

// 18 April 2023

# ZEW LUNCH DEBATE



## TOPIC

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### IMMIGRATION AND ITS IMPACTS ON EU LABOUR MARKETS

One year on from Russia's invasion of the Ukraine, it has become clear that the effects of the war, both direct and indirect, will last for many years and permeate throughout the whole of Europe. Both the migration and employment crises pose major challenges for the EU. In our Lunch Debate, we will discuss how immigration is impacting EU labour markets.

Many countries in the EU are facing chronic labour shortages which increasingly threaten the smooth functioning of labour markets. At the same time, EU Member States are experiencing a massive influx of workforce through immigration.

How do employment, unemployment, wages or job content respond to immigration? Are there winners – and losers? Do migrants “take” jobs from domestic workers, or do they create new jobs? May immigration even be a remedy to labour market shortages? And what is the European answer to the employment challenge?

Based on a ZEW policy brief on migration policies to address labour shortages, these and other questions will be at the centre of this ZEW Lunch Debate.

## TIME&DATE

Tuesday  
18 April 2023  
12:00–02:00 pm

## VENUE

Representation  
of the State of  
Baden-Württemberg to  
the European Union

Rue Belliard 60–62  
B-1040 Brussels



Baden-Württemberg

VERTRETUNG DES LANDES BEI DER EUROPÄISCHEN UNION

## THE PANEL

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**Ben Butters** is CEO of Eurochambres, the European association of Chambers of Commerce & Industry. Previously, he acquired experience in both the EC and the EP, as well as working for a network of innovation centres. Before joining Eurochambres, he ran his own business providing EU advocacy support to small business associations from the UK.



**Barbara Kauffmann** has been Director for Employment and Social Governance, Analysis at the EC (DG EMPL) since 2015. Her current responsibilities include the European Semester coordination, EU legislative initiatives e.g. for an EU framework on minimum wages, as well as fair green and digital transition aspects.



**Katrin Sommerfeld** is head of ZEW's Junior Research Group "Integration of Migrants and Attitudes towards the Welfare State (IMES)" in ZEW's Research Unit "Labour Markets and Social Insurance". Her research focuses on migration issues such as the recent influx of refugees into Germany and Europe.



**Barbara Surdykowska** is a legal advisor at the Expert Office of the National Commission NSZZ Solidarność trade union. She works as an expert at the Institute of Public Affairs and CASE (Center for Social and Economic Analysis). Among other things, she deals with workers' social security, collective bargaining and the issue of migrants on the Polish labour market.



**Nicolas Ziebarth** is head of ZEW's Research Unit "Labour Markets and Social Insurance" and a professor of economics at the University of Mannheim. His research studies the interaction of (social) insurance systems with labour markets and population health.



Baden-Württemberg

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Wissenschaft und Praxis

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

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» 12:00 LUNCH

» 12:30 WELCOME ADDRESS

**Bodo Lehmann**

Head of the Representation of  
the State of Baden-Württemberg to the EU

PRESENTATION

**Katrin Sommerfeld**

ZEW

DEBATE (AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION WELCOME)

**Ben Butters**

Eurochambres

**Barbara Kauffmann**

DG EMPL

**Katrin Sommerfeld**

ZEW

**Barbara Surdykowska**

Solidarnosc, PL

**Moderation: Nicolas Ziebarth**

ZEW

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### About the ZEW Lunch Debates

The ZEW Lunch Debate series provides a politically-neutral platform for inspiring and spirited exchange on current challenges facing Europe. The debates in Brussels aim to shed light on different aspects of EU activities that have a particular impact on economic growth, welfare, social inclusion, and sustainability.

For enquiries, please get in touch with us at [lunchdebates@zew.de](mailto:lunchdebates@zew.de)



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