

## NEW AT DICE DATABASE

### Recent entries to the DICE Database

In the second quarter of 2009 the DICE Database received about 240 new entries, consisting partly of updates of existing entries and partly of new topics. Of special interest is the update of the “Institutions Climate Index 2009” and the establishment of the topic “Industrial Policy” with the subfolder “State Aid”. Furthermore there are some new entries in different folders as well as updates of existing entries. Some topics are mentioned below:

- Antitrust Policy
- Cable Networks
- Competition Policy - Dominance
- Financial and Human Resources Invested in Education
- Learning Environment and Organisation of Schools
- Merger Control
- Migration – Descriptive Data
- Mobile Networks
- Railways
- Small & Medium Enterprises.

## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

### Venice Summer Institute: Rethinking the Privatisation of Social Security

10–11 July 2009, in Venice

The smoothly functioning capital markets in the 1990s brought to the public debate the issue of privatising social security. A key paradigm in this debate was that the capital markets, and especially the stock markets, can yield better risk-adjusted returns than national pension schemes. The recent global turmoil in the financial markets undoubtedly calls for rethinking of the pros and cons of privatising social security. The purpose of this workshop is to attract original contributions on these issues. All contributions with applied/policy aspects are welcome.

Scientific organisers: Gerhard Illing and Efraim Sadka

### 65th Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance (IIPF)

13–16 August 2009, in Cape Town, South Africa

The congress will deal with Public Policy and Development.

Scientific organiser: Ravi Kanbur

### ifo/CESifo & ACES Conference on Banking and Institutions

11–12 December 2009, in Munich

The Department of International Institutional Comparisons of the Ifo Institute for Economic Research, CESifo, and Association for Comparative Economic Studies (ACES) will organize this joint conference. The conference is intended to encourage further research in the areas of banking and institutions, and to stimulate interaction and co-operation in these fields.

Scientific organisers: Christa Hainz and Koen Schoors

## NEW BOOKS ON INSTITUTIONS

### International Political Economy: Interests and Institutions in the Global Economy

Thomas H. Oatley

4th ed., Longman, New York 2009

### Foundations of Financial Markets and Institutions

Frank J. Fabozzi

4th ed., Pearson, Boston 2009

### Entrepreneurial Entry: Which Institutions Matter?

Ruta Aidis, Saul Estrin and Tomasz Mickiewicz

Centre for Economic Policy Research, London 2009

### Culture and Economics: On Values, Economics and International Business

Eelke de Jong

Routledge, London 2009

### The Value of Institutions for Financial Markets: Evidence from Emerging Markets

Bernardin Akitoby and Thomas Stratmann

International Monetary Fund, Washington DC 2009