

**SUMMARY REPORT ON FIRST WROCLAW ECONOMIC
POLICY SYMPOSIUM
“COMPETITIVENESS IN THE GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE
ECONOMY: BUSINESS INNOVATION, POLICY,
INFRASTRUCTURE AND SOCIETAL DIALOGUE”
(WROCLAW, 4 JUNE 2016)**

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In 2016, the Faculty of Law, Administration and Economics celebrated its 205th anniversary. The faculty was established in 1811 when, by the order of Friedrich Wilhelm III, king of Prussia, the Viadrina university was moved from Frankfurt an der Oder to Breslau and merged with the Leopoldina (Leopoldinian Academy and University), founded by the Emperor of Austria Leopold I in 1702. In this way, a state university in the Humboldtian model was created in Breslau.

After World War II scholars of two important pre-war Polish academic centres: John Casimir University in Lwów (Lemberg) and Stephanus Bathoreus University in Wilno (Vilnius) were resettled to Wrocław. This created opportunity to erect a Polish state university on the basis of the former German university. The Provisional Government of National Unity, in two decrees dated August 15th and August 24th, 1945, formally erected University of Wrocław. These decrees also established the Legal and Administrative Faculty at the university, which began its didactic activity as early as December 1945.

Thus, in December 2015 the present Faculty of Law, Administration and Economics at the University of Wrocław celebrated its 70th anniversary. The two anniversaries provided a great opportunity to celebrate international heritage and scientific attainments of the Faculty and to start a series of Wrocław Economic Policy Symposiums.

The meetings are intended to be held twice a year in spring and autumn in Wrocław, establishing a place for debate and discussion on the most important issues related to Economic Policy in the Global Knowledge Economy.

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The spring edition of the Wroclaw Economic Policy Symposium was devoted to Competitiveness in the Global Knowledge Economy. The intention of the Seminar's organizers was to address issues relating to Business Innovation, Policy, Infrastructure and Societal Dialogue.

As dr Sebastian Jakubowski, assistant professor at the Department of Economic Policy and Chairman of the Symposium's Scientific Committee, emphasized during his opening speech, innovations and responsible economic policy are fundamental both for Poland and the European Union.

The first lecture was presented by Daniel W. Bloemers, who serves as Policy Officer for Innovation Policy in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. Based in Brussels, his responsibilities are focused in the fields of innovation performance measurement, economic policy guidance, and industrial modernisation. Prior to joining the EC, Daniel was Head of Business Development and Strategy Planning at the Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy, where he built international value creation partnerships across Europe and at the interface with Asia. Daniel holds a degree in Political Science and Spanish from University of Bremen and a Master of Arts in International Relations and International Economics from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in Washington DC. He is pursuing a doctoral research project in International Innovation Management.

Daniel W. Bloemers presented his views on Internationally Interconnected Innovation that should become a key enabler for European Competitiveness. His lecture provided a conceptual introduction to business competitiveness in the global knowledge economy, highlighting internationally interconnected innovation as an increasingly important driver. Building upon an overview of business practices in international knowledge transfer, the presentation shed light on the role of the public sector in the global knowledge economy. It explored instruments and global trends of innovation policy, before zooming in on selected policy practices at EU level.

At this symposium, Daniel W. Bloemers spoke in a private capacity, not as a representative of the European Commission.

The second speaker, Daniel Iglhaut, currently works as a consultant in the department of Broadband and Smart Networks at TÜV Rheinland, mainly contributing to the European project ENERGISE. His main responsibility lies in identifying synergies and dependencies between energy and telecommunication networks with special regard to the deployment of new solutions in the area of smart grids. Through his long-term experience as project manager for R&D projects in the field of energy economics, he has gained excellent knowledge on the energy economy, cross-sectorial synergies as well as publicly funded research projects. Daniel Iglhaut graduated from the University of Leipzig with a Master of Science in European Economic Integration; he also holds a Master's degree in Political Science from the Ludwig Maximilians University in Munich. During his studies and within his professional career, Daniel Iglhaut has gained extensive experience in Poland and has lived in Warsaw for half a year.

Daniel Iglhaut addressed the role of the Energy and Communication Infrastructure as a Key Enabler for European Competitiveness. He emphasized that modern innovation systems, resilient and flexible energy and communication infrastructures are crucial for European competitiveness. The European Digital Agenda aims at the vast deployment of broadband communication infrastructure across Europe to induce innovation and competition. At the same time, the on-going transformation towards a 'smarter' energy system leads to constantly increasing needs to transmit and process data of 'prosumers'. Daniel Iglhaut pointed out that this imposes two significant challenges: How can synergies in joint cross-sectorial infrastructure deployment be realized, and to what extent can existing ICT infrastructure be used for smart grids and smart metering?

After a short theoretical and conceptual introduction, the lecture provided a brief overview of the European regulatory framework for joint infrastructure deployment. Fundamental challenges faced by energy and telecommunication companies were highlighted. Moreover, different European approaches to cooperative infrastructure deployment were examined.

The last speaker, Markus P. Raschke, serves as Political Public Relations Manager of the Ecological Democratic Party of Germany (ÖDP) and Constituency Outreach Assistant to Prof. Klaus Buchner (Member of the European Parliament). He is in charge of designing and implementing political communication campaigns for the Bavarian association of the Ecological Democrats, on both regional and European affairs. In this capacity, Markus P. Raschke moderates numerous societal dialogue processes on infrastructure and economic policy. He holds a degree in Governance and Public Policy from the University of Passau and a Master of Science in European Economic Integration from the Universities of Leipzig and Wrocław. Prior to joining ÖDP, Markus contributed to innovation research projects at the Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy. In addition, he worked as consultant for Austrian enterprises, successfully securing EU funding for cross-border integration projects.

Markus P. Raschke presented a lecture on Drivers of Competitiveness Under Fire - Controversies, Societal Dialogue and Political Communication. His presentation, building upon the preceding analyses, explored controversies and mechanisms of societal acceptance management around political and infrastructural measures aiming at increased competitiveness. Firstly, it highlighted societal concerns regarding large-scale infrastructure projects, such as the construction of high-voltage power transmission lines. Discussing specific cases, it provided an introduction to the concept of societal dialogue. Secondly, the presentation portrayed political and societal controversies around international trade agreements, such as TTIP and CETA, in the U.S. and German-speaking countries. Alternative mechanism of societal dialogue, political inclusion and civil participation in Germany, Lithuania, and Switzerland were explained as examples of political communication upside-down.

In closing, the first Wrocław Economic Policy Symposiums, dr Sebastian Jakubowski, thanking speakers and other participants, expressed

his hope that the next Symposium to be held in autumn 2016 would be as successful as this one.