

Invitation
wiiw seminar series
"Policy Perspectives for European Integration"

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The space for an industrial policy in Europe

Thursday, September 22, 2016, 10 a.m.

wiiw, Vienna 6, Rahlgasse 3, (Library, 2nd floor)

Abstract

After the 2008 crisis, European economies are moving towards a serious divergence in terms of industrial capacities, making it more difficult to achieve the Europe 2020 goals of developing high-knowledge economic activities, expanding industry, reaching environmental sustainability and achieving greater convergence. In order to address these problems, several proposals for a return of industrial policy and public investment have recently emerged, including some action from the EU with the Juncker investment plan. The presentation will discuss the policy space that exists for a new industrial policy in Europe, taking into account the problems posed by the current institutional settings, rules on competition and State aid, restrictions for the use of Structural Funds, and also the opportunities opened up by the flagship initiatives 'An integrated industrial policy for the globalisation era', 'Smart specialisation', and the European Fund for Strategic Investment. A wide ranging proposal for a new European-level industrial policy will be presented, targeting activities associated to environmental sustainability, appropriate ICT applications, and health and public services.

Background papers include:

M. Pianta, M. Lucchese, L. Nascia, What is to be produced? The making of a new industrial policy in Europe, Report for the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, 2016, http://www.rosalux.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/Publications/What-is-to-be-produced-2016.pdf

M. Lucchese, L. Nascia, M. Pianta, Industrial policy and technology in Italy, WP University of Urbino, 2016, https://works.bepress.com/mario_pianta/134/

*Mario Pianta is Professor of Economic Policy at the University of Urbino. He was a member of the Centro Linceo Interdisciplinare of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Italy's Academy of Sciences, Braudel fellow at the European University Institute, visiting fellow at the London School of Economics, and visiting fellow at the Université de Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. He has worked on economic growth, inequality, innovation, and economic policy alternatives for Europe. His latest book is *Explaining inequality* with Maurizio Franzini, Routledge, 2016), http://works.bepress.com/mario_pianta*

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The wiiw seminar series '**Policy Perspectives for European Integration**' is the continuation of three earlier wiiw seminar series: 'Crisis management in Central, East and Southeast Europe: What is to be done?'; 'Policy options for the post-crisis economy in Central, East and Southeast Europe'; and 'EU in Crisis'. In this series, our emphasis is on issues that affect the future of the European Union: we look at the policy perspectives which may emerge after the crisis and affect the EU and its neighbourhood. Reforms of the EMU, the closer fiscal and economic cooperation of the Member States, bail-out schemes, solutions to the prevailing debt problems in the Southern Rim of the Union, the controversial relations between the EU and Russia affecting border countries and, furthermore, migration policy challenges within the EU and with neighbouring regions are topics we expect to remain of utmost importance in this and the coming years. Policies impacting on the further integration of the new Member States and future enlargements of the EU will remain an integral part of the discourse in this seminar series as well.

Univ. Doz. Dr. Robert Stehrer
Scientific Director wiiw

Dr. Sándor Richter
Organizer