

Banka Slovenije
in cooperation with
the Research Centre of the School of Economics and Business
invites you to a seminar

***Europe at a Crossroads?
Economic Challenges and How They Can Be Addressed***

Author and speaker:
Martin G. Kocher
Full Professor of Economics at the University of Vienna

The seminar will be held at the
Great Hall of Banka Slovenije
on Monday, 19 May 2025 at 10:30 CEST

Abstract:

European competitiveness has suffered lately. Recent cost increases for energy supply and other inputs have aggravated already existing problems from sluggish productivity growth throughout Europe. Aging is another reason for a reduction in potential growth. Currently, consumer sentiment and producer expectations are pessimistic. However, there are huge untapped potentials in Europa. We shall argue that, for instance, a focus on more effective innovation in connection with accessible risk capital as well as a focus on the deepening of the Single Market, following the ideas in the reports of Enrico Letta and Mario Draghi, including its extension towards the Southeast, together with an ambitious trade strategy, can create strong and sustainable growth forces.

About the speaker:

Martin Kocher is Full Professor of Economics at the University of Vienna. He held the positions of Federal Minister of Labor from 2021 to 2022 and Federal Minister of Labor and the Economy in Austria from 2022 to March 2025. Before joining the government, he was Scientific Director of the Vienna Institute for Advanced Studies, President of the Fiscal Advisory Council and Chairman of the Statistics Council. He has previously held academic positions at the Universities of Munich, East Anglia, Amsterdam and Innsbruck, where he obtained his doctorate. In Munich, he was also Dean and Dean of Studies. Martin Kocher's research centers on behavioral and experimental economics. He is interested in the effects of uncertainty and insurance on economic decision making, in analyzing cooperation and trust, in economic behavior of children and adolescents, in auctions, in behavioral public policy, and in moral behavior. His academic papers have been published in well-known outlets of the professions such as the American Economic Review, the Review of Economic Studies, Management Science, the Review of Financial Studies, and Psychological Science, among others. Martin Kocher was regular visiting professor at the Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, and the University of Gothenburg. Martin Kocher is designated Governor of the Austrian Central Bank. He will assume office in September 2025.

How to sign up:

To sign up for the seminar, please send an email to seminar@bsi.si. You can sign up by Thursday, 15 May 2025. The seminar will be held in English.