

87th East Jour Fixe of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

CESEE's second transition – challenges on the road to low carbon economies

June 17, 2021 (Online workshop)

Biographical information on speakers and session chairs



Professor **Robert Holzmann** is Governor of the Austrian Central Bank and member of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank since September 2019. He is a full member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and holds honorary positions at the South-Western University in Economics and Finance, Chengdu; University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur and University of New South Wales, Sydney. In addition to academic positions in Austria and Germany, he worked at the OECD and at the IMF as a senior economist. At the World Bank he led the pension strategy work as Sector Director of the Social Protection & Labor Department. Professor Holzmann also served internationally as senior advisor on pensions, financial literacy & education, labor market and migration issues. He has published extensively on financial, fiscal and social policy issues. He has travelled to over 90 countries in the world.



Doris Ritzberger-Grünwald is Director of the Economic Analysis and Research Department at the Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB) since 2013. Prior to that, she served as Head (and Deputy) of the OeNB's Foreign Research Division. She lectured at the Johannes Kepler University Linz and the Vienna University of Economics and Business. She holds a master's degree in macroeconomics as well as in social and economic sciences, earned her doctoral degree in social and economic sciences at the University of Vienna, and was research assistant at the Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS) in Vienna. Since 2000, she has been a member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the ECB and acceded to the Executive Board of the Joint Vienna Institute in 2001. Her main areas of research cover monetary policy, inflation, economic growth as well as EU and EMU enlargement, with a special focus on Central, Eastern and Southeastern European countries.



Andreas Breitenfellner is Lead Economist at the Foreign Research Division of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB), which he joined in 1999. For several years, he was seconded to the European Commission (DG ECFIN) and the Austrian Delegation to the OECD in Paris. He obtained a master's degree in social economics at the Johannes Kepler University Linz and a diploma in international relations from the Johns Hopkins University in Bologna. He analyses and publishes on climate change related economic and financial issues, Economic and Monetary Union, inflation, energy prices and structural policies.



Thomas Reininger is Lead Economist at the Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB), Austria's Central Bank. He works in the Foreign Research Division and focuses on CESEE countries and European economic and monetary integration. His areas of expertise include monetary transmission, financial sector and stability analysis, bank stress-testing and macro-financial risk assessment. In 2019, he was seconded as advisor to the Executive Director of the IMF's Central European constituency.



Ada Ámon (economist) is Chief Advisor to the Mayor of Budapest on Climate Affairs. Prior to this position she contributed to the achievements of E3G – Third Generation Environmentalism, where her focus was energy efficiency and led the work on Central Eastern Europe as well as Western Balkan. For most of her professional carrier she's been the CEO of the Budapest based think-tank ENERGIACLUB Climate Policy Institute and Applied Communication. Ada was listed as one of the most influential Hungarian women in 2015 by Forbes and granted as one of the three winners of the Women in Energy Award in the framework of EU Sustainable Energy Award 2020.



Piotr Arak is Director of the Polish Economic Institute. A social and economic analyst, he previously worked at Deloitte, Polityka Insight think-tank, the United Nations Development Programme, the Ministry of Administration and Digitization, and the Chancellery of the Prime Minister. He graduated in social policy from the University of Warsaw, followed by further studies on using statistical methods in business and an MBA at the Warsaw School of Economics and Université du Québec à Montréal. He is writing a PhD on public policy at the University of Warsaw. He has written numerous studies on digitization, the economics of health and economic policy.



Harry Boyd-Carpenter is the Managing Director, Green Economy and Climate Action (GECA) at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development since April 2021. He is responsible for coordinating the EBRD's work across the green economy and climate agendas, with the overall goal of meeting the Bank's commitment to achieve a green finance ratio of over 50 per cent of annual investments by 2025. A British national he joined the EBRD in 2005 in the Office of the General Counsel. Later he transferred to the then Power and Energy Utilities team in Banking, before becoming Director, Head of Energy EMEA where he led the Bank's investment activities in the energy sector in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Before joining the EBRD he was an Associate in the project finance team at Allen and Overy LLP and also worked for the European Agency for Reconstruction in Pristina. He is a graduate of the University of Oxford.



Jürgen Schneider is Head, Directorate General Climate and Energy Austrian Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, where he previously served as Head of the Climate Section. He studied chemistry at the University of Vienna. After working as a university assistant, he moved to the Federal Environment Agency in 1994. From 2002 to 2004 he worked as a project manager at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Bonn. He then headed the air hygiene department at the Federal Environment Agency. Later he led the Agency's Economy & Impact Division, than became a member of the Agency's management committee. He is active in several national and international committees on the topics of air pollution control, energy, climate protection, etc. He is co-editor of the 1st Austrian Climate Assessment Report.



Helene Schuberth is Head of the Foreign Research Division of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB). In 2008 and 2009, she worked as Economic Policy Advisor to the Austrian Federal Chancellery. Before that, she was Deputy Head of the OeNB's Economic Analysis Division (1999–2007). Helene Schuberth graduated with a doctoral degree in economics from the Vienna University of Economics and Business, and she also holds a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University (Kennedy School). Her numerous publications cover financial market regulation, economic policy, gender aspects, financial crises, and sustainable growth. She holds courses and lectures at the Vienna University of Economics and Business.



Katrin Ganswindt is a Team Coordinator for Divestment Campaigns at Urgewald. In 2017, she helped create the “Global Coal Exit List”, a database that has shaped the coal divestment policies of many of Europe’s largest investors. Today, she leads Urgewald’s financial research and regularly advises both NGOs and financial institutions on what constitutes a “good” coal divestment policy. She holds a master’s degree in Ecology and has worked with Urgewald since 2011.



Gábor Gyura acts as Head of the Sustainable Finance Department at Magyar Nemzeti Bank, the Central Bank of Hungary. Being responsible for the Bank’s green agenda, his main work area is the development of the domestic green finance market and the improvement of environmental risk management in the financial system. He represents the Bank in various international regulatory committees related to sustainable finance such as the Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) and the European Banking Authority’s and the European Securities and Markets Authority’s Sustainable Finance Networks.



Roland Mechtler is Head of Group Regulatory Affairs & Data Governance of Raiffeisen Bank International AG. He is responsible for Group Regulatory Affairs & Data Governance at the Raiffeisen Bank International. He oversees the dialog with supervisors, monitoring and implementing the newest regulatory developments. Another key topic is adjusting the Data Governance to the new needs of a data centric organization. In 2004, he joined the Raiffeisen Treasury Asset and Liability Management team and since then had different functions in Strategic Portfolio Management, Capital Planning and Acquisitions and Transformation office. He holds a PhD in economic sciences, a degree in business administration and is a US Certified Public Accountant (Illinois).



Josef Meichenitsch is Head of the Supervision Policy, Regulation and Strategy Division at Oesterreichische Nationalbank. Prior to that, he headed the AML/CFT on-site-inspection team at the Financial Market Authority. Before joining the Austrian Financial Market Authority, he worked in the area of securities / macroprudential supervision at the Central Bank of Ireland. He holds an MBA degree in economics from the Vienna University of Economics and Business.