

EUROPA FORUM LECH, 19th to 21st April, 2017

"Europe in challenging times: How can the data economy stimulate growth and jobs in Europe?"

General concept

The rise of populist movements in Europe and elsewhere and the first ever exit of a Member State lead to unprecedented challenges for the European Union, potentially questioning key pillars of European integration.

These political challenges are accompanied by fundamental technological changes through the comprehensive digitalisation of our economies and societies. How could we turn the emerging data economy into an opportunity for Europe which can demonstrate the added value of a deep and comprehensive European integration? Data exchange, data storage, data mining and data analytics will fuel our digital economy in key areas of the economy such as automotive, energy, health and banking, but they will not only bring benefits and opportunities but may also lead to risks and cause fears.

How are we going to use the EU-budget in the most efficient way to support digital innovation, stimulate growth and jobs in Europe, and at the same time address the most pressing problems, such as refugee flows or the protection of European borders?

Here in Lech we explore how a sound European policy can foster in a positive way the digitalisation of the economy both in Europe and elsewhere.

Wednesday 19th April

20.00 Early arrivals get together for an informal dinner and exchange of ideas with Commissioner Oettinger. *Hûs Nr. 8, Omesberg 8, Lech am Arlberg*

Thursday 20th April

12.30 – 13.30 Light buffet, *Hotel Gasthof Post, Dorf 11, Lech am Arlberg*

13.30 – 14.00 **Welcome and opening remarks**

Ludwig Muxel, Mayor of Lech,

Markus Wallner, State Governor Vorarlberg,

Günther H. Oettinger, Member of the European Commission

14.00 – 16.00 **Europe in challenging times**

We are now three months into a new Presidency in the US and have begun the first ever process of an EU Member State leaving the Union. The European Commission enters the second half of its current mandate faced with populist and anti-establishment currents which are changing the terms of the political debate. This session will ask what the EU has to do to demonstrate its relevance to its voters, in a context of low economic growth, and where it has to deal with migration & security crises within the EU and around its borders. Sixty years on from the Treaty of Rome, is it time to look again at the institutional structure of the EU? Is our legislative machinery fit for purpose?

Moderator: *Günther H. Oettinger, Member of the European Commission*

Impulse statements:

Wolfgang Schüssel, Former Federal Chancellor Austria

Torsten Jeworrek, Munich Re

Wilhelm Molterer, European Fund for Strategic Investments

Rudolf Kemler, Roland Berger GmbH

16.00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16.30 – 18.30 **European opportunities in the data economy: the examples of banking and health**

The data economy is an opportunity for Europe. It is important to be aware and take into account the research, economic and societal benefits, together with the necessary privacy and security aspects. The panellists will highlight some of these common opportunities from the perspective of two key sectors. They will discuss the available tools and instruments that can create these opportunities, as well as the regulatory tools determining how they should best be used to ensure the right trust and security balance.

Moderator: *Maive Rute, Deputy Director General, Joint Research Centre*

Impulse statements:

Armin von Falkenhayn, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

Miklós Szocska, Semmelweis University

Julio Faura, Santander

Monika Rimmele, Siemens Healthcare GmbH

20.00 Cocktail, *Hotel "Die Krone von Lech", Dorf 13, Lech am Arlberg*

20.30 Dinner, *Hotel "Die Krone von Lech"*

Friday 21st April

10.00 – 12.00 **What does the data economy mean for Europe's energy and automotive sectors?**

The data economy will profoundly change our day-to-day life in the next decades. This can mean different things to different stakeholders. Overcoming legal uncertainties regarding data access and transfer, data portability or liability issues in the energy and automotive sectors should allow data to flow freely in a single European data space by opening wide the path to energy and mobility services. Will data availability, coming from many sources, enable the emergence and broad acceptance of connected and automated driving? Are the opportunities and concerns always aligned? The panellists will discuss consumer and industry dimensions in the areas of in-vehicle data and real-time information from smart grids.

Moderator: *Roberto Viola, Director General DG Connect, European Commission*

Impulse statements:

Joanna Hubbard, Electron

Michael Bültmann, HERE

Peter Molengraaf, Alliander

Stephan Neugebauer, BMW, ERTRAC

Iain Conn, Centrica plc

Mats Granryd, GSMA

12.00 – 14.00 Lunch, *Hotel Gasthof Post, Dorf 11, Lech am Arlberg*

14.00 – 16.00 A budget for an EU that delivers, empowers and protects

The EU budget focuses on growth, job creation and solidarity in the European Union and beyond. It offers funding opportunities for European regions, cities, universities, farmers, researchers, NGOs or SMEs. EU programmes, such as Horizon 2020, create incentives for innovation. European cohesion funds provide public investment alternatives to national sources. They also address such problems as youth unemployment and gender inequality. The EU budget plays an increasing role in the area of security and border control, addressing the root causes of migration and the integration of refugees. It serves as a guarantee for other sources of funding, in particular for the European Fund for Strategic Investments, which mobilises private financing for strategic investments in and beyond some of the sectors addressed in the preceding sessions. The panellists will present the options offered by the EU budget, share their experience with EU funding and evaluate the results achieved on the ground. The discussion could stimulate new ideas for future EU budgets.

Moderator: *Nadia Calviño, Director General, DG Budget, European Commission*

Impulse statements:

*Jerzy Kwieciński, Polish Secretary of State,
Ministry of Economic Development*

*Valerie Khan, United Nations World Food
Programme*

*Ivailo Kalfin, Director, Economics & International Relations
Institute in Sofia*

*Joachim Pfeiffer, Member of Parliament,
German Bundestag*

16.00 – 16.30 Closing remarks

Günther H. Oettinger, Member of the European Commission

Ludwig Muxel, Mayor of Lech

16.30 Press conference

18.00 Light dinner, *Hotel Gasthof Post, Dorf 11, Lech am Arlberg*