

Invitation

Advance Politics

The End of Business as Usual: Policies for Future Well-being

Scenario Exercise





YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

Dear Member of Parliament,

We cordially invite you to take part in our upcoming Advance Politics scenario exercise on “The End of Business as Usual: Policies for Future Well-being” developed in collaboration with the Institute for Integrated Economic Research.

The fear of economic uncertainty, whether perceived or real; the increasingly high salience of climate change topics and the lack of timely political answers, are making citizens restless. Thanks to this initiative, you will be able to exchange perspectives around the themes of prosperity, growth and well-being with other Members of Parliaments from across Europe. You will gather a deeper understanding of the fragilities of the current economic model and shape your awareness and capability to react to large and highly disruptive challenges such as a prolonged economic contraction.

What are the core drivers of prosperity in the first half of the 21st century?

What economic macro-shifts should policy-makers be anticipating?

How would a substantial GDP contraction affect the way we think about economic policymaking today?

Do we need to rethink the current economic policy model?

The workshop will be conducted under the MED House Rules, in an informal and safe environment to allow you to experiment a new thinking beyond your business as usual political conversation spaces.

Please note that we have a very limited number of spaces, therefore we encourage you to get in touch with us at your earliest convenience to signal your interest and discuss how this initiative could be of added value to you.

The scenario exercise will take place in **Bilbao** and you can choose to participate in one of the following dates:

17-18 April
18-19 September

We would be honored to have you with us and hope to see you soon!

Kind regards,

Michael Schwarz
Stiftung Mercator

Stefan Schäfers
KBF

Jan Techau
GMF

Chiara Rosselli
GMF

Nathalie Tocci
IAI

George Pagoulatos
ELIAMEP

Pol Morillas
CIDOB

For more information about the project, please visit

mercatoreuropeandialogue.org

AGENDA

Day 1 17:30 Meet your colleagues! Introduction & facilitated conversations among Members of Parliaments
19:00 Networking dinner

Day 2 9:00 - 16:00 Scenario exercise with [Nate Hagens](#) and [Hannes Kunz](#)

More information will follow shortly!

ABOUT

Advance Politics

The Advance Politics scenario exercise is a special format that the Mercator European Dialogue designed in collaboration with The Institute for Integrated Economic Research. This format allows Members of Parliaments to challenge assumptions and dig deeper into the big questions of our times, while engaging in an exercise in thinking out-of-the box with a select group of policy-makers from across Europe.

Institute for Integrated Economic Research (IIER)

The Institute for Integrated Economic Research is a non-profit organisation based in Switzerland and the U.S. It focuses on identifying empirically validated macroeconomic system descriptions and models. Key aspects of the work of IIER include the development of a thorough understanding of our (human) eco(nomic) system, integrating traditional economics, resource use, financial systems and human behavior, and providing and promoting inputs for society, academia and policymaking with the aim of broadening knowledge and effort towards understanding and mitigating future risks.

LOGISTICS

Registration - Please Note Our Deadline!

Please **choose one** of the available dates: [17-18 April](#) & [18-19 September, 2020](#).

We would be grateful if you registered your interest with Isotta Ricci Bitti at iriccibitti@gmfus.org by [13 March 2020](#). Please note that we will have a limited number of spots and reserve the right to confirm your participation in order to ensure a balance of representation in terms of countries, political parties, and gender.

Expenses & Childcare Policy

Travel and accommodation costs are borne by the Mercator European Dialogue, unless you specifically wish to pay for yourself. Please note that we can only cover economy class flights.

Family comes first. If you have a child or children and your participation depends on the offer of childcare for the duration of the event, we are happy to arrange a solution for you. We are flexible with regard to your preferred option. Please do not hesitate to get in touch and let us know how we can best tailor an offer to meet your family's needs.

JOINING FORCES IN THE MERCATOR EUROPEAN DIALOGUE

STIFTUNG
MERCATOR



Stiftung Mercator is a private and independent foundation. Through its work it strives for a society characterized by openness to the world, solidarity and equal opportunities. In this context it concentrates on strengthening Europe; increasing the educational success of disadvantaged children and young people, especially those of migrant origin; driving forward climate change mitigation and promoting science and the humanities.

The King Baudouin Foundation's mission is to contribute to a better society. The Foundation is an actor for change and innovation, serving the public interest and increasing social cohesion in Belgium and Europe. We seek to maximize our impact by strengthening the capacity of organizations and individuals. We also stimulate effective philanthropy by individuals and corporations. The Foundation's key values are integrity, transparency, pluralism, independence, respect for diversity, and promoting solidarity.

Stiftung Mercator symbolizes the connection between academic expertise and practical project experience. One of Germany's leading foundations, it is active both nationally and internationally. Stiftung Mercator feels a strong sense of loyalty to the Ruhr region, the home of the founding family and the foundation's headquarters.

The Foundation's current areas of activity are poverty and social justice, philanthropy, health, civic engagement, developing talents, democracy, European integration, heritage and development cooperation.

The King Baudouin Foundation is a public benefit foundation. The Foundation was set up in 1976 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of King Baudouin's reign.



The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) strengthens transatlantic cooperation on regional, national, and global challenges and opportunities in the spirit of the Marshall Plan. GMF contributes research and analysis and convenes leaders on transatlantic issues relevant to policymakers. GMF offers rising leaders opportunities to develop their skills and networks through transatlantic exchange, and supports civil society in the Balkans and Black Sea regions by fostering democratic initiatives, rule of law, and regional cooperation.

Founded in 1972 as a non-partisan, non-profit organization through a gift from Germany as a permanent memorial to Marshall Plan assistance, GMF maintains a strong presence on both sides of the Atlantic. In addition to its headquarters in Washington, DC, GMF has offices in Berlin, Paris, Brussels, Belgrade, Ankara, Bucharest, and Warsaw. GMF also has smaller representations in Bratislava, Turin, and Stockholm.



The Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) was founded on 11 October 1965 on the initiative of Altiero Spinelli. The Institute's main objective is to promote an understanding of the problems of international politics through studies, research, meetings and publications, with the aim of increasing the opportunities of all countries to move in the direction of supranational organization, democratic freedom and social justice (IAI Bylaws, Article 1). It's main research

areas include: EU Institutions and Politics, the EU's Global Role, Turkey and the Neighborhood, International Political Economy, Mediterranean and Middle East, Transatlantic Relations, Security and Defence, Italian Foreign Policy, Energy. A non-profit organization, the IAI is funded by individual and corporate members, public and private organizations, major international foundations, and by a standing grant from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



The Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) is an independent and plural think tank based in Barcelona, dedicated to the study, research and analysis of international affairs. Created in 1973 as an International Documentation Centre of Barcelona, it is a private foundation since 1979. CIDOB promotes global governance and good practices – based on local, national and European democratic government – to ensure that people possess the basic elements to

live their lives free from fear and in liberty, by facilitating a dialogue that includes all diversities and which actively defends human rights and gender equality. CIDOB is a dynamic community of analytics that works to produce and offer to all political actors – from individual citizens to international organizations – information and ideas to formulate and promote policies for a more secure, free and fair world for everyone.



ELIAMEP is an independent, non-profit and policy-oriented research and training institute. It neither expresses, nor represents, any specific political party view. It is only devoted to the right of free and well-documented discourse.

ELIAMEP's mission is to provide a forum for public debate on issues of European integration and international relations to conduct scientific research that contributes to a better informed and documented knowledge of the European and international environment.