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## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2006</b>
Evening	<b>PUBLIC EVENT</b> <b>"Europe – quo vadis?"</b>  Reception: Michael Häupl, Governing Mayor of Vienna Speaker: Jeremy Rifkin; President of the Foundation on Economic Trends and bestselling author of "The European Dream"
<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2006</b>
09:00-10:15	<b>OPENING SESSION</b> Organisers  <b>INTRODUCTION</b>  <b>Economic Discourse: Yesterday and Today</b> Kurt Rothschild  <b>Economic Policy for a different Europe</b> Jörg Huffschmid (University of Bremen)
10:15-10:45	Coffee Break
10:45-13:00	<b>Europe for people or profits</b>  <b>Moderator: Karin Küblböck (Attac Austria)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Marica Frangakis (Nicos Poulantzas Institute, Athens)</li><li>• Birgit Mahnkopf (Berlin School of Economics)</li><li>• Jože Mencinger (University of Ljubljana)</li><li>• Engelbert Stockhammer (Vienna University of Economics &amp; Business Administration)</li></ul>
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break  <b>Those workshop marked off with a * will take place in English.</b>
14:30-17:30	<b>WORKSHOP 1*</b> <b>Regional Cohesion – Race to the top?</b>  <b>Moderator: Johannes Jäger (UAS bfi Vienna)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elisabeth Aufhauser (University of Vienna)</li><li>• Béla Greskovits (Central European University Budapest)</li><li>• Jože Mencinger (University of Ljubljana)</li></ul>
14:30-17:30	<b>WORKSHOP 2</b> <b>Growth at the expense of the Environment and the Quality of Life?</b>

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- Moderator: Daniela Ingruber (GBW)**
- Fritz Hinterberger (SERI)
  - Sigrid Stagl (University of Sussex)
  - Frieder Otto Wolf (Freie Universität Berlin)
- 14:30-17:30      **WORKSHOP 3**  
**Employment and Distribution**
- Moderator: Evelyn Regner (Austrian Trade Union Federation, Brussels)**
- Silvia Angelo (Austrian Chamber of Labour, Vienna)
  - Christoph Hermann (FORBA, Vienna)
  - Alfred Kleinknecht (Technische Universiteit Delft)
  - Markus Marterbauer (Austrian Institute of Economic Research)
- 14:30-17:30      **WORKSHOP 4\***  
**Global Competition**
- Moderator: Ortrun Gauper (Union for Private Salary Earners)**
- Elmar Altvater (Freie Universität Berlin)
  - Karoly Lorant (Economist, Budapest)
  - Özlem Özaran (Vienna University of Economics & Business Administration)
  - Thomas Sauer (University of Applied Sciences Jena)
- 14:30-17:30      **WORKSHOP 5**  
**A European Social Model?**
- Moderator: Agnes Streissler (Austrian Chamber of Labour, Vienna)**
- Dorothee Bohle (Central European University Budapest)
  - Anne Karrass (University of Göttingen)
  - Birgit Mahnkopf (Berlin School of Economics)
- 19:00-21:00      **PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY**  
**AND ITS INFLUENCE ON EUROPEAN POLICIES**
- Wolfgang Katzian (Union for Private Salary Earners)
  - Franz Küberl (Caritas Austria)
  - Gabriele Michalitsch (Vienna University of Economics & Business Administration)
  - Uli Brand (University of Kassel)
  - Karin Küblböck (Attac Austria)

**DAY 3****Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2006**

9:30-12:30

**WORKSHOP 6**  
**Services Directive****Moderator: Claus Faber (GDE)**

- Wolfgang Greif (Union for Private Salary Earners)
- Alice Wagner (Austrian Chamber of Labour, Vienna)
- Petra Ziegler (Attac Austria)

9:30-12:30

## **WORKSHOP 7 EU Taxes/Harmonisation**

### **Moderator: Christian Felber (Attac Austria)**

- Otto Farny (Austrian Chamber of Labour, Vienna)
- Sven Giegold (Attac Germany)
- Sibylle Pirklbauer (Watchgroup Gender)

9:30-12:30

## **WORKSHOP 8\* The Economy serving Finance or Finance serving the Economy? Monetary Policy and Financial Regulation in the EU**

### **Moderator: Engelbert Stockhammer (Vienna University of Economics & Business Administration)**

- Marica Frangakis (Nicos Poulantzas Institute, Athens)
- John Grahl (London Metropolitan University)
- Lydia Krüger (Attac Germany)
- Stefan Schulmeister (Austrian Institute of Economic Research)

9:30-12:30

## **WORKSHOP 9\* Stability and Growth Pact**

### **Moderator: Bettina Agathonos (EU Parliament)**

- Jaroslav Husar (Economic University Bratislava)
- Miriam Rehn (Attac Austria)
- Bruno Rossmann (Austrian Chamber of Labour, Vienna)
- Malcolm Sawyer (University of Leeds)

9:30-12:30

## **WORKSHOP 10 Wage Policy/Trade Union Strategies**

### **Moderator: Jörg Flecker (FORBA, Vienna)**

- Monika Kemperle (Austrian Metal and Textile Workers Union)
- Karl Proyer (Union for Private Salary Earners)
- Thorsten Schulten (WSI, Düsseldorf)
- Andrew Watt (ETUI, Brussels)

9:30-12:30

## **WORKSHOP 11\* Privatisation**

### **Moderator: Werner Raza (Austrian Chamber of Labour)**

- Roland Atzmüller (FORBA, Vienna)
- Jan Willem Goudriaan (EPSU)
- David Hall (University of Greenwich)
- Susanne Schunter-Kleemann (UAS Bremen)

**Those workshop marked off with a \* will take place in English.**

12:30-14:00

Lunch Break

14:00-16:00

**CLOSING SESSION AND PRESENTATION OF THE  
VIENNA DECLARATION:  
Economic Policy for a different Europe**

## ENGLISH SPOKEN WORKSHOPS

### WORKSHOP 1: Regional cohesion – race to the top?

**Moderator:**

Johannes Jäger ([Johannes.Jaeger@fh-vie.ac.at](mailto:Johannes.Jaeger@fh-vie.ac.at))



**JÄGER JOHANNES** Mag. Dr. is head of the economics department at the „University of Applied Sciences BFI“ and visiting lecturer at the Vienna University of Development Studies. His main fields of research are international and political economics, regional economics and the monetary sector. Alongside his global focus, his research mainly concentrates on Europe and Latin America geographically.

**Abstract:**

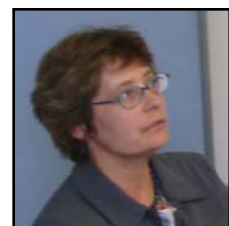
Is there a race to the top or are regions competing in a race to the bottom (decreasing wages, taxes etc.)? Is it possible that an economic model which is primarily based on competition can lead to cohesion? Empirical evidence indicates that currently traditional cohesion countries like Greece, Portugal and Spain as well as the new member countries are on a slow path to convergence (at least in terms of GDP per capita).

Although traditional neoclassical theory suggests that free movement of trade and capital goes hand in hand with regional homogenization, empirical evidence shows that reality is often very different. That means that free markets produce spatially unequal development. Besides the social problems caused by this, spatial inequalities are also seen as a possible source for social unrest. Hence, the EU dedicates important financial resources to structural funds and the cohesion fund with the overall aim to improve economic and social conditions in less prosperous regions.

At the moment the new regulations on the structural funds and the cohesion fund for the period of 2007-2013 are discussed. The central issue is how to redesign the funds in order to comply with the huge regional disparities within the EU25.

The workshop should provide critical perspectives on different dimensions of regional developments. Firstly, a critical analysis of current (and possible future) EU policies regarding regional issues should be undertaken. Secondly, besides the discussion of regional policy in the narrow sense other policy fields like monetary policy (including financial sector regulation, the adoption of the Euro), fiscal policy, competition policy etc. with important spatial impacts could be analysed. Thirdly, not only regional disparities within the EU but also on the global level should be addressed. Finally, demands to European policy regarding regional cohesion should be discussed and formulated.

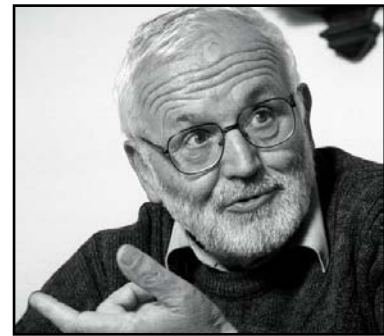
**AUFHAUSER ELISABETH** is Assistant Professor at the Department for Geography and Regional Science at the University of Vienna. Her current work concentrates on institutional dynamics structuring the gender(ed) impacts of regional economic policy in Austria and the EU. Recent project activities deal with the implementation of gender mainstreaming processes in regional innovation policy and economic site development.





**GRESKOVITS BELA** is Professor of Political Science at the Central European University where he teaches courses on the politics of development. He is author of "The Political Economy of Protest and Patience". East European and Latin American Transformations Compared. Central European University Press 1998, and numerous articles and book chapters on the politics of economic reforms. His current research focus is the political economy of major industries. In 1998-99 he was holder of the Luigi Einaudi Chair at the Institute for European Studies at Cornell University. In 2003-04 he was Visiting Professor of Social Studies at Harvard University.

**MENCINGER JOZE** PhD. in economics with the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA, in 1975, professor of economics, Law School, University of Ljubljana; author of a number of articles and publications, author and co-author of a number of econometric models; deputy prime minister and minister for economic affairs: Republic of Slovenia (1990 - 1991); member of the Board, Bank of Slovenia (1991 - 1997); rector of the University of Ljubljana (1998-); member of the State Council, Republic of Slovenia (2002-); editor of a monthly GOSPODARSKA GIBANJA dealing with current macroeconomic issues and short run predictions (1987- ).



## WORKSHOP 4: Global Competition

### Moderator:

Ortrun Gauper ([ortrun.gauper@gpa.at](mailto:ortrun.gauper@gpa.at))



**GAUPER ORTRUN** is political secretary of the President of the White Collar Workers in Austria. She is an international economist and has long experience in international and european trade union politics. She was 5 years in Brussels as lobbyist for the Austrian Trade Union confederation. In the last 5 years she was economist in the German Trade Union Federation and the economic counsellor of the President of the federation of trade unions in the services sector (ver.di).

### Abstract:

Europe is trying to become the most competitive and richest region of the world by 2010 (even if this goal is to be delayed) and is therefore pursuing the following strategies:

- 1) Deregulation and the transition to flexible labour markets by reducing unit labour costs, increasing working hours, subsidizing low skilled work and the employability of workers.
- 2) Becoming the leading currency of the world by restrictive monetary and fiscal policy.
- 3) Free trade at all cost - but protection of markets (f.e. agriculture) towards developing countries regarding their comparative products.
- 4) Priority on international competition and foreign demand: this shall boost investment, growth and employment, but saving down domestic demand.
- 5) Deregulation of labour markets by proposals like the services directive or GATS Mode 4.

- 6) Encouraging economic global migration without minimum social protection like ILO minimum labour standards.

After the analysis of those strategies, the workshop will dedicate itself to identify the alternatives we have to this economic design f.e. strategic industrial policy, european investment programme, gradual market opening, stable financial architecture, strategic development strategies etc. Last, but not least, the workshop shall highlight the role a different Europe could play in the international policy framework.

**ALTVATER ELMAR** is professor for International Political Economics (retired) at the Otto-Suhr-Institute for Political Sciences of the Freie Universität Berlin, member of the editorial staff of the critical magazine "PROKLA" about social sciences, member of Attac Germany's scientific consultative committee and author of books about globalisation (most recently: Das Ende des Kapitalismus, wie wir ihn kennen, Münster, 2005).



**LORANT KAROLY** earned degree in Engineering at the Budapest University of Technology (1966) and in Economics at the Karl Marx University of Economic Sciences (1970). His career began as a research engineer, but in 1972, he got a job in the National Planning Office of Hungary where he headed the Summary Section of the Long Range Planning Department. After the systemic change he headed the Economic Policy Section of the ECOSTAT. He involved also in civil society movements, like ATTAC. Since 2003 he has been working for IND/DEM Group in the European Parliament as a part time expert.

**ONARAN ÖZLEM** is an Associate Professor at Istanbul Technical University, and a visiting Faculty member at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration. She has various articles in journals and books in the areas of labour and development economics, particularly on the macroeconomics and political economy of distribution, growth, accumulation and employment in developing countries and Central and Eastern Europe.



**SAUER THOMAS** Prof. Dr. 1984 degree in economics, 1987 diploma in Eastern European Studies for economists, 1993 PhD, 1988-1992 Bundesinstitut für ostwissenschaftliche und internationale Studien, 1992-1998 Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (institute for economic research), 1998-2002 College of economics, Berlin, since 2002: professor of economics at the college of Jena, department business administration, co-founder of e4globe - European Institute for Globalisation Research and member of Attac Germany's scientific consultative committee.

## **WORKSHOP 8: The economy serving finance or finance serving the economy? Monetary policy and financial regulation in the EU**

### **Moderator:**

Engelbert Stockhammer ([engelbert.stockhammer@wu-wien.ac.at](mailto:engelbert.stockhammer@wu-wien.ac.at))



**STOCKHAMMER ENGELBERT** Univ.Ass.Dr works on unemployment in Europe and structural developments in the monetary system. He published the book "The rise of unemployment in Europe. A Keynesian Approach" (2004 by Edward Elgar) and several articles in journals. At the moment he is assistant professor at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration.

**Abstract:**

Developments on financial markets nowadays seem to dominate the economic performance of advanced as well as developing economies. Financial crises and exchange rate crises have not only destroyed billions in wealth but also led to unemployment and stagnation. Shareholder value orientation rewards management for cutting employment. Monetary policy is regarded as having a major impact on economic growth. Indeed the past decades have been an era of neoliberal deregulation of the financial sector and of anti-inflationary monetary policy. As a result financial profits have soared while growth has been stagnating, wages have fallen and millions are unemployed.

In the workshop recent developments in financial market architecture and in monetary policy in Europe will be critically discussed. Questions to be addressed include: What were the macroeconomic effects of the deregulation of financial markets? Has deregulation improved economic efficiency and growth (as is often claimed)? How can the financial system be regulated such that it serves economic growth, full employment and an equitable distribution of income? What is wrong with monetary policy in Europe?

**FRANGAKIS MARICA** is a member of the Nicos Poulantzas Institute (Athens, Greece) and a founding member of ATTAC Greece. She works in the banking sector and participates in the Financial Integration with Social Cohesion group. She is also a regular participant of the European Economists for an Alternative Economic Policy in Europe network.



**GRAHL JOHN** is Professor of European Integration at Middlesex University Business School. He has written and published widely on European Political Economy and EU economic policies. He is an active member of the Euromemorandum Group of economists. Currently he is coordinator of a research network on financial changes in Europe and their social consequences.

**KRÜGER LYDIA** Dr. is political scientist, sociologist and member of Attac Germany's scientific consultative committee. She wrote her thesis about financial crisis in emerging economies. From 2004-2005 she was working in the department for financial markets of "Weed". Since January 2006 she is the assistant of the delegate in the European Parliament Sahra Wagenknecht.



**SCHULMEISTER STEFAN** Mag. Dr. studied law and economics, works for the Austrian Institute of Economic Research. His main research areas are: speculation in the financial markets und their consequences, influence of the interest rate on economic growth, employment and public debt, analysis and outlook of the long-term development of the world economy.

## WORKSHOP 9: The Stability and Growth Pact – a recessive corset?

### Moderator:

Bettina Agathonos ([bagathonos@europarl.eu.int](mailto:bagathonos@europarl.eu.int))



**AGATHONOS BETTINA**, 1991: ÖGB International Department; 1991 - 1993: European Trade Union Institute, researcher; 1993 - 1999: ÖGB, head of unit, European office, membership negotiations, and labour attaché, 1999 - 2001: ÖGB, secretary general for equal opportunities; 2002 - now: European parliament, official responsible for economic policy in the economic and monetary committee.

### Abstract:

The Stability and Growth Pact, statutes and operation of the European Central Bank and the general approach to macroeconomic policy are part of a neo-liberal agenda placing too much focus on the stability pillar and apart from its name ignoring the growth pillar. As a consequence of this, Europe is suffering from very low growth in particularly in the big Member States and mainly due to weak internal demand of both consumption and investment. Monetary policy is lead by an independent European Central Bank which according to its statutes gives an absolute priority to price stability. Given the design of the Stability and Growth Pact, possibilities of countercyclical measures were banned and pro-cyclical policies were on the agenda further dampening growth.

Economic policies are limited to structural reforms in particularly of the labour market and social security systems and wage moderation, thus further dampening internal demand. But even the stability pillar of the pact has not been a great success story.

Since 2003 eleven of the EU member states have deficits exceeding 3% of GDP among which the four largest EU economies: France, Germany, Italy and the UK and since summer 2004 ten EU countries have been subject to the excessive deficit procedure (EDP). Furthermore public debt ratios increase systematically, due to the weak GDP growth from 69.2% in 2002 to 71.7% in 2005 in the Euro area.

When France and Germany risked to be threatened with sanctions in November 2003, the Council put the Stability and Growth Pact in abeyance and in summer 2005 the Stability and Growth pact has seen its first reform. Is this reform the answer to the problems and deficiencies of the Growth and Stability Pact or do we need a brand new budgetary framework to boost growth and employment? How could such a macroeconomic framework look like? How could criteria for a future macroeconomic framework be set and measured in a reliable way? What does economic theory say as far as the relationship of debt/GDP concerns? The workshop will also deal with a general analysis of the current economic system of the EU countries: consumer and future taxes, future generations, debt and social security systems. Does the European Union need its own budget and fiscal policy?

**HUSÁR JAROSLAV** works as Professor of Economics at the Faculty of Economic Informatics, Economic University of Bratislava. He published several books on macroeconomics, e.g. *Macroeconomics*, Kartprint, Bratislava, 1998; *Applied Macroeconomics*, Sprint, Bratislava, 2003 and published more than 100 articles. He worked with Economic Commission for Europe and served as an expert of International Labour Office in Geneva. He is married and has 2 children.





**REHM MIRIAM** studies political economy at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration and writes her diploma thesis about the growth and stability pact from a Post-Keynesian perspective. For more than two years she has been working in different groups of Attac Austria focusing on debt relief, just tax systems and the relation between Europe and Latin America. At the moment she lives in Buenos Aires.

**ROSSMANN BRUNO** works in the department for economics and statistics of the Austrian Chamber of Labour in Vienna. His main fields of research are public finances, especially the analysis and prognoses of the public budget, financial constitution and Financial Adjustment Act, reforms of the administration and the federal system, public financial management. He published numerous articles on these topics. He is member of the Federal Debt Committee of the Austrian National Bank.



**SAWYER MALCOLM** is Professor of Economics at the University of Leeds, UK and Pro Dean for Learning and Teaching, Faculty of Business. He is the founding managing editor of International Review of Applied Economics, co-editor of Journal of Income Distribution and International Papers in Political Economy. He is the author of ten books on macroeconomics, political economy and industrial economics, has edited 18 books and published over 140 articles and chapters on a wide range of topics including industrial policy, macroeconomics, inflation and income distribution.

## WORKSHOP 11: Public Service in the EU: at whose service?

### Moderator:

Werner Raza ([Werner.RAZA@akwien.at](mailto:Werner.RAZA@akwien.at))



**RAZA WERNER** is an economist by profession. He works as a trade expert for the Austrian Chamber of Labour and is an external lecturer at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration. Research areas: Trade Policy, Privatisation/Liberalisation of (public) services; Recent Publications: Raza, W./Wedl, V./Angelo, S.: Liberalisierung öffentlicher Dienstleistungen : eine konzeptuelle, begriffliche und rechtliche Einführung ins Thema, AK Wien, 2004; Raza, W. (Koord.): Zwischen Staat und Markt: aktuelle Herausforderungen der öffentlichen Dienstleistungserbringung, AK Wien 2005.

### Abstract:

This workshop will focus on the restructuring of public services - services of general (economic) interest - in the European Union. Public services, like for instance telecoms, energy, postal, public transport, or water services have undergone profound transformations during the last two decades, both in and outside Europe. Processes of liberalisation and privatisation of public services have been in particular promoted by the European Union.

The economic and social impacts of liberalisation/privatisation have been - to say the least - ambivalent. While it appears that household users and workers have hardly benefited, industry and large business users of public services have not only profited from lower prices, but also from the opening up of new fields of business. Lately, trans-european utility corporations have emerged, which threaten to form powerful private oligopolies. Thus, in the first part of the Workshop, the economic and social impacts of liberalisation/privatisation will be assessed, both on prices, quality of services, market structure and on employment, working conditions, industrial relations. This will be done with a particular focus on gender impacts.

In the second part of the workshop, we will endeavour to discuss questions of democratic governance and participatory regulation of public services as a counter-model to a politics of unrestricted liberalisation/privatisation. If it is true that public services form an integral part of the European Social Model, we shall pose the question how this should then be reflected in a future general regulatory framework for public services at the Community level.

**ATZMÜLLER ROLAND** Mag. MPhil, political scientist, born in 1969, has been a researcher with FORBA (Forschungs- und Beratungsstelle Arbeitswelt) since February 2002. He is also teaching at the Political Science Department in Vienna and the Fachhochschule St. Pölten. Roland Atzmüller has worked on a number of (international) projects on the changes in trade unions' policies, the effects of liberalisation and the privatisation of public services on employees, developments of social policies and VET.



**GOUDRIAAN JAN WILLEM**, Deputy General Secretary of the European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU). Between 1989 and 1992 Mr. Goudriaan worked for the Dutch trade union AbvaKabo. He was responsible for European affairs, including European works councils and social dialogue. Since 1992 he works for the European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU). For the Federation he deals with developments, policy, social dialogue and EWC in amongst others energy, water, waste, local government. Other responsibilities include collective bargaining, modernization of public services.

**HALL DAVID** is director of PSIRU at the University of Greenwich. He has written a number of reports on privatisation and liberalisation of public services in Europe and globally, as well as reports on water, energy and healthcare, and profiles of multinational companies. Before joining PSIRU he worked as a researcher for public service unions in the UK, including the Public Services Privatisation Research Unit, which developed a database on privatisation for the UK trade unions. He has written books on public expenditure and labour law.



**MICHALITSCH GABRIELE** Political scientist and economist at Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration; lecturer at several Austrian universities; 2002-2005 chairperson of the Group of Experts of the Council of Europe on Gender Budgeting; 2003-2004 Associate Professor at Yeditepe University, Istanbul. Main research topics: neoliberalism, globalisation, feminist economics, gender in political and economic theories.