

*Latest update: May 18, 2022*

## The return of inflation

### **49<sup>th</sup> OeNB Economics Conference and 35<sup>th</sup> SUERF Colloquium**

May 23 and 24, 2022, *hybrid live and online conference*

Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB)

Otto-Wagner-Platz 3, 1090 Vienna, Austria

#### CONFERENCE ASPECTS

After several years of persistently below-target inflation rates, inflation has been increasing markedly since 2021. This uptrend is global, although it varies across regions. Several driving factors have been identified: the vigorous post-pandemic economic recovery; disruptions in global value chains for intermediate and final goods, due in part to short-term pandemic-related factors and in part to a possible reversal of globalization; cycles in commodity and energy production and prices, some of which may also be related to actual or anticipated climate protection measures; and labor market shortages resulting from pandemic-induced structural changes in labor demand and supply. Whether the rising inflation rates we currently observe are a temporary or more permanent phenomenon has been subject of lively debates among policymakers and academia. Among other things, this question hinges on the reaction of expectations and wages to the rise in headline inflation. Central banks worldwide have come under pressure to change their policy stance. The risk of missing a timely response and of inflation becoming entrenched as a result contrasts with concerns of strangling the economic recovery while uncertainties regarding the future course of the pandemic persist. In addition to the great uncertainties originating from the factors mentioned above, at a political economy level the interplay between monetary policy, fiscal policies and financial stability has become more complicated in a post-pandemic world where high debt, high asset market valuations and climate challenges potentially hamper central banks' perceived anti-inflationary resolve. Many of these challenges have more recently been accentuated by the economic fallout from the Russian invasion in Ukraine and by sanctions imposed on Russia.

This conference concentrates on six topics: secular drivers of inflation in the post-pandemic world; the role and measurement of inflation perceptions and expectations; insights from micro price data; the impact of climate change and climate protection on inflation; the role of policymaking and the interaction of monetary policy, fiscal sustainability and financial stability; and current challenges to inflation forecasting.

12:30 p.m. Standing lunch

1:30 p.m. **Welcome remarks**  
**Robert Holzmann**  
Governor  
Oesterreichische Nationalbank

**Jakob de Haan**  
President | Professor of Political Economy  
SUERF | University of Groningen

1:45 p.m. **Session 1**  
**Inflation in the 2020s: secular changes**

Chair  
**Robert Holzmann**  
Governor  
Oesterreichische Nationalbank

**Manoj Pradhan**  
Chief Economist, Founder  
Talking Heads Macro Ltd

2:30 p.m. **Session 2**  
**Inflation expectations: role, drivers, whose inflation expectations?**

Chair  
**Ernest Gnan**  
Head, Monetary Policy Section | Secretary General  
Oesterreichische Nationalbank | SUERF

**The psychology of inflation and money**

**Pascal Blanqué**  
Chairman  
Amundi Institute

**Findings from the ECB's Consumer Expectations Survey**

**Geoff Kenny**  
Head of Section, Monetary Policy Research Division  
European Central Bank

**Inflation expectation formation – a behavioral economics and finance perspective**

**Ulrike Malmendier**  
Professor  
University of California, Berkeley

Macroeconomic expectations of households and firms

**Michael Weber**

Associate Professor  
University of Chicago

3:45 p.m. Break

4:15 p.m. Policy panel

**Monetary policy, policy interaction and inflation in a post-pandemic world with severe geopolitical tensions**

Chair

**Robert Holzmann**

Governor  
Oesterreichische Nationalbank

**Tobias Adrian**

Financial Counsellor and Director, Monetary and Capital Markets Department  
International Monetary Fund

**Andrew Bailey**

Governor  
Bank of England

**Claudio Borio**

Head, Monetary and Economic Department | Fellow  
Bank for International Settlements | SUERF

**Joachim Nagel**

President  
Deutsche Bundesbank

5:45 p.m. End of panel

6:30 p.m. Aperitif at VIENNABallhaus

7:00 p.m. Dinner

Chair

**Gottfried Haber**

Vice Governor  
Oesterreichische Nationalbank

Dinner speech

**Martin Selmayr**

Head of Representation to Austria | Professor  
European Commission | University of Saarbrücken

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Academic session A: Household and firm inflation perceptions & expectations

Chair

**Fabio Rumler**

Lead Economist

Oesterreichische Nationalbank

Business Cycles when Consumers Learn by Shopping

**Ángelo Gutiérrez-Daza**

Universitat Pompeu Fabra and Barcelona School of Economics

The pass-through from inflation perceptions to inflation expectations

**Daria Minina**

University of Amsterdam

*Co-authors: Stefanie J. Huber, University of Amsterdam; Tobias Schmid, Deutsche Bundesbank*

Heterogeneity in Imperfect Inflation Expectations: Theory and Evidence from a Novel Survey

**James Moberly**

University of Oxford

*Co-author: Alistair Macaulay, University of Oxford*

Firms' inflation expectations: new evidence from France

**Frédérique Savignac**

Banque de France

*Co-authors: Erwan Gautier, Banque de France; Yuriy Gorodnichenko, UC Berkeley; Olivier Coibion; UT Austin*

Unit cost expectations and uncertainty: Firms' perspectives on inflation

**Xuguang Simon Sheng**

American University

*Co-authors: Brent H. Meyer and Nicholas B. Parker, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta*

Firm level expectations and macroeconomic conditions: Underpinnings and disagreement

**Pierre Siklos**

Wilfrid Laurier University

*Co-author: Monique Reid, Stellenbosch University*

10:40 a.m. Break

10:55 a.m. Academic session B: Inflation forecasting & modelling, and the Phillips curve

Chair

**Kilian Rieder**

Principal Economist

Oesterreichische Nationalbank

A neural Phillips curve and a deep output gap

**Philippe Goulet Coulombe**

Université du Québec à Montréal

Heterogeneous information, subjective model beliefs, and the time-varying transmission of shocks

**Alistair Macaulay**

University of Oxford

Heterogeneous beliefs and the Phillips curve

**Roland Meeks**

International Monetary Fund

*Co-author: Francesca Monti, King's College London*

Anchoring long-run inflation expectations in a panel of professional forecasters

**Sebastian Rast**

European University Institute

*Co-authors: Jonas Fisher and Lenardo Melosi, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago*

Inflation dynamics and forecast: frequency matters

**Fabio Verona**

Bank of Finland

*Co-author: Manuel M. F. Martins, University of Porto*

12:15 p.m. Standing lunch

- 1:00 p.m.      **Session 3**  
**Climate change, climate protection and inflation**
- Chair  
**Birgit Niessner**  
Director  
Oesterreichische Nationalbank
- Blandine Barreau**  
Coordinator, World Energy Outlook  
International Energy Agency
- Elga Bartsch**  
Head, Economic and Markets Research | SUERF Council of Management  
BlackRock Investment Institute | SUERF
- Christiane Nickel**  
Head, Prices and Costs Division  
European Central Bank
- Luiz de Mello**  
Director, Policy Studies Branch, Economics Department  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- 2:15 p.m.      **SUERF Marjolin Lecture**  
**Inflation and Globalization**
- Chair  
**Clemens Jobst**  
Professor | Deputy Head - Department of Economic and Social History  
University of Vienna
- Harold James**  
Professor  
Princeton University
- 3:00 p.m.      **SUERF Marjolin Prize**
- Chair  
**Ernest Gnan**  
Head, Monetary Policy Section | Secretary General  
Oesterreichische Nationalbank | SUERF
- 3:15 p.m.      **Break**

3:45 p.m.      **Session 4**  
**What micro price data teach us about the inflation process**

Chair

**Martin Summer**

Head, Research Section

Oesterreichische Nationalbank

Micro price analysis in the US and Canada

**Oleksiy Kryvtsov**

Senior Research Officer

Bank of Canada

Webscraping in PRISMA

**Chiara Osbat**

Adviser

European Central Bank

Analyzing scanner data in PRISMA

**Fabio Rumler**

Lead Economist

Oesterreichische Nationalbank

What can we learn from 60 years of PCE inflation data?

**Raphael Schoenle**

Associate Professor

Brandeis University

5:00 p.m.      **Concluding remarks**  
**Barbara Kolm**  
Vice President  
Oesterreichische Nationalbank

5:15 p.m.      End of conference

*This program is subject to change.*

*Speakers and panelists are listed in alphabetical order.*