

List of Projects

Veronika Janyrova

Welfare systems and labour market policies for economic and social resilience in Europe (WeLaR)

European Commission, Horizon Europe

September 2022 - August 2025

WeLaR is a three-year research project funded by the Horizon Europe Framework Programme that aims to examine the impact of digitalisation, globalisation, climate change and demographic shifts on labour markets and welfare states in Europe. WeLaR will not only improve the understanding of the individual and combined effects of these trends, but also offer policy proposals helping to adapt welfare systems to these pressing challenges. The project's ultimate goal is to assist in the creation of policies that ensure economic growth is distributed fairly across society and generates opportunities for all. To achieve these goals, the WeLaR team will develop a new framework to study the effects of the four megatrends on the labour market and the welfare state. It will integrate analysis of their impacts on labour supply, demand and market matching, while accounting for the interactions among the four megatrends and the mediating role of institutions and policies. WeLaR will use a mix of quantitative and qualitative methods, as well as stakeholder engagement. The research is carried on by a consortium of 10 institutions from seven European countries and is being coordinated by the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven). wiiw's contributions address primarily intra-family time allocation of paid work and housework, atypical work and intra-EU mobility patterns, the impact of offshoring and automation on the demand for typical and atypical jobs, and the role of unions and policies for the quality of work.

<https://projectwelar.eu/>

Monitoring and Assessing Labor Markets in the Western Balkans

The World Bank

June 2022 - November 2024

Western Balkan economies have persistently performed poorer than their peers from Central, Eastern and South-East Europe. One area where they have been particularly weak is the labor market. In 2021, none of them had an unemployment rate below 10%. In addition, the countries face a pronounced gender gap, high informality, low salaries, with very high rates of poverty among the employed. A massive emigration causes a continuous shrinking of the labor force. On top of these challenges, reliable, consistent, detailed and comparable labor market indicators are missing. For that reason, the World Bank initiated a joint project with the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) which aimed to develop a unique and freely available labour market database. It was also the basis for a joint annual Western Balkans Labor Market Trends Reports that analysed and highlighting key labour market developments in the region. The project was entitled SEE Jobs Gateway and lasted from 2016 to 2020. The key project outcomes are still accessible via the wiiw website. The current project aims to produce annual updates of the labour market database as well as its extension into several new directions. Annual Labour Market Briefs will feature specific topics, such as employment in new foreign direct investment projects, employment by occupations, labour taxation or migration. The complementary activities aim to encourage the wider academic and political community to target their analysis and measures and to engage in an informed debate within the region, the international academic and donor communities.

Fiscal policies in Europe IV

Austrian Chamber of Labour

January 2023 - November 2024

In this project, we assess fiscal policies and their macroeconomic effects in the European Union and pay particular attention to Austrian fiscal policy in the European context. Our research is primarily based on using quantitative

data and methods, which allows us to take a comparative, European-wide perspective. In three sub-projects, we analyse the cyclical sensitivity of government spending in Austria (sub-project 1), the reform options for fiscal rules in the context of European debates (sub-project 2) and full employment issues linked to fiscal policy in Austria and the EU (sub-project 3).

Employment and Labour Market Scenarios

European Trade Union Institute (ETUI)

July 2024 - August 2024

The European economy is challenged by several ongoing transitions, such as the greening of the economy, the unfolding digital and technological transformations, including robots or artificial intelligence, as well as major demographic changes. In addition, there are further challenges which Europe will face over the short and medium run, ranging from increasing uncertainty with regards to political and financial priorities of the EU, macro-economic uncertainties (inflation, policy interest rates, productivity) to global political challenges and geopolitical risks and, not least, looming labour and skills shortages. Against this background, the study will develop various employment and labour market scenarios for the EU. These will specifically take account of employment changes in sectoral (NACE rev.2, level 1) employment and labour force groups, as well as the labour supply side (working-age population, participation rates and resulting labour supply) by age, gender and potentially other labour market categories and identify potentially arising imbalances and labour shortages by occupational categories. The authors will follow and extend the methodology developed by Jestl and Stehrer (2021) and calculate the scenarios for all EU27 member states for the short- and short-to-medium-term up to 2026.

Fiscal rules and fiscal councils in the Western Balkans

The World Bank

August 2023 - June 2024

In this project, wiiw acts as a consultant in the framework of a larger World Bank programme aimed at assisting the Western Balkan countries (WB6) in enhancing their fiscal responsibility frameworks. The institute hereby intends to: - develop a comprehensive dataset on fiscal rules, councils and medium-term budgetary frameworks; - create a scorecard of the rules, councils and frameworks along the lines of the European Commission; - assess the effects thereof on fiscal, economic and social outcomes; - support the World Bank in launching and running a network on fiscal rules and fiscal councils for the WB6.

Russia Monitor

German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK)

January 2023 - June 2024

In response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the EU, together with some other states, has imposed numerous sanctions on Russia, in order to restrict its ability to wage a war and increase the political and economic costs for the country's political and economic elites. Against this background, the project is set to create a database of macroeconomic indicators to continuously and systematically monitor key developments in the Russian economy and assess the effects of the sanctions. Carefully selected indicators from multiple sources are regularly compiled, evaluated with regards to their credibility and relevance, and cross-checked with alternative data, such as live ships tracking monitors (IfW) or the global sanctions database developed by CES-ifo. The database encompasses Russian exports and imports (including of sanctioned and dual-use goods), the state budget, production sector, domestic demand, labour market, price developments and financial markets. Based on this database, wiiw has launched a monthly Russia Monitor publication series analysing the key features and trends in the Russian economy. The project is based on a cooperation between wiiw as project coordinator, together with the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW), the Leibniz Institute for Economic Research (ifo) and the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO).

Carbon Intensive Regions in Transition - Unravelling the Challenges of Structural Change (CINTRAN)

European Commission, Horizon 2020

May 2020 - April 2024

In order to meet the climate change mitigation objectives of the European Union as well as the objectives of the Paris Agreement, it is inevitable that the European Union phases out fossil fuel consumption in the power sector and decarbonizes fossil-fuel dependent industries. However, if not managed well, such a structural change may cause serious economic impacts, societal upheaval, aggravated social inequalities and hardship. To minimize such consequences it is necessary to better understand the patterns and dynamics of structural change in response to

decarbonization at the regional level, to understand which parameters determine the pace of transformation as well as the capacity of regional actors to adapt and pro-actively create alternative structures. This project aims to enable these activities through highly integrated, inter- and transdisciplinary research working in close collaboration with regional stakeholders. It combines quantitative model-based research with qualitative in-depth analysis. The qualitative research will focus on four highly fossil-fuel dependent regions: Western Macedonia (Greece), Silesia (Poland), Ida-Virumaa (Estonia) and the Rhenish mining area (Germany). The diversity of these regions will enable the project to derive generalizable insights about the patterns and dynamics of decarbonization and the corresponding structural adjustments that hold relevance for all carbon-intensive regions in the EU and its neighbouring countries.

<https://coaltransitions.org/projects/cintran/>

Challenges for Cohesion: Looking ahead to 2035

European Commission, DG Regional Policy

September 2022 - April 2024

This European research project focusses on the challenges emerging from globalisation, demographic change, digital and green transitions and their impact on the economic cohesion of European regions until 2035. The research includes the development and analysis of vulnerability indices related to each challenge. One macroeconomic (CAM) and four well-established regional economic models (GEM-E3, E3ME, MASST-5, EU-EMS) are employed to assess how the three challenges might affect EU regions' potential future growth patterns and thus also regional cohesion until the year 2035. The study also includes detailed qualitative work on the regions' adaptive and mitigating capacities with respect to these challenges. The results of this research project are important contributions to the European debate on the future of EU Cohesion policy. The project is a collaborative venture of seven leading European research institutes and is coordinated by the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw).

China's influence over European Strategic Transport Infrastructure

European Parliament

May 2023 - December 2023

This project focused on the analysis of China's direct investments in the European strategic transport infrastructure and aims at evaluating potential impacts on the security of EU Member States and the EU Neighbourhood, whilst also looking to draw evidence-based and actionable policy conclusions to mitigate potential risks. By providing in-depth case studies of several EU members and countries of the EU Neighbourhood, the project looked to identify the concentration of Chinese direct investments in transport infrastructure at the external borders of the EU and the impact on the EU's security as well as on its connectivity. Additionally, the project also drew on the policy responses implemented in the United States and evaluated their strengths and weaknesses for the EU context. wiiw coordinated this project in close collaboration with the Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS).

Cohesion Policy in the Outermost Regions

European Parliament

June 2023 - December 2023

This research study aimed to analyse the socio-economic development and convergence process of the EU outermost regions (i.e. the Canary Islands, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint-Martin, French Guiana, Réunion, Mayotte, the Azores and Madeira). Building on an overview of the geographic, governance, economic, social and climate characteristics of these remote territories, it investigated how EU Cohesion Policy is implemented at the regional level, and the role of place-based, tailor-made approaches to foster sustainable and inclusive growth. Furthermore, three case studies allowed for more detailed insights into territorial, social and economic cohesion issues in these regions and their situation in the context of a smarter, greener, more connected and more social Europe. The findings of this analysis fed into policy recommendations on the design and purpose of EU policies (in particular, EU Cohesion Policy) to better support the EU outermost regions.

Long-term impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on labour market integration of refugees (FIMAS reCOV)

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

March 2023 - December 2023

FIMAS reCOV was the sixth wave of the Austrian longitudinal study on integration processes of refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran in Austria. Its core focus lay in labour market integration, but also in the interactions with other integration domains such as social and cultural integration, educational integration, residential integration, integration into the health and other areas of the

welfare system, which favour or hinder labour market integration. The project FIMAS reCOV followed up our longitudinal analysis by focusing on the impact of the Covid-crisis with its different phases (lockdowns, recoveries) on integration processes and labour market experiences of the different sub-groups of refugees (differentiated by age, gender, educational attainment, country of origin) and identified the particular challenges they face. The overall sample included over 2,700 respondents of which about a third had also participated in at least one of the previous five FIMAS waves. FIMAS reCOV built on and continued the previous five surveys FIMAS, FIMAS+INTEGRATION, FIMAS+INTEGRATION², FIMAS+YOUTH and FIMAS+Frauen.

EU Recovery Watch

Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS)

April 2022 - July 2023

The Recovery Watch is an expert network that monitors the implementation of National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRP) and NextGeneration EU and assesses their impact on key social outcomes. It was established by the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS), the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) and the Institut Emile Vandervelde (IEV), in partnership with leading European think tanks. wiiw contributed analysis and peer-review of project publications, participated in policy dialogues and public events and reported on the Austrian NRRP.

Online database for the Danube Region Monitor - People and Skills

Austrian Agency for Education and Internationalisation (OeAD) and L&R Sozialforschung

March 2022 - May 2023

This project consists of developing a user-friendly online database with statistics and indicators on education systems and labour markets in the 14 countries participating in the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR). The online database is primarily designed for experts in ministries and (international) organisations who deal with the EUSDR and the fields of education and labour markets in a transnational context.

<https://peopleandskills.danube-region.eu/danube-region-monitor/>

The use of Cohesion Policy funds to support refugees from Ukraine

European Parliament

December 2022 - May 2023

This research study aims to assess the use of Cohesion Policy funds and instruments to support refugees from Ukraine in the context of the Cohesion's Action for Refugees in Europe (also known as CARE). Building on an analysis of the inflow and needs of refugees arriving in the EU from Ukraine, the study reviews the EU response(s) to the migratory crisis and the actions taken by EU countries, regions and cities to assist those refugees. In that regard, individual case studies on six European NUTS-2 regions are carried out to shed light on the challenges faced and resources mobilised by regional authorities to help refugees settle and integrate into local communities and labour markets. The findings of these analytical tasks should feed into policy recommendations on the design and purpose of the EU Cohesion Policy, as its role as crisis response tool could place it at odds with its long-term goal of promoting convergence.

Impact Evaluation of the Interreg Central Europe Programme

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE

September 2020 - March 2023

The Interreg Central Europe Programme is one of the 15 transnational programmes established in the framework of the EU Cohesion Policy for the programming period 2014-2020. It promotes regional cooperation among nine central European countries, with the aim to develop smart solutions to regional challenges. The underlying impact evaluation assesses the effects of the Interreg Central Europe programme implementation by following a theory-based approach. It concentrates on the immediate outcomes, results and the changes achieved by the programme and its projects in the fields of innovation, low-carbon economy, environment, culture and transport. In particular, the evaluation aims to answer three guiding research questions: - What change can be observed in relation to the objectives of the programme? - To what extent can the observed changes be attributed to the implementation of the programme? - What mechanisms of programme implementation have delivered the observed impact?

Impact Evaluation of the Interreg Rhin Supérieur / Oberrhein Programme

Interreg Rhin Supérieur

September 2021 - December 2022

The Interreg Rhin Supérieur / Oberrhein programme is one of the 60 cross-border programmes established in the framework of the EU Cohesion Policy for the programming period 2014-2020. It promotes regional cooperation within the Upper Rhine area spanning across 3 European countries (France, Germany and Switzerland) and pursues several Specific Objectives, including SME development and job creation. The impact evaluation assesses the effects of the Interreg Rhin Supérieur / Oberrhein programme by focusing on three main evaluation points: # The contribution of the programme to the expected changes in the Upper Rhine area; # The causality relationship between the programme and the observed changes; # The endogenous and exogenous factors influencing these changes. This evaluation addresses the programme's Specific Objectives 8 (Extend cross-border development possibilities and opportunities for SMEs in the Upper Rhine area) and 9 (Increase employment opportunities through the development of strategic economic sectors in the Upper Rhine area).

Functional division of labour in EU value chains

Hans Böckler Stiftung

January 2022 - December 2022

The emergence of global value chains has radically changed the organisation of production in the EU economy. In particular, the increasingly fine-grained international division of labour has made it possible for countries to specialise in individual business functions of the value chain and thereby generate higher value added. This project examined the causes and effects of these "functional specialisation patterns" on the labour market, particularly on wage developments and working conditions. The project combined two existing methods for the analysis of functional specialisations in order to ensure the reliability of results. The determinants and implications of functional specialisation on the labour markets in European countries and regions have been analysed using, inter alia, cluster analyses, panel regression methods and binary choice models. Ultimately, the questions to be answered by this study were: Why do some countries become locations for corporate headquarters and research laboratories, while others end up as "extended workbenches" within the European division of labour? What are the effects of these "functional specialisations" for labour markets in Europe?

Industrial Policy for a New Growth Model: A toolbox for EU-CEE countries

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

July 2022 - December 2022

The Central Eastern European member states of the EU (EU-CEE) marked impressive advancements in their socio-economic developments over the past decades and can be even regarded as one of the most dynamic regions in Europe. The countries' EU membership as well as their deep integration into regional and global value chains (GVCs) played a crucial role in this catch-up process. However, the period following the Great Recession has seen unimpressive labour productivity growth along with a somewhat slower, in some cases even derailed, convergence process. In the light of EU-CEE's positioning as 'factory economies' and their struggle to occupy the more sophisticated stages of manufacturing value chains, the key challenge faced by the region is to occupy higher value-added activities within the value chain. This study aims to strategically evaluate the countries' policy options in achieving this goal, and to design an appropriate industrial policy toolkit for them, taking full account of the ongoing megatrends. It aims to guide policy makers in making the best possible use of the available policy space and taking full advantage of EU membership, while at the same time steering the industrial policy discussions at the EU-level to one that better fits the position and capabilities of the EU-CEE. The study defines industrial policy in the EU context and explores lessons learned from past successful industrialisers. It maps the EU-CEE's industrial development, with a particular focus on green and digital aspects, in order to identify most promising growth areas, along with key areas of vulnerability. Subsequently, it dives deep into the discussion of flagship industrial policy instruments and discusses how they could be more effectively deployed in EU-CEE.

Sectoral employment forecast 2022

European Trade Union Institute (ETUI)

June 2022 - December 2022

The project provided forecasts of changes in sectoral (NACE rev.2, level 1) employment in Europe in the short- and medium-term up to 5 years onwards, produced under scenarios combining the possible evolution of structural changes and policies. These forecasts should provided likely development scenarios to support, reinforce and stimulate the European labour market policies.

Danube Region Monitor - People and Skills

Austrian Agency for Education and Internationalisation (OeAD) and L&R Sozialforschung

April 2021 - November 2022

The Danube Region Monitor was initiated in 2017 to highlight key developments in the areas of labour markets and education systems in the fourteen countries participating in the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR). This annual flagship report serves as a basis for evidence-based policy decisions in these countries and within the framework of the EUSDR. wiiw's main task is to revise and update the report for the years 2021 and 2022 and to ensure that the underlying statistics are relevant, reliable and comparable across the countries concerned.
<https://peopleandskills.danube-region.eu/>

The Future of Cohesion: Effects of the Twin Transition on Disparities in European Regions

Bertelsmann Stiftung

May 2022 - October 2022

Europe is in the middle of a twin transition. Digitisation on the one hand and the green transition on the other are bringing major upheavals to the European economy. They are changing existing economic structures and have the potential to fundamentally alter the current distribution of potential growth and prosperity in Europe. While EU regions have been extensively analysed according to various (socio-)economic criteria, e.g. by the European Cohesion Reports, only few of them look into the future and assume a holistic perspective. Therefore, the aim of this study is to close this gap by analysing the consequences of the twin transition for the future economic development of European regions. These will be studied by developing and analysing scoreboard indicators for the EU regions' potential to benefit from the green and digital transition as well through econometric and descriptive analysis. With this methodological approach, the study aims to make a substantial contribution to the design of cohesion policies in Europe and its Member States by answering the following key questions: What are the economic priorities of European regions today? Which key factors determine the success of the double transformation? Which regions tend to benefit/lose from the structural change caused by digitalisation? Which regions tend to benefit/lose from the structural change caused by decarbonisation?

Processes of labour market integration of female refugees in Austria (FIMAS+Frauen)

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

February 2022 - September 2022

FIMAS+Frauen is the fifth wave of the Austrian longitudinal study on integration processes of refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran in Austria. Its core focus is on labour market integration, but also on the interactions with other integration domains such as social and cultural integration, educational integration, residential integration, integration into the health and other areas of the welfare system, which favour or hinder labour market integration. The project FIMAS+Frauen focusses on female refugees and their integration processes and experiences and identifies the particular challenges they face. The overall sample includes over 2,800 respondents of which a quarter has also participated in at least one of the previous four FIMAS waves. FIMAS+Frauen builds on and continues the previous four surveys FIMAS, FIMAS+INTEGRATION, FIMAS+INTEGRATION², and FIMAS+YOUTH.

Spatial and industrial effects of the European Green Deal

Hans Böckler Stiftung

January 2021 - August 2022

The European Green Deal and Industry 4.0 will lead to strong changes in the economic structure of Europe. This study aims to assess the future of digital and environmental changes, as well as their effects on industries, regions and employees in EU's industrial core, consisting of Germany, Austria and the neighbouring countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The analysis focuses on changes in industrial structures, value chains and employee characteristics. The insights shall contribute to the development of strategic labour market and economic policies, thus enabling an active approach to the inherent structural change.

Demographic and economic development in Central and East European countries (CEECs)

City of Vienna

September 2021 - June 2022

The population of the city of Vienna has been rising continuously since the mid-2000s. Between 2005 and 2020, the population increased by 17%, mainly due to a positive migration balance. In addition to immigration from Germany and the Near and Middle East, immigration from the Central and Eastern European EU countries (EU CEEC), which has increased significantly since these countries joined the EU, but especially since the opening of the Austrian

labour market (2011, 2013 and 2020), plays an important role. Since 2019, however, Vienna has seen a decline of immigration from Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo, Slovakia and Poland and since 2020 also from Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania. The project aims to update the earlier wiiw study 'Population and Economic Development in Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC)' by analysing the migration potential from the EU CEECs, as well as from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia to Vienna. It thereby provides an empirical basis for the city's population forecasts and labour market analyses.

Migration and Human Capital in the Western Balkans

European Training Foundation (ETF)

December 2019 - October 2021

The project looks at migration dynamics from a human capital perspective in the six Western Balkan countries which have experienced high and persistent emigration since the 1990s and, since the early 2000s, increasingly more skilled emigration. It studies the interrelationship between migration flows (with a specific attention to skilled migration), human capital formation and utilisation (linked to labour market dynamics). It aims to understand the causes of the extremely high outflows of labour (and skilled labour in particular) from the region as well as their effects, taking into account the absorptive capacity of local labour markets, possible mismatches between local educational and training structures and labour market needs and other economic and institutional contexts of the countries. It also examines how, for different scenarios, the continuation of migration trends could influence the skills pool and its utilisation in the future. The focus of the analysis is on the post-2010 period, with projections until 2030. In the course of the project, a novel cohort-based approach has been developed and applied to estimate the extent and skill composition of net-migration, which is unavailable from official home-based migration statistics for the six Western Balkan countries. The project's output will include country fiches for each of the six WB countries with detailed policy recommendations, a regional synthetic report, and a number of quantitative statistical and econometric papers.

Towards a risk-adjusted trade policy

Austrian Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs

November 2020 - July 2021

This research project tackled the question of how vulnerable our economies are to demand and supply shocks - both apply in the case of the COVID-19 health crisis from within and outside the EU - and what role GVCs play in the transmission of these shocks. The analysis focused on the vulnerabilities from an Austrian perspective and identified the sectors that are more prone to shocks due to dependence of imported products, low substitutability of imported products, high concentration on single supplying countries/firms and complex value chains.

Western Balkan Regional Cooperation

Bertelsmann Stiftung

June 2018 - July 2020

Regional cooperation has been the main instrument of EU intervention in the post-conflict Balkans. The overall goal of this policy has been to increase economic and social connectivity in order to achieve political stability and enhance security, as a precondition for EU accession. This process has now lasted for about two decades. This study evaluates the success of the EU's strategy of regional cooperation in the Western Balkans over the last two decades from an economic perspective. It defines the prerequisites for successful regional cooperation in an institutional, political and economic sense, and assess the extent to which they existed in the Western Balkans at the start of the 2000s. It identifies the key facets of the EU's strategy to deepen trade, investment and infrastructure connectivity in the Western Balkans, and establishes the impact that this has had. Finally, it assesses the state of play in 2020, and makes suggestions for the way forward.

Fiscal policies in Europe II.

Austrian Chamber of Labour

July 2018 - July 2020

In this project, we assess fiscal policies and their macroeconomic effects in the European Union, with a particular focus on Austria. While the empirical work will be based on quantitative methods, the focus of the project is on providing a comparative European perspective. In particular, we compile relevant data for a group of EU countries and use this data set for several subprojects: we estimate fiscal multipliers for different categories of public spending, analyse the relevance of labour market developments for public expenditures and look at recent developments of capital and income taxes in the context of globalisation.

Linkages between Vienna and other European cities

City of Vienna

January 2020 - May 2020

In this study, we introduce a measure of linkage for the relationship between cities/regions, based on time series features of search engine queries. The used features are backed by time series decomposition using STL, i.e. seasonal and trend decomposition using Loess, precisely the strength of the trend and the linearity of a time series. The combination of these two features for both sides of search interest, e.g. the search interest for a certain topic in the city of Berlin based on search queries posed in Vienna, allows for the analysis of the development of this computed measure of linkage for the period 2004-2020 in various search engine categories provided by Google Trends between cities/regions in Europe. We then present examples based on the city of Vienna as a point-of-interest for selected topics and propose a dashboard for policy decisions.

SEE Jobs Gateway

The World Bank

July 2016 - March 2020

Within this project, an annual flagship report on *Western Balkans Labor Market Trends* is launched. The Report is based on a dedicated regional labour market database for the Western Balkans, established and compiled by wiiw in cooperation with the Statistical Offices of the region. It allows, for the first time, to calculate aggregate labour market indicators across the six Western Balkan countries and to directly compare them with each other and with selected EU peer countries. The reports and database are available on the wiiw website. Overall, the initiative aims to provide access to labour market information and data for national policy-makers in the Western Balkans, as well as the international and academic communities. At the same time, it aims to generate interest among the press, NGOs and the wider public and thereby to encourage the debate on labour market policies.

<https://data.wiiw.ac.at/seejobsgateway-q.html>

Belarus WTO impact assessment and export potential analysis

EuropeAid

July 2019 - March 2020

The objective of this project is to support the Ministries of Economy and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus in its dialogue with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on the accession process and to provide concrete modelling results on the likely impacts arising from implementing the WTO commitments in the country. In addition, taking due consideration of Belarus's engagement in the Eurasian Economic Union, the identification of focus markets shall encourage Belarus to participate more actively in the economic integration processes and to become a fully-fledged member of the multilateral trading system.

Analysis of the main territorial challenges, needs and transnational cooperation potentials and strategy building for the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-2027 Programme

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE

July 2019 - March 2020

Interreg is a transnational programme established in the framework of the EU Cohesion Policy and has been supporting transnational cooperation in Central Europe for more than 20 years. As an overarching goal, transnational cooperation aims at improving capacities and policies as well as at triggering innovative processes and investments at territorial level. The Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE (CE) Programme supports regional cooperation among the nine central European countries Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, as well as parts of Germany and Italy. Against this background, the objectives of this assignment are: (i) To prepare a territorial analysis for the CE programme area in view of drafting the Interreg CE Programme for the period 2021-2027. The analysis shall identify the main joint challenges and needs of the area as well as strategic relevant fields of transnational cooperation with the potential to overcome territorial disparities; (ii) to develop a strategy building process for the future CE 2021-2027 Programme, in consultation with regional and national key stakeholders of the CE programme area and (iii) to provide recommendations for the future orientation and definition of the Interreg CE 2021-2027 programme strategy.

Wanted! Free Trade Agreements in the Service of Environmental and Climate Protection

Austrian Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs

October 2019 - March 2020

The effects of international trade and investment on the planet's climate and environment are manifold and complex. This makes the assessment of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) that the EU has been concluding in great numbers since the stalemate in WTO negotiations a delicate issue. The project aims at informing the discussion on the appropriate design of FTAs to make them serve environmental and climate protection: It is going to (i) provide an overview of the prevalence and development of sustainability chapters in EU FTAs and experiences with these provisions, (ii) highlight specific environmental issues related to EU FTAs that arose repeatedly in different agreements and (iii) zoom into the EU-Mercosur FTA and will contrast the expected cost of increased CO2 emissions with the expected 'gains from trade'.

Framework contract: Evaluations and impact assessments of EU macro-financial assistance and balance of payment support operations

*European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs
January 2016 - December 2019*

European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs established a multiple framework service contracts that allows it to obtain evaluation services and impact assessments of its own activities. Under this Framework Contract, the consortium partners assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, utility, sustainability, coherence, European Union Added Value, and governance of the macro-financial assistance and balance of payment support operations granted by the EU and the IMF to third countries. wiw is part of a consortium under the leadership of Ecorys.

Wage developments in the Western Balkans, Moldova and Ukraine

*Austrian Chamber of Labour
January 2019 - July 2019*

The objective of this study is to analyse wage developments in six Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia), Moldova and Ukraine - a region that is of particular importance for Austria. The still difficult labour market situation in this region is insofar astonishing, as it experienced a massive emigration over the past years and is characterized by a demographic decline. The central question therefore is why the unemployment in this peripheral part of Europe is so persistent and how this relates to the growth of wages and labour productivity. The study will also develop policy conclusions that might help to positively stimulate economic development in the region and to provide its citizens with a long term perspective.

Studies in the Areas of European Competitiveness

*European Commission, DG Grow
August 2014 - July 2018*

The purpose of this framework contract is to provide the European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry, with background studies concerning the competitiveness of European industries. These background studies are mainly used for the preparation of the Commission's European Competitiveness Report which is published annually in order to provide analytical input to the policy debate on issues related to competitiveness and to underpin proposals and recommendations regarding the Europe 2020 strategy and future enterprise policy.

Wage developments in Central and East European EU Member States

*Austrian Chamber of Labour
January 2018 - March 2018*

The aim of the project is to describe the wage developments in eight EU countries of Central and Eastern Europe that are of major importance for Austria (EU-CEE-8: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia), to analyse their determinants and to derive policy recommendations. These are to assist in providing a positive stimulus to the EU-CEE-8 economies and to offer a long-term perspective for the population. Particular focus is put on the wage share in the EU-CEE-8 countries, which has recently started to rise again. Nevertheless, the question arises why wage growth has not been even stronger in view of the tightening labour market in the region, with most countries recording shortages of labour/skilled workers. This is the central research question of the project.

Investigating the Impact of the Innovation Union (IU)

*European Commission, Horizon 2020
March 2015 - February 2018*

Innovation has been placed at the heart of the Europe 2020 strategy aimed at coping with major structural changes,

the increase of global competition and the current crisis, and at tackling major societal challenges such as climate change, energy and resource scarcity, health and ageing. The Innovation Union has the main objective to strengthen the European innovative potential; it sets 13 general objectives and 34 specific (policy) commitments associated with the objectives, aimed at stimulating innovation. The objective of this project is to deliver a system of assessment for the commitments. The approach starts from the evaluation of the state of achievement of the individual commitments, but puts crucial emphasis on their effects on the innovation system as a whole, as well as on the economy-wide effects of innovation. The basic idea is to retrace the entire chain of effects of the commitments, from their implementation to their final impact in terms of competitiveness, growth and employment. wiiw is responsible for the evaluation of seven IU commitments having been agreed in the areas of EU patents, eco-innovation, social and territorial cohesion, social innovation, innovation partnerships and international talents.
<http://www.i3u-innovationunion.eu>

Productivity, Non-Tariff Measures and Openness (PRONTO)

*European Commission, 7th Framework Programme
February 2014 - January 2018*

Over the past fifty years, there has been significant progress in lowering tariff barriers to international trade. With the rising importance of global sourcing, multinational enterprises and increased tradability of non-tangible products, Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) have attracted growing attention from policy makers and academic scholars alike. Against this background, PRONTO aims to compile new data, develop better methodologies and increase our understanding of the impact of NTMs on international investment and trade. The proposed research project is divided into seven Work Packages (WPs). The first three provide the foundation for work in the project by consolidating existing and developing new NTM measures. The fourth WP acts as a bridge by establishing a methodological framework for using these measures in estimations and policy analysis. The fifth and sixth WPs use this framework and the new NTM indicators to consider the effect of NTMs on a variety of social and economic outcomes, providing both useful estimations for policy and a framework for future academic exploration of NTMs. The final WP focuses on dissemination of the data, methodologies, and results of the other six WPs. The project was funded by European Commission, 7th Framework Programme and received additional funding by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research within the research program TOP.EU.
<http://prontonetwork.org/>

Euroasian Integration

*International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
June 2013 - December 2017*

This project is part of wiiw's scientific cooperation with IIASA. The aim of the project is to support IIASA in its research on the newly launched investigation about the modalities of Eurasian economic integration. The project will assess the prospects and modalities of alternative economic integrations of regional alliances on the Eurasian space. wiiw is involved in the coordination of the Euroasian integration project, the preparation of further materials in the context of the project and particularly the organisation the series of 'Euroasian Workshop' starting in February 2014, including the design of the agenda, selection of participants, preparation of background concept papers and in the development of the future project's concept. The project is coordinated by Peter Havlik who acts simultaneously as guest research scholar at IIASA.
<http://www.iiasa.ac.at/web/home/research/EconomicIntegration.html>

Fiscal policies in Europe I.

*Austrian Chamber of Labour
January 2016 - December 2017*

This project analysed Austrian fiscal policy in a European context. Against the background of the most recent academic literature, it delivered new empirical results on macroeconomic outcomes of fiscal policy measures. In particular, the research focused on fiscal policy coordination problems in the EU's fiscal regulation framework, which relies on model-based estimates of the structural deficit. Further topics were the analysis of government expenditure structures in European countries as well as the effects of changes in discretionary fiscal policy on the income distribution.

Factors driving wealth inequality in European countries

*Austrian Chamber of Labour
December 2016 - November 2017*

The study analyses how microeconomic factors drive the inequality in household wealth across nine European countries applying the Shapley value approach to decomposition. The research draws on micro data from the Eurosystem Household Finance and Consumption Survey 2014. Disparity in inheritance and gifts obtained by households are found to have a considerable effect on wealth inequality that is on average stronger than the one of income differences and other factors. In Austria, Germany, France and Spain the contribution of real and financial assets received as bequests or inter-vivos transfers to wealth inequality attains more or almost 30%. However, also the distribution of household characteristics (age, education, size, number of adults and children in the household, marital status) within countries shapes the observed wealth dispersion. The study also provides an overview of different inheritance tax regimes in selected European countries and the United States. It finds that in the majority of countries the tax rate depends on the relationship between bequeather and inheritor as well as the value of the inherited assets. Due to an increase in private wealth and its concentration over time, the authors furthermore expect an increase in inheritance tax revenues in the future.

Framework Contract: Assessment of EU policy impacts on industrial products and services sectors

European Commission, DG Grow

October 2013 - July 2017

The full title of this multiple framework contract is: Procurement of studies and other supporting services on impact assessments and evaluations, Lot 1: Assessment of EU policy impacts on industrial products and services sectors. The purpose is to be able to have at its disposal an external pool of expertise that can be used whenever the need arises. This external pool of expertise is destined to support the DG's own activities by providing input to research on the likely impacts and/or effectiveness of a specific policy or regulatory proposal. LOT 1 deals mainly with the potential impact of EU measures on economic activity at the sectoral or aggregate level. The objective will specifically be to analyse how the structure, the competitiveness and the growth potential of affected sector(s) are affected by EU measures. This could include the impact on innovation, looking at determinants such as the cost of innovation and the availability of financing and market factors (uncertainty of demand for new goods and services).

Falling Behind and Catching Up in Southeast Europe (GDN)

Oesterreichische Nationalbank/Austrian Ministry of Finance

January 2014 - May 2017

Southeast Europe holds a long record of being one of Europe's least developed regions. Sporadic growth spurts are regularly followed by strong fall-backs. Neither firms, nor banks or states were able to make broad industrialization happen in a sustainable way. The proposed research analysed the determinants and effects of backwardness in Southeast Europe. The analysis included inter alia issues of long-run development, industrialization, infrastructure, the role of cities, migration, state building and financial crisis. The results yielded important policy recommendations.

Global Development Network Southeast Europe (GDN_SEE)

Oesterreichische Nationalbank/Austrian Ministry of Finance

February 2009 - July 2016

wiiw acts as regional hub for SEE within the Global Development Network (GDN) in providing capacity building for research and policy advice in the areas of labour markets, migration, trade, etc. wiiw initiated several research competitions in the region and also performs own research in this context. The topics of the most recent project phase were labour market developments, inequality, migration and fiscal systems in SEE.

<http://balkan-observatory.net>

Identifying revealed comparative advantages (RCAs) in an EU regional context

European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry

February 2014 - December 2015

EU Cohesion Policy sets a framework to reduce differences between regions and to ensure growth across Europe. For regional policy strategies to be effective, and for an efficient use of the available funds, it is crucial to analyse in detail the assets each region is endowed with, the technologies available, and the business connections among different regions. Against this background, the study evaluated EU regions' international competitiveness on the basis of their Revealed Comparative Advantage (RCA), complemented by additional trade indicators such as trade balances or export specialisation and a series of regional and sectoral characteristics such as skill supply, R&D and patents. Subsequently, the best and worst performing regions were analysed to identify best-practice examples for regional strategies and specific policy approaches. For this study, wiiw developed a model to consistently estimate

foreign trade flows (export and imports) at the NUTS-2 regional level.

How to Stabilize the Economy of Ukraine and Put it on a Sustainable Growth Trajectory

United Europe e.V.

December 2014 - June 2015

On behalf of United Europe and Bertelsmann Stiftung, wiiw explored the possible ways how to stabilise the Ukrainian economy and analysed the economic effects of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. To that end, wiiw analysed the macroeconomic developments, foreign trade and FDI relations, as well as industrial and regional patterns. The study was presented jointly with the clients, representatives of the EU Commission (Commissioner J. Hahn) and of the Ukrainian parliament in the framework of a Policy Dialogue in Brussels. A similar presentation in Kyiv also generated considerable attention among international as well as Ukrainian media and policy-makers. The study was furthermore supported by the Austrian Central Bank (OeNB), Bertelsmann Stiftung, DER-think tank, ING Bank NV, Porsche Holding Gesellschaft m.b.H and Raiffeisen Bank International AG.

Increasing competitiveness in the Western Balkans region - opportunities and limits

German Federal Ministry of Finance

July 2013 - January 2015

This study was written in German, original title: 'Steigerung der Wettbewerbsfähigkeit in der Westbalkanregion - Möglichkeiten und Grenzen'. The European Union as well as international and bilateral players increasingly consider higher competitiveness as a key factor for economic development in the Western Balkans region that is to be more and more autonomous and resilient in the long term. Against this background, the project aims to identify the potential for (further) structural reforms and their implementation and efficient realisation, as well as the potential for growth and strategies to exploit it. The project is carried out in cooperation with the Halle Institute for Economic Research.

Strategic Study on Labour Mobility in the Context of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy

Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

April 2014 - January 2015

The purpose of this consultancy was to provide strategic input to the labour mobility consultation process initiated by the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) in partnership with IOM and other regional and international partners as a flagship initiative on Jobs, Skills and Employment. The study is about to contribute to the implementation of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy. wiiw was engaged to assist the RCC and IOM in producing a comprehensive report on labour mobility in SEE.

Energy efficiency and EU industrial competitiveness: energy costs and their impact on manufacturing activity (Competitiveness Report 2014)

European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry

October 2014 - November 2014

This study serves as a background report for the annual European Competitiveness Report of the European Commission (DG ENTR). The European Commission is currently in the process of preparing a new energy and climate framework for the period up to 2030. For this purpose, DG ENTR has commissioned a study which should provide a comparative analysis of the impact of changing energy costs on EU industrial competitiveness at country and sectoral level, and vis-à-vis its main external competitors (the United States, Japan, China and Russia), with a view to identifying future trends in production and energy efficiency strategies. While the recent gains in energy efficiency in the EU manufacturing sector have been impressive, the gap in energy prices between the EU and the USA has widened, which might potentially undermine EU industrial competitiveness, particularly in energy-intensive sectors. To a large extent, the study relies on data from the latest version of the World Input-Output Database (WIOD).

Knowledge-Based Regional Development in Albania and Kosovo - Reducing social and economic disparities through social and economic innovation

Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI)

January 2014 - September 2014

The purpose of this research project (consisting of joint research and a workshop) is to investigate to what extent and in what ways, if at all, strategies, policy interventions and programmes for the development of a knowledge-

based society in Albania and Kosovo could contribute to sustainable regional development. This research project seeks to explore how knowledge-based regional development can impact social and economic disparities. In this sense, the research project will investigate the potential conflict between knowledge-based growth and social cohesion given the gap in knowledge production between urban and peripheral areas. This research project intends to explore the concept of "knowledge-based regional development", i.e. regional development through social and economic innovation which is informed by the outcomes of the partnership (Triple Helix) between government, business and research in academia in the context of Albania and Kosovo.

International conference 'The 2004 EU Enlargement – Ten Years After: Achievements and Next Steps'

Austrian Ministry of Finance

June 2014 - June 2014

The conference celebrated the 10th anniversary of the accession of ten Central, Eastern and Southeastern European countries to the European Union. It reflected on achievements and lessons learned and discussed possible future political and economic developments in Europe.

Study on various aspects of earnings distribution using micro-data from the European Union Structure of Earnings Survey

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

June 2013 - January 2014

This study contributed to a better understanding of the question as to what extent employment contract types, gender and skills affect the structure of earnings across industries and EU Member States. The study covered the 27 Member States, EEA countries (Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway), Accession, candidate and pre-candidate countries (Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey) for which data are available and highlight similarities and differences between them, as well as developments at the level of the European Union. To address this question, use has been made of the 2002, 2006 and 2010 release of the SES anonymized micro-data.

Impact of opening full labour market access to Bulgarian and Romanian nationals as of 1 January 2014: the case of Austria

Austrian Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth

April 2013 - December 2013

The study analyses the migration potential and the impact on Austria's economy that is to be expected after the lifting of access restrictions for Bulgarian and Romanian nationals as of 1 January 2014. Estimates show that - as compared with a scenario with retained restrictions - in the years 2014 and 2015 net migration from the two countries to Austria will account for 5700 and 5300 additional persons, respectively, solely due to the full liberalisation of the labour market. About three quarters of those migrants are expected to come from Romania. In the years following the opening of the labour market, employment will be by about 6700 persons higher than it would be without liberalisation in 2014 and by about 10,300 persons above that level in 2015. The employment effect results not only from the higher population flows but also from the activation of a part of those Bulgarian and Romanian migrants who have been resident in Austria already before the liberalisation - also in 2007-2013 an increased inflow of migrants from those two countries was observed. The additional labour force supply will only cause a temporary marginal increase in the overall unemployment rate. Gross domestic product in 2014 and 2015 is expected to be higher by about 0.09% and 0.13%, respectively, and the unemployment rate is estimated to be higher by about 0.03% in both years, than would be the case without labour market liberalisation. The study was written in German, original title: 'Auswirkungen der Arbeitsmarktöffnung am 1. Jänner 2014 auf den Wirtschafts- und Arbeitsstandort Österreich'

Support to the Development of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy

Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

June 2013 - September 2013

The Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat was requested by the countries of the Southeast Europe Cooperation Process (SEEC) as well as the European Commission (EC) to advance the preparation of a regional development and growth strategy - SEE 2020. In course of this process, eleven specific targets have been identified that span convergence with EU, trade, investment, employment, education and governance. All in all, the SEE 2020 encompasses 14 policy dimensions. In the framework of this consultancy assignment, wiiw coordinated a group of experts who compiled and synthesized the various inputs from regional initiatives, platforms and other relevant stakeholders into the Strategy document. Last but not least, wiiw experts ensured the internal consistency of the

proposed targets and measures and provided contextual analysis and advise. In November 2013, the SEE 2020 strategy was finally approved by the Ministerial Conference of the South East Europe Investment Committee.

Crisis effects: growth prospect, social impact and policy responses in SEE and CIS

Oesterreichische Nationalbank/Austrian Ministry of Finance

July 2011 - June 2013

The main objective of the project is to establish economic research capacities throughout Southeast Europe (SEE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), to promote knowledge transfer into the regions, to facilitate networking between researchers and to assist in securing knowledge transfer from researchers to policy makers. Activities to achieve this include research calls, mentoring, workshops, conferences and policy dialogues. The project is structured into bi-annual research cycles focusing on a specific research theme of particular importance. During this phase, research aims at analysing whether the international crisis shock introduces structural breaks in the distribution of income and other welfare dimensions, conditional on the change in the potential speed of growth, the quality of development, and the induced or adopted policy changes in SEE and CIS. The project is part of the Global Development Network (GDN), a multilateral organisation founded by the World Bank in which wiiw acts as a hub for SEE.

Global value chains and growth: impacts and prospects for EU Member States

European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs

August 2012 - March 2013

This study investigated the different degrees of international competitiveness and their correlation with the growth performance of individual European countries. In doing so, the internationalisation of countries and the respective comparative advantages were analysed on the basis of value added chains. The importance of certain specialisation patterns, technology intensities, regional and international integration, and offshoring strategies as drivers of productivity and economic growth is analysed, contributing to an explanation of the differing growth trajectories and structural developments within Europe.

Ex-post evaluation of balance of payments support operations to Hungary

European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs

September 2011 - December 2012

This evaluation focused on assessing ex post the contribution of the EU financial assistance to Hungary made available in Nov. 2008. The exercise covered three main areas of analysis: (i) Economic impact of the BoP assistance on the Hungarian economy with and without IMF involvement. (ii) Value added of the EU intervention provided through the operation and (iii) Sustainability of the country's external position as a result of the assistance. The project was undertaken within the "Multiple Framework Service Contract for the provision of evaluation and evaluation related services to DG ECFIN", coordinated by Ecorys. A wiiw Senior Expert was part of the research team.

Ex-post evaluation of Macro Financial Assistance operations to Kosovo

European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs

March 2012 - October 2012

Under its Financial regulation, the EC is legally obliged to evaluate its main programmes, including Macro Financial Assurances (MFA). The main objective of this ex-post evaluation was to learn key lessons which can be applied to future interventions and/or to identify a possible need for a reorientation of the present EC approach. The evaluation focused on three core areas of economic effects: (1) macroeconomic effects; (2) structural effects and (3) effects on the sustainability of the external financial situation. Each area focused on the effects over specific time horizons: macroeconomic developments were assessed on short-term effects (up to 2 years after the initial disbursement), the structural effects on the economy and institutions on short- and medium- term effects (up to 4 years after the initial disbursement) and the external financial situation on medium- to long-term effects (3 years or more).

EuropeAid MIDWEB

EuropeAid

February 2011 - February 2012

In order to facilitate the access of potential migrants from the Western Balkans (WB) to the labour markets in the

EU, and potential returnees' access to the labour markets, this project developed a database of skills per sector needed for each country in the WB. In cooperation with the national employment services and the national statistical offices, a list of skills per sector has been compiled. These lists targeted principally the émigrés from the WB who consider return to their homeland as an option in their migratory experience, but also potential migrants from the region that would consider working in another country in the WB. In addition, a similar list was compiled for each WB country but with skills per sector needed in the main countries of destination from the EU to serve potential migrants from WB countries. All these lists were incorporated in a database accessible via the Migrants Service Centres's website. The data is available also to those who approach the MSCs in person as well as to policy-makers. wiiw was responsible for task 1.2 'Develop databases of skills per sector needed in the EU and in the Western Balkans'.

Workshop: MENA transition and international responses

Austrian Ministry of Finance

August 2011 - December 2011

In December 2011, wiiw organised a workshop with high-level experts to discuss the current economic, political and social situation in MENA countries, the challenges they face and the challenges posed for the EU neighbourhood policy. The workshop took as a vantage point the experiences from Central and Eastern European countries and the lessons the transformation of these countries may hold for future developments of the MENA region. wiiw produced a background paper for this workshop.

The Competitiveness of firms, regions and industry in the knowledge-based economy: What room for job-rich growth in Europe? (MICRO-DYN)

European Commission, 6th Framework Programme

October 2006 - January 2011

MICRO-DYN dealt with growth, employment and competitiveness in the knowledge-based European economy through a micro-founded firm-based approach. The nature of the analysis was 'bottom-up' i.e. moving from the micro-entities of economic actions and strategies at the enterprise level to sectoral, regional, national and European levels. The rationale for such an approach was that understanding the microeconomic foundations of innovation, competitiveness and growth at the firm level, as well as the firms interactions with the labour market, is key to understanding the nature of these phenomena at a more aggregated (regional, sectoral or macro) level and of the resulting aggregate economic performance. The analysis used as far as possible comprehensive data-sets across all European regions and industries. wiiw co-ordinated a consortium of 17 research institutions.

<http://www.micro-dyn.eu>

Inequality and fiscal policy in transition countries

Oesterreichische Nationalbank/Austrian Ministry of Finance

January 2009 - December 2010

The main objective of the project is to establish economic research capacities throughout Southeast Europe (SEE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), to promote knowledge transfer into the regions, to facilitate networking between researchers and to assist in securing knowledge transfer from researchers to policy makers. Activities to achieve this include research calls, mentoring, workshops, conferences and policy dialogues. The project is structured into bi-annual research cycles focusing on a specific research theme of particular importance. During this phase, research dealt with inequality and fiscal policy in transition countries of Southeast Europe (SEE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Research aimed to analyse issues of income and other distributions (e.g., wealth, wage, skills, opportunities) in transition countries with special interest in the role of market liberalisation and fiscal redistribution. The project is part of the Global Development Network (GDN), a multilateral organisation founded by the World Bank in which wiiw acts as a hub for SEE.

Ex-post evaluation of cohesion policy programmes 2000-2006; Work Package 1: Coordination, analysis and synthesis

European Commission, DG Regional Policy

November 2007 - December 2009

This Work Package aims to assess the macroeconomic background for cohesion policy in the period 2000-2006 and the quality of strategies, to assemble other information facilitating the implementation of later work packages and synthesise the results of all 11 other work packages. In addition, the project consortium will support the Commission in certain management tasks of the overall evaluation.

Regional challenges in the perspective of 2020 - regional disparities and future challenges

European Commission, DG Regional Policy

December 2008 - September 2009

The study aimed to improve our understanding of the role of key challenges such as globalisation, climate change, demographic change and migration, energy and social polarisation, play in generating and reducing spatial disparities in the European Union and neighbourhood countries. It focused on synthesising existing literature and bringing together experts to better understand the economic, environmental and social impact at regional (NUTS II) level.