The Euro: (Greek) tragedy or Europe's destiny?
Economic, historical and legal perspectives on the common currency

Wednesday 11th January 2012

8.30 – 8.45 Opening of the symposium
by Prof. Markus Möstl (Dean of the law and economics faculty, University of Bayreuth, Germany) and Prof. Bernhard Herz, University of Bayreuth, Germany)

8.45 – 9.45 Prof. Niels Thygesen (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)
Different perceptions of EMU among the major initiators
Discussant: Prof. Ansgar Belke (University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany)

9.45 – 10.15 coffee break

10.15 – 12.30 Historical perspectives 1: Doomsday scenarios
(chair: Prof. Martin Übele, University of Münster, Germany)

Scott Urban (University of Oxford, U.K.)
The interwar gold standard and the euro area: similarities and differences
Discussant: Prof. Franz Seitz (University of Applied Sciences Amberg-Weiden, Germany)

Prof. Peter Kugler (University of Basle, Switzerland),
Dr. Tobias Straumann* (University of Zurich, Switzerland)
Core, periphery, and the collapse of the interwar gold standard
Discussant: Dr. Vincent Bignon (Banque de France)

11.35 – 11.50 coffee break (ca. 11.35 – 11.50)

Prof. Gary Richardson (UC Irvine, U.S.A.),
Prof. Patrick van Horn* (New College of Florida, U.S.A.)
When the music stopped: transatlantic contagion during the financial crisis of 1931
Discussant: Dr. Nathan Marcus (European University Institute, Italy)
12.30 – 13.45 Buffet lunch

13.45 – 15.30 Country-specific perspectives on the European Monetary Union (session 1)  
(chair: Dr. Matthias Morys, University of York, U.K.)

Prof. Thanos Skouras (Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece)
*A Greek perspective on the eurozone debt crisis*

Prof. Morten Hansen (Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Latvia)
*Latvia: experience from the internal devaluation process and the road to EMU*

Discussant: Prof. Karsten Staehr (Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia)

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 – 18.00 Country-specific perspectives on the European Monetary Union (session 2)  
(chair: Prof. Bernhard Herz, University of Bayreuth, Germany)

Prof. Agnès Bénassy-Quéré (CEPII and University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, France)
*A French perspective on EMU and the European debt / banking crisis*

Discussant: Prof. Clemens Kool (Utrecht University School of Economics, The Netherlands)

Prof. Manfred Neumann (University of Bonn, Germany)
*A German perspective on EMU and the European debt / banking crisis*

Discussant: Prof. Michael G. Arghyrou (Cardiff Business School, U.K.)

20.00 – Group dinner (Oskar, Maximilianstrasse 33, Bayreuth, Tel: 0921 / 5160553)
Thursday 12th January 2012

8.30 – 9.30  Prof. Albrecht Ritschl (London School of Economics, U.K.)  
_key note lecture_  
_Does Germany owe Greece a debt? Long term perspectives on the European debt crisis_  

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9.30 – 10.00 coffee break  
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10.00 – 12.15 Historical Perspectives 2: Policy responses to the Great Depression  
(chair: Prof. Mark Spörer, University of Regensburg, Germany)  

Prof. Margarita Dritsas (Hellenic Open University, Greece)  
_The historical analogy of the 1920s and 1930s to the present Crisis_  

Dr. Catherine Brégianni (Senior Researcher, Modern Greek History Research Centre of the Academy of Athens, Greece and Centre de recherches historiques, École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris, France)  
_The gold-exchange standard, the Great Depression and Greece: lessons (?) from the interwar Greek default_  

Discussant (to both papers): Dr. Alexander Apostolides (European University of Cyprus, Nicosia)  

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Coffee break (ca. 11.20 – 11.35)  
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Dr. Alexander Rathke*, Dr. Tobias Straumann, Prof. Ulrich Woitek  
(University of Zurich, Switzerland)  
_Overvalued: Sweden's Monetary Policy in the 1930s_  

Discussant: Dr. Steffen Osterloh (Centre for European Economic Research, Mannheim, Germany)  

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12.15 – 13.30 Buffet lunch  
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13.30 – 15.00 More than only players in the background? The German constitutional court and the European public  
(chair: Dr. Matthias Morys, University of York, U.K.)

Prof. Andreas Paulus (University of Göttingen and Federal Constitutional Court, Germany)  
Constitutional and international law perspectives on the European Monetary Union

Prof. Étienne Farvaque* (Université du Havre, France), Muhammad Azmat Hayat (University of Lille, France and State Bank of Pakistan), Alexander Mihailov (University of Reading, U.K.)  
Who supports the ECB? Evidence from Eurobarometer survey data

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15.00 – 15.30 Coffee break

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15.30 – 17.50 Historical Perspectives 3: Lessons from the post-WW II monetary system  
(chair: Dr. Vasilios Alevizakos, University of the Aegean, Greece)

Prof. Pierre Siklos (Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Canada):  
From Bretton Woods to the euro: How policy maker overreach fosters repeated economic crises

Discussant: Prof. Jonas Ljungberg (University of Lund, Sweden)

Eric Monnet (Paris School of Economics):  
Monetary policy, stabilizations plans and economic planning in postwar Western Europe

Discussant: Dr. Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol (University of Glasgow, U.K.)

Coffee break (16.50 – 17.10)

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Prof. Jonas Ljungberg* (University of Lund, Sweden), Tony Johansson (University of Lund, Sweden)  
Asymmetric trends and European monetary policy in the post-Bretton Woods era

Discussant: Prof. Peter Kugler (University of Basle, Switzerland)
18.15 – 19.30  Panel discussion: Quo vadis Euro?

Moderators:
Prof. Bernhard Herz (University of Bayreuth, Germany)
Dr. Matthias Morys (University of York, U.K.)

Participants:
Prof. Agnès Bénassy-Quéré (CEPII and University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, France)
Prof. Morten Hansen (Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Latvia)
Prof. Karolina Nessel (Tischner European University Kraków, Poland)
Prof. Manfred Neumann (University of Bonn, Germany)
Prof. Thanos Skouras (Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece)

End of symposium