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Contributors

Josef Baumgartner, born in 1964, is an economist at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO, since 1996) and lecturer of at the Department of Economics at the University of Linz, Austria (since 1993). He studied economics and econometrics at the University of Linz, the Institute for Advanced Studies in Vienna (IHS) and the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration. His major research interests are macroeconomics, monetary economics, applied econometrics, inflation analysis and forecasting. Recent research activities include: i) maintenance and enhancements of a medium-scale econometric model of the Austrian economy designed for medium term forecasting and economic policy simulations: WIFO–Macromod (with S. Kaniovski and F. Breuss, both WIFO; documented in the current Workshop Proceedings), ii) development of a long-run model of the Austrian Economy for the analysis of the macroeconomic consequences of population aging: A-LMM (with S. Kaniovski, H. Hofer, U. Schuh and T. Url; documented in the current Workshop Proceedings), iii) the analysis of the price setting behavior of Austrian firms (with C. Kwapil and J. Scharler, both OeNB) and iv) the analysis of the characteristics of consumer price changes in Austria (with E. Glatzer, F. Rumler and A. Stiglbauer, all OeNB).

Fritz Breuss, born in 1944, is Jean Monnet Professor and Head of the Europe Institute at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration (WU-Wien) and Senior Economist at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (Wifo), Vienna. He has been teaching international economics and international finance as well as European Integration at the WU-Wien since 1993. In teaching as well as in research, the major field of interest is European Integration. Numerous articles and books deal with the issue of the economic effects of EU integration – in particular seen from the Austrian point of view. In several model simulations, the economic effects for Austria have been evaluated: i) entering into the EU, ii) the opening-up of Eastern Europe, iii) the participation in the EMU and iv) the impact of EU's Eastern enlargement. Recent research areas are the consequences of EMU (monetary and fiscal policy) as well as the economic impact of EU enlargement on the economies of old and new member states. A further research area is the economic impact of the decisions of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (“Mini trade wars between EU and the USA”).

Jesús Crespo Cuaresma is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Vienna, and holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Vienna. His research interests are in the fields of time series analysis and macroeconometrics. He has published on these topics in international journals and books.

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Heinz Glück studied at the University of Economics in Vienna where he finished with a doctoral degree in 1973. After postgraduate studies at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Vienna he worked as an assistant professor at this institute from 1974 to 1978. Since 1978 he is employed with the Oesterreichische Nationalbank where he held various appointments. In 1983 he was seconded to the EFTA Secretariat in Geneva. In 1988, he became senior researcher in the Economic Analysis Division, and since 1998 he is deputy head of the Economic Studies Division. He was a lecturer for Econometrics at the University of Vienna from 1978 to 1986 and for Macroeconomics at the University of Graz in 1987. He is author of a number of papers on exchange rate and monetary policy, the monetary transmission process, forecasting, environmental problems, and others.

Ernest Gnan was born in Vienna in 1964. He received his PhD in economics at the University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna, in 1989. In 1987, he started out his professional career as an investment fund manager and joined the Oesterreichische Nationalbank as an economist in 1988. In 1992, he moved to the European Commission in Brussels and in 1994 to the European Monetary Institute in Frankfurt. In 1998, Ernest Gnan became Deputy Head of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank's Foreign Research Division and in 1999 Head of the Bank's Economic Analysis Division. He is a member of the European Central Bank's Monetary Policy Committee and a member of the Austrian Government Debt Committee. Ernest Gnan has been giving numerous lectures on issues related to macroeconomics, monetary union and European integration. Since 1999, he has been adjunct professor at Webster University Vienna, and since 2005 lecturer at the University of Vienna. His numerous publications cover macroeconomics; economic growth; monetary policy; economic, institutional and legal aspects of European Monetary Union; exchange rate policy, the European Monetary System, the ERM2 and the international monetary system; the institutional status of central banks and the Austrian capital market.

Harald Grech is an economist in the Economic Studies Division of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank. After having gained a lot of practical experience in the Treasury of the Bank in the fields of investment strategy, risk analysis and foreign exchange dealing, he joined the Economic Studies Division. His main fields of interest are exchange rate economics and financial markets. He has published articles on exchange rate behaviour and foreign exchange intervention in journals such as the *Journal of International Money and Finance* and the *IMF Staff Papers*.

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Serguei Kaniovski, born in 1976, is an economist at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO), Vienna. He holds a masters degree and a PhD in economics of the University of Vienna. His recent research activities include the development of two macroeconomic models used for forecasting and policy analysis of the Austrian economy: i) WIFO-Macromod is a medium-scale econometric model designed for medium term forecasting and economic policy simulations. ii) A-LMM is a long-run model used to develop scenarios that advance our understanding of the consequences of population aging on employment, output growth, and the solvency of the social security system. His other areas of research include topics from industrial and evolutionary economics.

Sylvia Kaufmann is a research economist in the Economic Studies Division of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank since 2001. Her main fields of interest are monetary policy transmission and business cycle analysis. Before, she was working as an assistant professor at the Department of Economics of the University of Vienna, where she was also involved in teaching advanced macroeconomics and applied econometrics. She did her studies (major economics, minor business administration) at the University of Berne. She obtained her doctorate in economics also at the University of Berne.

Walpurga Köhler-Töglhofer was born in Hartberg in 1961 and received her PhD in economics at the University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna, in 1998. She started out her professional career as a research assistant at the Institute for Advanced Studies in 1990. In 1993, she moved to the University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna as an assistant professor and joined the Oesterreichische Nationalbank as an economist in 1998. In 1999, Walpurga Köhler-Töglhofer became Head of a Unit in the Bank's Economic Analysis Division. She has been giving lectures and seminars on issues related to macroeconomics, fiscal policy and tax theory and policy since 1993. Since 1998, she has been a lecturer at the University of Vienna. Publications cover fiscal policy, growth, tax policy, real effective exchange rates and structural policy.

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Josef Richter was born in Vienna in 1943. He received his education in Vienna and Stuttgart. All his professional life he spent with the Statistical Division of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, in addition he served as a lecturer at the University of Innsbruck (Empirical Economics), starting in 1983 and at the University of Linz (Economic statistics) – starting in 1993. His special fields of interest are empirical economics with special emphasis on input-output analysis and on the empirical foundation of empirical analysis. He was responsible for the Austrian model of the INFORUM family for more than two decades.

Gerhard Rünstler is working as a principal economist at the Econometric Modelling Division of the European Central Bank. After joining the ECB in 2000, he was involved in the Eurosystem macro-economic projections, contributing in particular to scenario and risk analysis. Before, he had held the position of an assistant professor at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Vienna from 1992 – 1998 and had stayed at the the Oesterreichische Nationalbank from 1998 – 1999. His major research interests relate to time series econometrics, in particular short-term forecasting and multivariate unobserved components models.

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Thomas Url studied Economics at the Universities of Graz and Vienna and completed a Post Graduate study in Economics at the Institute for Advanced Studies (1988–1990). He worked as an Assistant Professor at the Economics Department of the Institute for Advanced Studies (1990–1993) and as a Research Fellow at Konjunkturinstitut Stockholm (1996). Since 1994 he has been working as an economist at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research) with research focus on monetary policy, insurance economics, capital based old age pension provision, and applied econometrics. Besides, he has operated as a Lecturer at the Institute for European Studies (1992–1995), at the Joint Vienna Institute (1994–2000) and at the University of Business Administration and Economics Vienna (since 1996). Editor of WIFO-Monatsberichte and Austrian Economic Quarterly (1999–2002).

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Rudolf Zwiener has been working as a Senior Economist in the Department of Macro Analysis and Forecasting at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) for 25 years. His main focus is forecasts of the macro economic development and detailed econometric analyses of monetary, fiscal and employment policy. He performed as a lecturer (Lehrbeauftragter) at the Technical University of Berlin in Public Finance, received scholarships and grants from the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, the Fritz-Thyssen-Stiftung and the German Marshall Fund and he was engaged as a consultant on behalf of gtz Germany and the EU Commission in several countries.