

DIW Berlin
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DIW Berlin



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Dear Readers,

DIW Berlin celebrates its 80th anniversary this year. With the website “80 Years DIW Berlin” we now offer the opportunity for everyone to inform themselves about the history of the German Institute for Economic Research. On the site “Personalities” we introduce the institute’s former presidents. In the category “80 Years of Economic Research at DIW Berlin” you can find out all the important details from the international conference in December.

The DIW Newsletter informs you every three months about latest news at DIW Berlin as well as news about staff members, events, call for papers, press coverage and much more. If you enjoy reading our Newsletter please do recommend it to other potential subscribers.

With kind regards,

Sabrina Ortmann (sortmann@diw.de)
Service Department Information and Organization

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Berlin

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News from DIW Berlin

80 Years of DIW Berlin

DIW Berlin celebrates its 80th anniversary this year. It was established in 1925 by its first President, Dr. phil. Ernst Wagemann. The institute's branching off from the Imperial Statistical Office in 1925 was based on the intention of linking data analyses to economic theory. In the "Institute for Economic Research", dynamic economics were the focus from the very beginning.



Ernst Wagemann was the first President of DIW Berlin from 1925 until 1945

In the forties, the institute was renamed the "German Institute for Economic Research". Over decades, DIW Berlin was well involved in political consulting. During the Berlin blockade, it analyzed the minimum transport requirements for the Western sectors. The federal government's future investment program of 1977-1980 was largely based on DIW Berlin analysis. In the nineties, the Ukrainian government received advice from DIW Berlin on economic reforms and proposed the first concrete model for a German eco-tax. In current reform discussions about Germany's modernization, the institute consistently offered analyses concerning fiscal reform, among other topics, most which were taken into serious consideration. The now legendary "Wochenbericht", published for the first time in 1928, is responsible for public transparency. It continues to be the flagship for the economic-political implementation of the institute's research findings.



The DIW Berlin building at Koenigin-Luise-Strasse 5 in Berlin

With the website "80 Years of DIW Berlin" we now offer the opportunity for everyone to inform themselves about the history of the German Institute for Economic Research. On the site "Personalities" we introduce the institute's former Presidents. In the category "80 Years of Economic Research at DIW Berlin", you can learn all the important details from the international conference in December.

Link to the anniversary site "80 Years of DIW Berlin" (in German only):

<http://www.diw.de/deutsch/dasinstitut/jubilaeum/index.html>



Strong Participation of DIW Berlin Researchers at the EEA 2005 Congress and the Annual Congress 2005 of the Verein fuer Socialpolitik

At the 20th Annual Congress of the European Economic Association (EEA), which took place from August 24th to 27th, 2005, at the University of Amsterdam, DIW Berlin gave a higher-than-average number of speeches. DIW Berlin stood shoulder to shoulder with other famous and internationally-known research institutions. The EEA is an international scientific body with membership open to all persons involved or interested in economics.

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2005/eea_2005/index.html

DIW Berlin made its presence felt via the representation of numerous researchers and more than 20 speeches at the Annual Congress 2005 of the Verein fuer Socialpolitik. As such, it is in the vanguard of economic research institutes.

Leading international experts spoke at the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms University Bonn from September 27th to 30th, 2005, about the topic "Perspectives for the Health Care System". DIW Berlin also organized a lunchtime reception for the participants at the congress as it did last year.

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2005/vfs_2005.html



Has the European Social Model failed Germany?

After a grim decade of low growth and mass unemployment in Germany and France, Tony Blair has called the economic reform in Europe into question. Isn't it time for Germany to adopt the free-market policies that have succeeded in United States and Britain?

The evaluation of the social model and its role in Germany was the topic of the second Joint Debate of the british business magazine, The Economist, the Alfred Herrhausen Society and DIW Berlin. The event took place on September 7th in the atrium of Deutsche Bank AG in Berlin with more than 150 interested guests.

On the podium, were Lord David Lipsey from the Social Market Foundation, Alain Madelin, Member of the French Parliament and former Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, Prof. Dr. Horst Siebert from the Kiel Institute for World Economics and Professor at John Hopkins University Bologna and Prof. Dr. Karl Wilhelm Lauterbach, Director of the Institute for Health Economics of the University of Cologne. The debate was moderated by John Peet, publisher of The Economist Europe.



Prof. Dr. Horst Siebert, Alain Madelin, John Peet, Prof. Dr. Karl Wilhelm Lauterbach, Lord David Lipsey (Photo: Marc Darchinger)

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2005/20050914_bericht_joint_debate.html



DIW Berlin Seminar in Cooperation with the Canadian Embassy Berlin

Canada has one of the highest labor participation rates in the OECD. Participation rates of underemployed groups, such as older workers and women, are also well above the OECD average. The recent DIW Berlin Seminar took place on October 13th, 2005, and dealt with the successful labor market policy in Canada. Alan Nymark, Deputy Minister of the Department of **Human Resources and Skills Development Canada** (HRSDC) and Chairperson of the Canadian Employment Insurance Commission, gave a lecture about “Bringing Underemployed People into the Workforce: A Canadian Success Story“ and focussed on Canadian successes in bringing underemployed groups into the workforce. It also included an overview of the demographic and labor market challenges ahead and how the Canadian Governemet intends to address them. The presentation was held in English. A reception concluded the event.

Further information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2005/20050928_seminar_kanada.html



Personnel



The President of DIW Berlin, **Prof. Dr. Klaus F. Zimmermann**, has been appointed to the advisory Group of Societal Policy Analysis (GSPA) of the Bureau of European Policy Advisors (BEPA). On October 6th, 2005, the GSPA met in Brussels for the first time under the chairmanship of the EU

Commission President, José Manuel Barroso, to discuss the sustainability of European social models.

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2005/20050919_kfz_eu.html

At the Second IZA Annual Migration Meeting, which took place on the 11th and 12th of September 2005 in Chicago, Prof. Dr. Klaus F. Zimmermann gave a lecture about "Fortress Europe: The Price of Being Closed" within the scope of the Julian Simon Lecture.



In recognition of services to the people and the country, the Federal President awarded Dr. Alexander von Tippelskirch the Federal Cross of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. Alexander von Tippelskirch is a member of the supervisory board of IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG and Chairman of the Board of the Society of Friends of DIW Berlin (VdF). The Society of Friends has supported the internationally-recognized work of the institute financially and intellectually since 1951. The Federal Cross of Merit was awarded to Alexander von Tippelskirch on September 8th, 2005.



On July 22nd, 2005, the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ) was founded with extensive involvement of members of the Socio-Economic Panel. SOEP Director **Prof. Dr. Gert G. Wagner** was elected Chairman of the four-member Executive Committee.

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2005/20050802_wagner.html



Prof. Dr. Claudia Kemfert, Head of the Department of Energy, Transportation, Environment, was appointed to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the magazine, GAIA - Ecological Perspectives in Science, Humanities, and Economics in July 2005.

Further Information:



Prof. Dr. Reimund Schwarze, of the Department of Energy, Transportation, Environment, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance - Issues and Practices as of January 1st, 2006. The Geneva Papers are an SSCI-listed journal published by Palgrave Macmillan. Moreover, Reimund Schwarze, as well as **Prof. Dr. Dieter Schumacher** of the Department of International Economics, have been appointed honorary professors in the Faculty of Economics of European University Viadrina (Oder).

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/info/2005/20050908_schwarze.html



On September 1st, 2005, the position of fund raiser was filled at DIW Berlin. **Dr. Ulrich Hange** accepted the position, which is responsible for professionally and competently supporting the scientific departments in the strategic acquisition of third party means and research promotion.



Matthias Reichel has been the new Controller at DIW Berlin since August 1st, 2005. He succeeds Barbara Siemons in this position. For the past seven years Matthias Reichel had been responsible for finances with Mologen AG in Berlin-Dahlem.



Stephen P. Jenkins, member of the board and research professor with the SOEP is a guest at SOEP for four months, starting in the beginning of October.



Publications

Current Wochenbericht of DIW Berlin No. 42/2005



- To the Wochenbericht of DIW Berlin No 42/2005 (in German only):
<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/wochenberichte/aktuell/index.jsp>



Current Weekly Report

The Weekly Report is DIW Berlin's new online publication. Every month, four articles of the Wochenbericht are published in English. The Weekly Report presents condensed information about current results of the highest level of economic research.

Weekly Report No. 28/2005

New Evidence Concerning the Professional Situation of Hospital Physicians in Germany.

By Hannes Spengler

The present report ties in with the Weekly Report published recently concerning the professional situation of young hospital physicians in Germany. The extensiveness of recent media coverage points at the explosiveness of this topic. Criticism from different directions ranges to doubting the research's scientific basis. Here, we take a closer look at the methodical background, in particular the solidity of the underlying data basis. Furthermore, with the new data from the Microcensus 2003, it is now possible to examine the significance of the results calculated in the first report for 2002. However, new findings are in the fore now, especially concerning the working hours of young hospital physicians.



Link to the Weekly Report:

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/weeklyreport/aktuell/index.jsp>



Quarterly Journal of Economic Research 2/2005

The Economic Costs of Climate Change and Climate Policy

By Claudia Kemfert and Barbara Praetorius

The economic damage caused by extreme weather has increased enormously in the past three decades - a consequence of global climate change. Without a stabilization of the greenhouse gas concentration at today's level, the risk of irreversible and dangerous climate damage increases. However, a climate protection policy implemented quickly could avert macroeconomic damage of up to 200 trillion US-Dollars by 2050.

In the current Quarterly Journal of Economic Research, renowned researchers and experts analyze the economic costs of climate change and climate policy, their associated financial risks, and time involved, effort required and overall usefulness of national and international climate protection strategies.



- Link to the Quarterly Journal of Economic Research:
<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/vierteljahrshefte/index.html>
- Issues on Climate Change:
http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/service/themenlisten/medienliste_klimawandel.html



Research Notes 5/2005

An Econometric Analysis of the Impact of the German Law Enforcement System on the Crime Rate.

By Horst Entorf and Hannes Spengler

According to the classic economic theory of crime, an increase of the expected penalty (i.e. of the product of the probability of penalty and the length of sentence) should lead to a reduced crime rate. In empirical analyses, a test of this seemingly straightforward hypothesis proves to be very complex. Normally, in empirical crime research, only a fraction of the correlations is taken into consideration simultaneously. The authors of this study overcome this deficit and establish a comprehensive database (RegKrimDA) with police criminal statistics and law enforcement statistics data from the German states, for the period 1977-2001.



Link to the Research Notes:

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/researchnotes/aktuell/index.jsp>



Policy Advice Compact No. 9

Allocation Effects of Governmental Family Support – An Empirical Comparison between Germany and France
August 2005

Research project on behalf of the Hans-Boeckler Foundation

Research focus: “Future of the Welfare State”

By Katharina Wrohlich, Viktor Steiner, Fabien Dell and Alexandre Baclet

The subject of the short technical report is the empirical analysis of the reallocation effects of income tax and its family policy-related components in Germany and France. A comparison of tax scales in Germany and France shows that both the marginal and the average tax burden is similar in the two countries, whereas the average burden in the upper income array is higher than in Germany.



Link to Policy Advice Compact No. 9 (available only in German):

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/diwkompakt/aktuell/index.html>



New Discussion Papers:

No 515: Aktive Arbeitsmarktpolitik in Deutschland: Bestandsaufnahme und Bewertung der mikroökonomischen Evaluationsergebnisse.

Caliendo, Marco; Steiner, Viktor

No 514: Transitional Dynamics in a Growth Model with Distributive Politics.

Ghate, Chetan

No 513: Economic Growth of Agglomerations and Geographic Concentration of Industries - Evidence for Germany.

Geppert, Kurt; Gornig, Martin; Werwatz, Axel

No. 512: Convergence of Electricity Wholesale Prices in Europe? A Kalman Filter Approach.

Zachmann, Georg

No 511: Individual Risk Attitudes: New Evidence from a Large, Representative, Experimentally-Validated Survey.

Dohmen, Thomas; Falk, Armin; Huffman, David; Sunde, Uwe; Schupp, Juergen; Wagner, Gert G.

No 510: Spatial Proximity and Contacts between Elderly Parents and Their Adult Children: A European Comparison.

Hank, Karsten

No 509: Innovative Energy Technologies and Climate Policy in Germany.

Schumacher, Katja; Sands, Ronald D.

No 508 : Do Eurozone Countries Cheat with Their Budget Deficit Forecasts?

Brueck, Tilman; Stephan, Andreas

No 507: The Spatial Econometrics of Elephant Population Change: A Note.

Frank, Bjoern; Maurseth, Per Botolf

No 506: Die Einfuehrung der Praxisgebuehr und ihre Wirkung auf die Zahl der Arztkontakte und die Kontaktfrequenz: Eine empirische Analyse.

Grabka, Markus M.; Schreyoegg, Jonas; Busse, Reinhard

No 505: Social Agglomeration Externalities.

Borck, Rainald

No 504: Fiscal Competition, Capital-Skill Complementarity, and the Composition of Public Spending.

Borck, Rainald

No 503: Voting, Inequality, and Redistribution.

Borck, Rainald

These and other new discussion papers can be found on our website:

[http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/
diskussionspapiere/aktuell/index.jsp](http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/diskussionspapiere/aktuell/index.jsp)



Annual Report 2004

The Annual Report 2004 is available as PDF-document on our website. It gives a complete overview about the scientific research activities, the organisational structure and the partners of DIW Berlin.

Link to the Annual Report:

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/publikationen/taetigkeitsbericht/index.html>



Research Report of DIW Berlin for ZDF and Der Tagesspiegel

Against the background of the early Bundestag elections on September 18th, 2005, and on behalf of the ZDF-Morgenmagazin and Der Tagesspiegel, DIW Berlin and the Institute of the German Economy Cologne (IW), have scientifically evaluated the election platforms of the SPD, CDU/CSU, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen and Linkspartei.PDS, represented in the German Bundestag. The analysis encompasses the political fields of the labor market, taxes, pensions and health insurance. Further information, as well as the survey, can be found on the homepage of DIW Berlin.

Link to the Research Report (available only in German):

http://www.diw.de/deutsch/dasinstitut/info/2005/gutachten_zdf_2005.pdf



New Issue of DIW@school

DIW Berlin has published a new issue of DIW@school. The current issue explains, among other things, what poverty is and, provides information about youth unemployment, the costs of climate change and the concerns of the population regarding the consequences of EU expansion. Since the beginning of 2004, DIW@school has appeared twice a year as an online issue that can be downloaded from the homepage of DIW Berlin and is available to schools free of charge. The publication consists of practice-relevant, current teaching material about the economy and about economic-political topics. All contributions derive from scientists at DIW Berlin and are written in an easily understandable manner.



You can find the current issue on the internet:

<http://www.diw.de/atschool/>



Articles by DIW Berlin Staff Members in Refereed Journals (June 15th through September 15th, 2005)

Can EU Conditionality Remedy Soft Budget Constraints in Transition

Countries?

Herbert Bruecker, Philipp J. H. Schroeder, Christian Weise

In: Journal of Comparative Economics 33 (2005), 2, p. 371-386

Freizeitverhalten als Ausdruck sozialer Ungleichheiten oder Ergebnis individualisierter Lebensfuehrung? Zur Bedeutung von Einkommen und Bildung im Zeitverlauf.

Bettina Isengard

In: Koelner Zeitschrift fuer Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie 57 (2005), 2, p. 254-277

Induced Technological Change in a Multi-Regional, Multi-Sectoral, Integrated Assessment Model (WIAGEM): Impact Assessment of Climate Policy Strategies.

Claudia Kemfert

In: Ecological Economics 54 (2005), 2-3, p. 293-305

The Role of Technological Change for a Sustainable Development: Editorial.

Herman R.J. Vollebergh, Claudia Kemfert

In: Ecological Economics 54 (2005), 2-3, p. 133-147

Transactions That Did Not Happen and Their Influence on Prices.

Alan Kirman, Rainer Schulz, Wolfgang Haerdle, Axel Werwatz

In: Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization 56 (2005), 4, p. 567-591

International Market Integration for Natural Gas? A Cointegration Analysis of Prices in Europe, North America and Japan.

Boriss Siliverstovs, Guillaume L'Hégaret, Anne Neumann, Christian von Hirschhausen

In: Energy Economics 27 (2005), 4, p. 603-615

Additional publications of DIW Berlin staff members:

http://www.diw.de/deutsch/dasinstitut/info/nl_publikationen_20030822.html



Events

Upcoming Events

The staff members of DIW Berlin present and discuss their research results in the frame of various events that are organized by DIW Berlin or in co-operation with the institute.

DIW Berlin Seminar

Date: October 25th, 2005

"Individual Risk Attitudes: New Evidence from a Large, Representative, Experimentally Validated Survey"

Location: Englerallee 40, Room E05, 14195 Berlin

Contact: Renate Bogdanovic, Phone: +49 (30) 897 89-249, E-Mail:

rbogdanovic@diw.de

Berlin Lunchtime Meeting "Labor Market"

Date: October 26th, 2005

With Prof. Dr. Johann Eckhoff and Alexander von Gersdorff of the Rheinische Post

Location: dbb forum berlin, Friedrichstrasse 169/170, 10117 Berlin

Contact: Ralf Messer, Phone: +49 (30) 897 89-569, E-Mail: rmesser@diw.de

DIW Berlin Seminar

Date: October 27th, 2005

"Sustainable Economic Development and the Environment: Theory and Evidence"

Location: Englerallee 40, Room E05, 14195 Berlin

Contact: Renate Bogdanovic, Phone: +49 (30) 897 89-249, E-Mail:

rbogdanovic@diw.de

Industrial Conference

Autumn Meeting

Date: November 14th and 15th, 2005

The next Industrial Conference takes place in the conference rooms of Manzini Mitte. The topic of the meeting is how research and development can contribute to economic growth.

Location: Manzini Mitte, Reinhardtstr. 14, 10117 Berlin

Contact: Ralf Messer, Phone: +49 (30) 897 89-569, E-Mail: rmesser@diw.de

<http://www.diw.de/deutsch/produkte/veranstaltungen/industrietagung/>

International Symposium

Date: December 8th and 9th, 2005

On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of DIW Berlin the international symposium "80 years of economic research at DIW Berlin" takes place.

Location: Quartier 110, Friedrichstrasse 180-184, 10117 Berlin

Contact: Ralf Messer, Phone: +49 (30) 897 89-569, E-Mail: rmesser@diw.de

Additional events of DIW Berlin:

<http://www.diw.de/english/produkte/veranstaltungen/index.html>



The German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP)



The SOEP is a wide-ranging representative longitudinal study of private households. It provides information on all household members, consisting of Germans living in the old and new German states, foreigners, and recent immigrants to Germany. The Panel was started in 1984. In 2003 it included more than 12,000 households and nearly 24,000 persons sampled.



SOEP Data Available through 2004

As of the beginning of July, CD-ROM data for the years 1984-2004 is available to the scientific public for analysis. Upon conclusion of a data utilization contract, the CD package can be ordered at a price of 30 € (plus shipping and handling expenses). For inquiries and order requests, please contact the SOEP team at the following e-mail address: soepmail@diw.de. For specific research needs from housing and income to education, valuable data are available through 2004 in the SOEP-Monitor by clicking the following link:

<http://www.diw.de/english/sop/service/soepmonitor/index.jsp>

2006 SOEP Conference

The 7th International German Socio-Economic Panel User Conference SOEP 2006 takes place from July 3th until 5th, 2006, at Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin fuer Sozialforschung (WZB). Further information is available on the DIW Berlin website:

<http://www.diw.de/soep2006/>



Call for Papers

Quarterly Journal of Economic Research "Zukunft des deutschen Finanzsektors"

Call for Papers for issue No 4/2006

Abstracts accepted until January 15th, 2006.

Deadline for the complete manuscript is July 15th, 2006.

Further Information:

http://www.diw.de/deutsch/produkte/publikationen/vierteljahrshefte/callforpapers/call_2006_4.html

Additional calls for papers are posted on our website:

<http://www.diw.de/deutsch/produkte/service/callforpapers/index.html>



DIW Berlin – A Brief Introduction

The German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) is one of the leading research institutes in Germany. It is an independent, non-profit academic institute involved in basic research and policy advice. DIW Berlin was originally founded in 1925 as the Institute for Business Cycle Research and was later renamed in the German Institute for Economic Research.

Further information:

<http://www.diw.de/english/dasinstitut/index.html>



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