

Competitiveness of the European Economy (wiiw Team Leader)

European Investment Bank (EIB)

June 2014 - February 2015

The objective of this study was to provide a snapshot of current competitiveness of the EU and its member economies, as well as the evolution of their competitiveness over time. Competitiveness comparisons with the US, Japan, China and other emerging market economies are of interest. To the extent possible, services as well as manufacturing were discussed. The empirical relationship between international trade, competitiveness and productivity was described. If suitable and useful, EU economies with similar traits were grouped or clustered, thereby facilitating the discussion.

Increasing competitiveness in the Western Balkans region - opportunities and limits

German Federal Ministry of Finance

July 2013 - January 2015

This study was written in German, original title: 'Steigerung der Wettbewerbsfähigkeit in der Westbalkanregion - Möglichkeiten und Grenzen'. The European Union as well as international and bilateral players increasingly consider higher competitiveness as a key factor for economic development in the Western Balkans region that is to be more and more autonomous and resilient in the long term. Against this background, the project aims to identify the potential for (further) structural reforms and their implementation and efficient realisation, as well as the potential for growth and strategies to exploit it. The project is carried out in cooperation with the Halle Institute for Economic Research.

International conference 'The 2004 EU Enlargement – Ten Years After: Achievements and Next Steps'

Austrian Ministry of Finance

June 2014 - June 2014

The conference celebrated the 10th anniversary of the accession of ten Central, Eastern and Southeastern European countries to the European Union. It reflected on achievements and lessons learned and discussed possible future political and economic developments in Europe.

Temporary migration, integration and the role of policies (TEMPO) (wiiw Team Leader)

New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe (NORFACE)

November 2009 - November 2013

The main goal of TEMPO is to extend the frontier of knowledge on temporary and return migration along several directions. First of all, using an array of existing and new datasets, it looks at the causes and consequences of temporary migration, considering both the perspective of the source and the destination country. Second, it studies the patterns of integration of economic and non-economic migrants, and how they relate to the time dimension of the migration decision. Particular attention is paid to the role played by the diffusion of information within immigrant networks. Finally, the project looks at the process through which policies towards temporary and return migration are formed, and analyses their welfare effects both on the destination and the source countries. wiiw is one of 12 partners on the TEMPO research project, which is funded under the Norface Migration Research Programme.

<http://www.norface.org/migration6.html>

Harvard Conference "Europe in a post-crisis world" (wiiw Team Leader)

Schumpeter Gesellschaft

October 2013 - November 2013

The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) was co-organiser of the conference "Europe in a post-crisis world" which has taken place at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies of Harvard University. The conference consisted of four sessions: 1) Political ramifications of the EU crisis; 2) Longer-term consequences of the crisis for the EU; 3) Consequences for Europe's periphery and the European neighbourhood; 4) Europe's position in the global economy - longer-term scenarios. Conference speakers included prominent economists and political scientists from Europe and the US (amongst others Larry Summers, Barry Eichengreen, Jeffrey Frankel, Andre Sapir, Loukas Tsoukalis, Peter Hall, Bart van Ark, Romano Prodi). The program has been put together by Prof. Jeffrey Frieden (Harvard) and Prof. Michael Landesmann (wiiw). The conference was funded by the Schumpeter Society and was organized in cooperation with the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies of Harvard University and the Program on Transatlantic Relations at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs of Harvard University.

Study on structural change (Competitiveness Report 2013)

European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry

November 2012 - June 2013

This study serves as a background report for the yearly Competitiveness Report of the EC. It illustrates and analyses the broad trends in the relative weight of quite highly aggregated sectors within market activities. It provides an overview as well as an explanation of the broad patterns and trends of structural change for the EU-27 member states. Based on empirical evidence, economic consequences of the observed patterns of structural change will be examined with special attention to the implications of emerging middle-income growth traps. The results will include policy conclusions and provide evidence on the stylised facts of structural change in Europe, the importance of structural change for aggregate growth and the relevance of basic economic mechanisms at work. Furthermore, it will highlight the importance of manufacturing relative to other sectors, which is not sufficiently captured merely by the percentage of the workforce it uses. wiiw is partner in a consortium lead by The Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education (NIFU).

A manufacturing imperative in the EU - Europe's position in global manufacturing and the role of industrial policy (Competitiveness Report 2013)

European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry

November 2012 - June 2013

This study served as a background report for the annual European Competitiveness Report of the European Commission (DG ENTR). The objective was (i) to detect the structural changes that have occurred in the European economy in order to identify the major challenges that lie ahead European manufacturing and (ii) to analyse and evaluate past and current approaches to industrial policies (and instruments) at the European and the EU Member State level. Based on the structural challenges for the EU economy and experiences with industrial policies the study formulated suggestions for potential elements of a renewed European industrial policy. The policy conclusions took into account the interaction of industrial policy with related policies such as competition rules, innovation policies and trade policies. The study contains both qualitative and quantitative analyses, including cluster analysis and various econometric techniques and made use of numerous data sources such as the World Input-Output Database (WIOD), OECD ANBERD, Eurostat, European Commission State Aid Scoreboard database and the Community Innovation Survey (CIS).

Crisis effects: growth prospect, social impact and policy responses in SEE and CIS

Oesterreichische Nationalbank/Austrian Ministry of Finance

July 2011 - June 2013

The main objective of the project is to establish economic research capacities throughout Southeast Europe (SEE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), to promote knowledge transfer into the regions, to facilitate networking between researchers and to assist in securing knowledge transfer from researchers to policy makers. Activities to achieve this include research calls, mentoring, workshops, conferences and policy dialogues. The project is structured into bi-annual research cycles focusing on a specific research theme of particular importance. During this phase, research aims at analysing whether the international crisis shock introduces structural breaks in the distribution of income and other welfare dimensions, conditional on the change in the potential speed of growth, the quality of development, and the induced or adopted policy changes in SEE and CIS. The project is part of the

Global Development Network (GDN), a multilateral organisation founded by the World Bank in which wiiw acts as a hub for SEE.

Migration patterns of Serbian immigrants in Austria: causes and consequences (*wiiw Team Leader*)

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

January 2011 - April 2013

The main objective of this project is to investigate empirical evidence of migration behaviour of migrants from former Yugoslavia, especially from Serbia, after the introduction of the new visa regime starting with 2010. The focus is on the analysis of the phenomenon of temporary migration and its impact on integration and the building of human capital on the labour market.

The world and Europe in 2030 (AUGUR) (*wiiw Team Leader*)

European Commission, 7th Framework Programme

October 2010 - January 2013

The challenge of this project was to capture, within a set of scenarios, the characteristics and implications of a variety of patterns that may occur in 2030 in all domains, be it political, economic, social, environmental or technological in Europe and in the world. The project attempted to take stock of medium to long-term trends identified in demography, environmental changes as well as to feature some of the effects of likely changes in technology and behaviours, but it also took into account important institutional transformations. wiiw was one of seven project partners and acted as the leader of a work-package on the effects of innovation and technology diffusion on growth. wiiw contributed to the elaboration of policy scenarios for EU policy makers, designed to deal with the different economic trajectories. In particular, wiiw contributed papers on foreign direct investment, intellectual property rights, trade specialisation, trade in services and macroeconomic issues.

<http://www.augurproject.eu>

Sustainable industrial development: structural change and employment generation (UNIDO Industrial Development Report 2013) (*wiiw Team Leader*)

UNIDO

November 2012 - December 2012

The study served as a background report for UNIDO's Industrial Development Report 2013. The aim was to analyse the relation between sustainable industrialisation and creating new employment. The study focused particularly on the role of the industrial sector for the development of employment.

Study on macroeconomic developments and policies in Europe since 2008: new divides in Europe (*wiiw Team Leader*)

International Labour Organisation

June 2012 - September 2012

The performance across regions in the EU and Europe in general has differed and will differ significantly. They will all, however, be constrained by the common EU economic policy framework which is emerging as a response to the crisis. The study is a critical assessment of the macroeconomic situation and trends. It analyses reasons for diverse economic trends within the region, reviews economic policies adopted in response to the crisis, and gives policy recommendations for macroeconomic policy promoting sustainable economic development and job creation in the region.

Globalization, Investment, and Services Trade - GIST

European Commission, 7th Framework Programme

September 2008 - August 2012

This research network was focused on international trade and foreign direct investment (FDI) in the service sectors and aimed at integrating researchers within the network with the policy community (World Bank, WTO, Government ministries). The focus of research in the network was: (i) Theory of cross-border trade and FDI, (ii) Trade, regulatory interaction, and the political economy of integration, and (iii) Empirics of trade and FDI interactions. The project was undertaken under the premise that services were of great interest and importance to both policy-makers and businesses in Europe, and were a major factor in maintaining European growth and competitiveness over the coming decades. The network was coordinated by Joseph F. Francois (University of Linz, Austria and wiiw).

Bulgaria: fiscal space, competitiveness and incomes policy (*wiiw Team Leader*)

International Labour Organisation

September 2011 - January 2012

wiiw produced a study for the International Labour Organisation (ILO) concerning macroeconomic and structural policies for Bulgaria. The paper focused on the economic growth model pursued in Bulgaria over the last decade and in particular changes that are required to this model given the expected external and internal environment and shortcomings with past policies. The paper includes a comparative analysis with other Central and East European countries where appropriate.

The Competitiveness of firms, regions and industry in the knowledge-based economy: What room for job-rich growth in Europe? (MICRO-DYN) (*wiiw Team Leader*)

European Commission, 6th Framework Programme

October 2006 - January 2011

MICRO-DYN dealt with growth, employment and competitiveness in the knowledge-based European economy through a micro-founded firm-based approach. The nature of the analysis was 'bottom-up' i.e. moving from the micro-entities of economic actions and strategies at the enterprise level to sectoral, regional, national and European levels. The rationale for such an approach was that understanding the microeconomic foundations of innovation, competitiveness and growth at the firm level, as well as the firms interactions with the labour market, is key to understanding the nature of these phenomena at a more aggregated (regional, sectoral or macro) level and of the resulting aggregate economic performance. The analysis used as far as possible comprehensive data-sets across all European regions and industries. wiiw co-ordinated a consortium of 17 research institutions.

<http://www.micro-dyn.eu>

Inequality and fiscal policy in transition countries

Oesterreichische Nationalbank/Austrian Ministry of Finance

January 2009 - December 2010

The main objective of the project is to establish economic research capacities throughout Southeast Europe (SEE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), to promote knowledge transfer into the regions, to facilitate networking between researchers and to assist in securing knowledge transfer from researchers to policy makers. Activities to achieve this include research calls, mentoring, workshops, conferences and policy dialogues. The project is structured into bi-annual research cycles focusing on a specific research theme of particular importance. During this phase, research dealt with inequality and fiscal policy in transition countries of Southeast Europe (SEE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Research aimed to analyse issues of income and other distributions (e.g., wealth, wage, skills, opportunities) in transition countries with special interest in the role of market liberalisation and fiscal redistribution. The project is part of the Global Development Network (GDN), a multilateral organisation founded by the World Bank in which wiiw acts as a hub for SEE.

Central-Eastern Europe and the economic crisis. Policy lessons learnt (*wiiw Team Leader*)

Austrian Ministry of Finance

July 2009 - March 2010

The objective of the project was to write a policy paper on "Central-Eastern Europe and the Economic Crisis. Policy Lessons Learnt" and present the paper in a workshop with European and local policy makers. The paper was jointly written by experts from Breugel and wiiw as well as experts from the region.

Ex-post evaluation of cohesion policy programmes 2000-2006; Work Package 1: Coordination, analysis and synthesis

European Commission, DG Regional Policy

November 2007 - December 2009

This Work Package aims to assess the macroeconomic background for cohesion policy in the period 2000-2006 and the quality of strategies, to assemble other information facilitating the implementation of later work packages and synthesise the results of all 11 other work packages. In addition, the project consortium will support the Commission in certain management tasks of the overall evaluation.