

RECENT ENTRIES TO THE DICE DATABASE

In the first quarter of 2005 the DICE Database (www.cesifo.de/DICE) received about 100 new entries which partly consisted of actualisations of existing entries and partly of new topics. Some topics are mentioned below:

- Supervision Authorities of Public Pension Schemes
- Distribution and Reimbursement Schemes of Pharmaceuticals
- Organisation of Medical Studies
- Inflation Targeting
- Earnings and Pay Dispersion
- Student Tuition Fees
- Trade Union Density
- Wage-setting Institutions
- Rules for Public Expenditure
- Inheritance Taxes
- Regulation of Covered Bonds (Mortgage Bonds)

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

Public Sector Economics

22–24 April 2005, in Munich

The CESifo Area Conference gives an overview of the current research undertaken by members of the Public Sector Economics area of the CESifo network. It is to stimulate interaction and co-operation between area members.

Scientific organiser: Frederick van der Ploog

Employment and Social Protection

27–28 May 2005, in Munich

The CESifo Area Conference is to bring together members of the CESifo network. The papers to be presented may deal with any topic within the broad domains of employment, social policy and social conflict.

Scientific organiser: Kai A. Konrad

Munich Economic Summit

9–10 June 2005, in Munich

“Europe and the Lisbon Goals: Are We Halfway There?” is the general topic of the 4th Munich

Economic Summit. There will be two panels. One will deal with “Speeding up European Reform: A Master Plan for the Lisbon Process”. The other panel calls into question state-support for enterprises: “European and National Champions: Burden or Blessing?”.

Understanding the Chinese Economy

10–11 June 2005, in Munich

Details to be announced.

Scientific Organiser: Gerhard Illing

Pension Reform

11–12 June 2005, in Copenhagen

The conference is jointly organised by the Centre for Economic and Business Research (CEBR) and CESifo. The aim of the conference is to take stock of the current debate and the various aspects of ongoing and potential reforms.

Scientific organisers: Panu Poutvaara, Marko Köthebürger and Andreas Wagener

CESifo Venice Summer Institute 2005

17–24 July 2005

This will be the 5th Venice Summer Institute, held in co-operation with Venice International University. Workshops will deal with subjects ranging from globalisation through health economics to economic psychology.

Macro-Fiscal Policies: New Perspectives and Challenges

22–25 August 2005, Jeju Island, South Korea

The conference is the 61st Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance.

Chairman of the Scientific Programme Committee: Jürgen von Hagen

Norwegian-German Seminar in Public Economics

16–17 September 2005

Details to be announced.

Scientific organisers: Andreas Haufler and Guttorm Schjelderup

The Institutions of Market Exchange

22 – 24 September 2005, in Barcelona

The International Society for New Institutional Economics holds its 9th Annual Conference.

NEW BOOKS

Banking Regulation and World Trade Law: GATS, EU and Prudential Institution-building

Lazaros E. Panourgias

Hart Publishing, 2005 (forthcoming)

Competing with the Government: Anti-competitive Behaviour and Public Enterprises

R. Richard Geddes, David E. M. Sappington, J. Gregory Sidak (eds.)

Hoover Institution, 2005 (forthcoming)

Growth, Trade and Economic Institutions

Tapio Palokangas (ed.)

194 p., Springer, 2005

Lawlessness and Economics

Avinash K. Dixit

176 p., Princeton University Press, 2004

Institutional Change and Globalization

John L. Campbell

264 p., Princeton University Press, 2004

Labor Market Institutions and Public Regulation

Jonas Agell (ed.)

228 p., MIT Press, 2004

International Institutions and Multinational Enterprises

John-ren Chen (ed.)

226 p., Edward Elgar, 2004

Institutions in Legal and Economic Analysis

Aloys Prinz, Albert E. Steenge, Jörg Schmidt (eds.)

208 p., Münster, 2004

The Politics of Regulation

Jacint Jordana (ed.)

335 p., Edward Elgar, 2004

DICE
Database for Institutional Comparisons in Europe
www.cesifo.de/DICE

The database DICE was created to stimulate the political and academic discussion on institutional and economic policy reforms. For this purpose, DICE provides country-comparative information on institutions, regulations and the conduct of economic policy.

To date, the following main topics are covered: Labour Market, Public Finances, Social Policy, Pensions, Health, Business Environment, Capital Market and Education. Information about Basic Macro Indicators is added for the convenience of the user.

The information provided comes mainly in the form of tables – with countries as the first column –, but DICE contains also several graphs and short reports. Currently, the database consists of about 1 000 entries. In most tables all 25 EU and some important non-EU countries are covered.

DICE consists mainly of information which is – in principle – also available elsewhere. But we think that the access we provide is very convenient for the user, the presentation is systematic and the main focus is truly on institutions, regulations and economic policy conduct. However, many tables are based on empirical institutional research by Ifo and CESifo colleagues as well as the DICE staff.

DICE is a free access database.

Critical remarks and recommendations are always welcome.

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