**Public dialogue**

The Center’s affiliated researchers activity participate in public discussions on current issues and provide expert advice to government organisations and decision makers.

**When coronavirus cripples China**

Whether this means for the global flow of goods of China is shut down by coronavirus? David Bharath considered the implications of the closure of certain regions in China for the production capacities of companies there and for transport chains.

**Switzerland measured in the broadcasters’ eyes**

How much does Switzerland matter in the context of the super-rich? The total amount of money flowing from refugees to Ukraine has not yet been researched. The speakers examined the topic from several perspectives, with the regulator as a point of departure. After all, the majority of refugees agreed, demand firms bring more than they give. The market power of superstar firms has far-reaching consequences, such as a declining market of entrepreneurs, lost start-ups, lower wages. maken also discussed concerns about superstar firms’ influence on the political discourse. According to the speaker, Swiss law is less discussed in detail with a focus on the EU competition policies. Digital Services Act (DSA) and Digital Market Act (DMA), which go beyond antitrust law.

**Economics of global challenges**

24.3.2022

**Green innovation policies**

Sven Grand

How much worse will the negative impacts of climate change become? This will obviously depend on our ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. UBS Foundation Professor Daniel Hirschi argued that achieving the necessary reduction in emissions, while maintaining a high quality of life, is possible through innovation. The innovation has the potential to combine the necessary decline in greenhouse gas emissions with sustained economic growth, and it represents closely linked to peace signals.

1.6.2022

**Revealing stereotypes**

Michelle Carlan

Michelle Carlan (Harvard Kennedy School) explained why implicit stereotypes—while not necessarily bad—can cause problems when they affect decision-making. Her research focuses on the role of teachers’ stereotypes toward immigrant school children. She found that revealing overt stereotypes to teachers affects their guiding behaviors. A result that has strong policy implications since implicit discrimination has profound consequences for the accumulation of human capital of immigrant children.

5.10.2022

**European energy policy at war**

Sven Grand

Natural gas and electricity prices in Europe have risen ten times in the last few months, for which there are different reasons, as Sven Cicala (Uvio University) explained. Besides the cost from Russia and the reduced power production in France, there is one more in particular. “The main reason is gas scarcity. Ultimately, the high prices are a symptom of this scarcity.” To solve the shortage problem, the idea is not to buy gas elsewhere, but to reduce gas use even more.

**Spin dictators**

Sven Grand

When we think of dictators, we think of powerful rulers in nations, ruling by means of fear, exercising brutal repression and censorship. But the face of tyranny has changed, explained Russian economist Sergei Guriev. Scienzi (Science Po) in the lecture at the University of Zurich. In contrast to the traditional “true dictators,” the power of today’s most successful “spin dictators” is not on spreading a perfect image of current leadership, managing government, and implementing repression and censorship with subtle instruments. Instead, they are better suited to secure their role in the face of modernisation, globalisation, and connectivity.

**Superstar firms – a threat to competition and democracy?**

Nobu Inoue

Nobu Inoue, LETTER DUFF and Abhijit Banerjee

Nobu Inoue presents Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee, presented their book “Good Economics for Hard Times,” providing a new perspective on policy debates that are shaping the discourse on most pressing global problems, such as increasing inequality or climate change. The people they discuss their applied approach to the work of politicians. By the time that inequality is to the heart of economics to identify the hidden details in complex problems and thereby provide policymakers with a better basis for decisive action. How, for example, the worldwide declining confidence in economists and, as a result, give governments, can be restored only by step.

**Good economics for hard times**

20.6.2022

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**Spending Boosted Patriotism during “New Deal,” “Korean War, and Estimates of Incidence.”**

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**Dominant firms – a threat to competition and democracy?**

Dominant firms face increased competition in their markets and must monopolize power. Why has this happened, and why did it start in 1960? The rise of dominant firms has a direct impact on customers who pay higher prices, but it also has far-reaching implications for the macroeconomy. In this Public Paper, Jan Eckehardt reviews the outcomes of the rise of dominant firms, discusses the causes and consequences, and proposes directions for policy solutions.

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The UBS Center sees itself as a platform for European experts in lectures, interviews, and papers. On the occasion of our 10th anniversary, we invite you to browse through the Center’s highlights from the past decade. What are the known researchers, who have encouraged it to continue on its path in the top of the world.

Six clusters on key economic topics

On the occasion of our 10th anniversary, we invite you to browse through the Center’s highlights from the past decade. What are the social and economic engines of populism? How can we reduce inequality? In climate? How can we keep Swiss finance in the game? Can Europe be unified? Answers to these and other important questions are provided by numerous experts in lectures, interviews, and papers made possible by the UBS Center.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Promoting dialogue

The UBS Center uses itself as a platform for dialogue and is active in various channels, creating opportunities for discourse and providing food for thought. Follow us on social media and join the discussion on key topics of our time.

YouTube

3,900 subscribers

Twitter

12,856 followers

LinkedIn

2,400 followers

Center news

10 years anniversary of creating dialogue

"I have long been impressed by the extraordinary quality of the Department. You have been able to build a world-class economics department in Zurich, which provides a great public service not just for Switzerland – it is incredibly important for world economics."

Nobel Laureate Sir Angus Deaton

About us

UBS Center at a glance

The UBS Center for Economics in Society, UBS Center in short, is an Associated Institute of the Department of Economics of the University of Zurich. It was established in 2012, enabled by a founding donation by UBS, which the bank made on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. In view of the foundation, the university named the UBS Center after its benefactor.

The UBS Center serves two main aims.

First, it enables world-class research in economics on all levels, to be conducted at the University’s Department of Economics. It thereby supports the department’s ambition to become one of the top economics departments in Europe and to make Zurich one of the best places for research in economics. The UBS Center’s other aim is to serve as a platform for dialogue between academics, business, politics, and the broader public, focusing continuous knowledge exchange. Delivering on these aims will also strengthen the position of Zurich, and Switzerland more generally, as a leading location for education and business.

UBS Foundation and management

The UBS Center is governed by and financed through an independent foundation, the UBS Foundations of Economics in Society, chaired by former Federal Councillor Kaspar Villiger.

Management and team

Director

Prof. Ernst Fehr

Assistant Director

Prof. Hans-Jurgen Yeth

Chief Operating Officer

Dr. Matthias Ammann

S staining of excellence

The UBS Center fosters world-class research in economics on all levels by enabling several permanent professorships and assistant professorships. The thematic focus of the Center’s endowed professorships is interdisciplinary and forward-looking research that covers today’s major issues relating to the economy and the financial markets.

Professors

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YOUNG TALENTS

Scholarships

The UBS Center Scholarships are scholarships awarded every year to outstanding university graduates at the Graduate School of Economics in Zurich, run by the Department of Economics at the University of Zurich.

Scholarship holders 2022

Chiau Ana

Agostina Celestina

Mata Danutreia

Christian Deck

Claudia Centi

Guebri Jeng

Uva Koom

Mia Li

Gabriele Paros

Lei Schoubert

Martin Sieunice

Gary Tschügruber

UBS Center

for Economics in Society

at the University of Zurich

A closer look

years

UBS Center

Dr. Matthias Ammann

Chief Operating Officer

Advisory board

Advisory board members

The Center’s advisory board, comprised of some of the most renowned economists of our time, including several Nobel Prize laureates, ensures the high quality of the work at the UBS Center and provides guidance on all academic matters.

Events 2023

The Center’s events come in different forums, including two annual conferences with leading representatives from the academic, private, and public sectors debating a key contemporary economic issue. The Opinions events feature top representatives from academia to voice their views in public speeches.

FORUM FOR ECONOMIC DIALOGUE

13.11.2023 | KONGRESSHAUS ZURICH

Democratization

FORUM FOR ECONOMIC DIALOGUE

13.11.2023 | KONGRESSHAUS ZURICH

WIRTSCHAFTSPRISCHEN SCHWEIZ

2.6.2023 | KONGRESSHAUS ZURICH

Federalism in crisis?

Next year’s Prisum will focus on a particular Swiss feature: federalism. We are pleased to announce Ueli Maurer, Federal Councillor from 2009 to 2022, as our keynote speaker for the event. More speakers will be announced in due course.

FORUM FOR ECONOMIC DIALOGUE

13.11.2023 | KONGRESSHAUS ZURICH

Subscribe to our newsletter and stay informed about new publications and events.

UBS Center Newsletter

Save the date