

What if Growth Lets us Down?

Challenges and Opportunities of Low Growth in Industrialized Countries

Keynote & Discussion

Invitation | 3 March 2015 | 6.00 p.m.

Hertie School of Governance | Friedrichstraße 180 | 10117 Berlin

Growth in industrialized countries has been low or even negative in recent years. And there are indications that the economy will continue to stagnate in the mid- to long-term. Faced with this development some leaders and policymakers are seeking ways to rekindle growth. Others, however, argue that in the face of environmental problems and finite resources continued growth is not desirable. All these initiatives assume that the focus of policy-makers on the GDP could and should be overcome by highlighting other aspects that make the lives of millions of citizens happier and their lifestyles more sustainable. Either way there is a need to discuss how the state and society can function when the economy stagnates. Which elements of our society depend on continued growth? How can they become less dependent on it? Labour market policies, government debt and social security systems are only a few examples of policies and institutions that are wired to rely on continued growth. What would be the consequences of continued stagnation for these institutions? How can policies be reimagined to make the most of current growth trends? And what of initiatives that look beyond GDP and put the focus on quality of life and sustainability?

This event is part of the Sustainability Days 2015 – organized by the Hertie School's Green Office, a students' initiative to promote green living.

In cooperation with:



Keynote:



László Andor Mercator Senior Fellow, Hertie School; former EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Discussants:



Henrik Enderlein Professor of Political Economy, Hertie School

Anke Hassel
Professor of Public Policy,
Hertie School



Hermann E. Ott
Senior Advisor Global
Sustainability and Welfare
Strategies,
Wuppertal Institute for Climate,
Environment and Energy

Moderation:
Julian Zuber
PhD Candidate, Member of the Hertie School's
Green Office

Registration

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If you wish to attend, please register via fax (+49-30-259 219 444) or e-mail (events@hertie-school.org).

In case of further questions, please contact Communications (+49-30-259 219 118).

The Hertie School of Governance reserves the right to publish photographic and film documentation of the event in print, online, and audiovisual formats.

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