Annual Economics Conference
Post Event Report

Europe: Smart and Green

Online conference
European Investment Bank
1/21/2021
Participants: 637
Speakers: 43
Countries: 45

Top five attendee job titles:
1. (Senior) Economist
2. Chief Economist
3. Director
4. Professor
5. Financial analyst
This EIB Annual Economics Conference is organised for more than 20 years. This flagship economic event is to convene a public of experts for an in-depth debate on policy issues around investment.

The EIB’s annual economics conference, organised in cooperation with the OECD, Columbia University and SUERF, brought together almost 400 economists and policy makers of governments, national and international institutions, prominent academics and leading financial and corporate executives. President Hoyer, in his opening remarks, commented on the importance of partnerships and the urgency to set economic growth on the right course and strengthen investment activity.

Under the overarching theme of “Europe: smart and green”, the conference included vivid discussions and keynote speeches on topics ranging from the ways the pandemic will change the world to shifting perspectives on risk, the need for transparent public interventions and the role of financial markets and banks in the twin transition digital and carbon-neutral future.

The conference also marked the launch of the annual EIB Investment Report, “Building a smart and green Europe in the COVID-19 era”, which was presented by our Chief Economist, Debora Revoltella.

“If we want to maintain peace and prosperity in Europe, we must fix economic growth and relaunch multilateralism and global partnerships. We must set the course for tomorrow today already. The vibrant discussions at our annual economic conference can help set that course!”

President Hoyer
The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the long-term lending institution of the European Union (EU) owned by its Member States. As the world’s largest multilateral lender it makes long-term finance available for sound investment in Europe and beyond, to contribute towards EU policy goals and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The EIB is present in more than 160 countries.

The EIB Economics Department provides economic research and studies, as well as unique analysis of investment activities in the EU and beyond, and supports the Bank in its operations and in the definition of its positioning, strategy and policy.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that works to build better policies for better lives. Our goal is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all. We draw on almost 60 years of experience and insights to better prepare the world of tomorrow.

Together with governments, policy makers and citizens, we work on establishing evidence-based international standards and finding solutions to a range of social, economic and environmental challenges. From improving economic performance and creating jobs to fostering strong education and fighting international tax evasion, we provide a unique forum and knowledge hub for data and analysis, exchange of experiences, best-practice sharing, and advice on public policies and international standard-setting.

The Center on Global Economic Governance (CGEG) is a research and policy center, founded in 2012 within Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). CGEG recognizes that without adequate global economic governance there is a greater possibility of major crises and a tendency toward protectionism and political upheaval.

There is, therefore, a clear need for new theories, empirical studies, and policy initiatives that cut across nation-state boundaries and address the new reality. This provides a unique opportunity for CGEG—a forum that generates pioneering ideas and disseminates them effectively in the policy arena—to make an important economic and social contribution.

The mission of CGEG is to produce innovative policy-oriented research on global economic governance, set the highest academic standards in research, and convene key players from the academic, policy, and business world to address today’s critical issues and global challenges.

SUERF – The European Money and Finance Forum is a non-profit association established in 1963 and aims to create a dialog between central banks, supervisors, financial institutions, academic institutions and individual members of the economic and financial community.

SUERF’s focus lies on the analysis, discussion and understanding of financial markets and institutions, the monetary economy, the conduct of regulation, supervision and monetary policy. Its events provide a unique European network and forum for the exchange of information, research results, and trends in money, banking and financial markets.
Speakers

Juan Maria Aburto
Mayor of Bilbao, Spain

Caroline Atkinson
Advisory Board Member, RockCreek

Agnes Benassy-Quéré
Chief Economist, DG Trésor, Ministry of Economy and Finance, France

Erik Berglöf
Chief Economist, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

Laurence Boone
Chief Economist, OECD

Robin Brooks
Managing Director and Chief Economist, Institute of International Finance

Pascal Chriistory
Chief Investment Officer, AXA

Teresa Czerwinska
Vice President, European Investment Bank

Victor Everhardt
Deputy Mayor of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Ambroise Fayolle
Vice President, European Investment Bank

Pedro de Lima
Head of Economic Studies, European Investment Bank

Vitor Gaspar
Director, Fiscal Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Roberta V. Gatti
Chief Economist of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, World Bank

Sylvie Goulard
Deputy Governor, Bank of France

Roger Havenith
Deputy CEO, European Investment Fund

Chris Hurst
Director General, Projects, European Investment Bank
Speakers

Werner Hoyer
President
European Investment Bank

Lamia Kamal-Chaoui
Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities
OECD

Robert Koopman
Chief Economist
World Trade Organisation

Jean-Christophe Laloux
Director General Operations
European Investment Bank

Karel Lannoo
Chief Executive
Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

Catherine L. Mann
Global Chief Economist
Citigroup

Charles Michel
President of the European Council

Jorge Moreira da Silva
Director, Development Cooperation Directorate
OECD

Ricardo Mourinho Félix
Vice President
European Investment Bank

Mario Nava
Director General, Structural Reforms
European Commission

Sergio Nicoletti
Altimari
Director General, Macro-Prudential Policy and Financial Stability
European Central Bank

Erik F. Nielsen
Chief Economist
UniCredit

Klaus Regling
Managing Director
European Stability Mechanism

Joaquim Oliveira-Martins
Counsellor
Center for Prospective Studies and International Information (CEPII)

Steven Ongena
Professor
University of Zurich, Swiss Finance Institute, KU Leuven, CEPR

Thomas Östros
Vice President
European Investment Bank
Speakers

Pier Carlo Padoan  
Chairman  
Unicredit Board

Peter Praet  
former Member of the  
Executive Board  
European Central Bank

Odile Renaud-Basso  
President  
European Bank for  
Reconstruction and  
Development

Debora Revoltella  
Chief Economist  
European Investment Bank

Jeffrey Sachs  
University Professor,  
Director, Centre for  
Sustainable Development  
Columbia University

Joseph E. Stiglitz  
University Professor,  
Columbia University  
Nobel Memorial Prize in  
Economic Sciences 2001

Jan Svejnar  
James T. Shotwell Professor  
of Global Political Economy,  
Director, Center on Global  
Economic Governance, SIPA,  
Columbia University and  
Adviser to the Czech  
Government

Adam Tooze  
Kathryn and Shelby Cullom  
Davis Professor of History.  
Director of the European  
Institute  
Columbia University

László Varró  
Chief Economist  
International Energy  
Agency

Reinhilde Veugelers  
Professor  
KU Leuven and Bruegel

Jakob von Weizsäcker  
Chief Economist  
Federal Ministry of  
Finance, Germany

Boris Vujčić  
Governor  
Croatian National Bank

Shirin Wheeler  
Head of Social Media Unit  
and Senior International  
Press Officer  
European Investment Bank
Key take-aways via Social Media

@EIB

is lucky to have EIB focusing not only on crisis support but social returns. We need to provide more resources to development banks like EIB, that think long-term, remedy failures of short-term financial markets to decarbonise & accelerate innovation. @JosephStiglitz #EIBEcon

3:03 PM - Jan 22, 2021

In 2019 we committed to climate neutrality by 2050. This resulted in our #EUGreenDeal. We forged an ambitious new Digital Agenda. Taken together, our Green & Digital ambitions represent a powerful twin-engine strategy for growth.

— @EUCouncil President Charles Michel #EIBEcon

6:31 PM - Jan 22, 2021

The EBRD @EBRD - Jan 22

Greening our economies is the most urgent challenge we face in the post-COVID-19 world.

'It is also one area where real change can only come from the private sector.'

Our @OsleRenaud has just shared her thoughts on 'Europe: smart and green' at #EIBEcon

Odile Renaud-Basso and European Investment Bank.

@EIB

Ricardo Mourinho @RicardoMourinho - Jan 22

Honored to open the second day of #EIBEcon. Special thanks to co-organizers and speakers for engaging in the key discussion for our common future challenges to transform the European economy into a climate-friendly, digitalized global leader.

All event videos are available here.
Social Media Engagement

#EIBEcon

- 53 posts
- 1547 likes, shares, comments
- 48,870 video views
- 383,676 impressions

Feedback from our participants

“I am enjoying the conference—consistently high quality! The on-line format reduces the scope for exchanging ideas with other participants and networking, but it is also denser and reaches a wider audience—and we’re all getting used to it.”

Daniel Hardy | Scholar | Vienna University for Economics and Business

“Thank you very much for having invited me again to join the 2021 Annual Economics Conference of the EIB, which I was very glad to attend over the past 2 days. As usual, its topics and contents were of high quality and the choice of panellists excellent: many congratulations to you for having organized an event of such quality in so difficult times!”

Dominique de Guerre | Senior Advisor | Moelis & Company