

List of Projects

Bernhard Moshhammer

The impacts of recent inflation development on the EU finances

European Parliament

July 2023 - November 2023

This research study aims to provide a granular assessment regarding the impacts of inflation as of 2021 on the MFF and on the EU budget, including on EURI funded NGEU programmes. wiiw is involved as a subcontractor to Blomeyer & Sanz.

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 contributes analysis and peer-review of project publications, participates in policy dialogues and public events and reports on the Austrian NRRP.

How to dovetail Ukraine's reconstruction with EU integration and accession

Bertelsmann Stiftung

January 2023 - July 2023

The reconstruction of Ukraine and its accession to the EU constitute one of the biggest challenges for the international community, the EU and the country itself for many decades. Ukraine received candidate status from the EU in 2022 and could open negotiations even this year. Meeting the Copenhagen Criteria for EU accession, however, will be a monumental task. A joint assessment released in March 2023 by the Government of Ukraine, the World Bank Group, the European Commission, and the United Nations, estimates that the cost of reconstruction and recovery in Ukraine has grown to US \$411 billion (€383 billion). The costs are expected to be spread out over 10 years, and to use a mixture of private and public money. This research team argues that these two historic processes—reconstruction and EU integration—and how to further develop Ukraine as a functioning market economy capable of meeting the demands of EU internal market competition must be thought together to achieve the best possible outcomes – for the EU and Ukraine alike. Shedding light on what exactly the main challenges are, how Ukraine compares with previous joiners, and what can be learned from the successful EU accession of EU-CEE countries, is the ultimate ambition of this report. Within a series of research reports and policy briefs a group of economists from wiiw, the Bertelsmann Foundation, the Kiev-based Growford Institute and the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting analyse in detail five key and complementary areas of economic reconstruction: trade and FDI, regional policy, infrastructure, demographics, finance. They also investigate how these reconstruction areas can be structured as part of the EU accession process, and provide policy proposals for Ukraine and the EU.

Framework contract for studies in the field of Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research, Culture and Digital Single Market (Lot 1 - Social and Employment Policy)

Committee of the Regions

July 2022 - June 2023

The purpose of this framework contract is to enhance the European Committee of the Regions' capacity to provide

input into the policy-making process by a) increasing its rapid response capability, b) allowing a broader consultation of local and regional players, c) offering the possibility of drawing up specific opinions on topics of current interest, d) making databases and knowledge built up by research centres and universities accessible for the evaluation of policies, e) improve its capacity to prepare outlook opinions in the context of the Cooperation Protocol with the European Commission, f) use Territorial Impact Assessments as valuable tools for complementing Commission ex ante impact assessments and g) strengthen the capacity and increase the activity in foresight analysis of regional and local developments. The framework contract focuses on social and employment policies that will be addressed from the perspective of local and regional authorities. wiiw is leading a consortium with Spatial Foresight and t33.

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.

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.

New EU own resources: possibilities and limitations of steering effects and sectoral policy co-benefits

European Parliament

March 2021 - August 2021

The European Parliament had demanded a more autonomous budget financed by own resources which are linked to policy goals. The purpose of this study was to prepare the European Parliament's Committee on Budgets for making recommendations ahead of the Commission legislative proposals and to analyse the proposals submitted by the Commission and preparing the committee for adopting an opinion. The first stage analysed each of the four new own resources to be proposed in June 2021. The second stage of the study dealt with several aspects related to the implementation of the roadmap stipulated in the interinstitutional agreement. wiiw contributed to this study as a subcontractor of Blomeyer&Sanz and in cooperation with WIFO.