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EUROPEAN LABOUR NETWORK FOR ECONOMIC POLICY (ELNEP)

Economic policies for full employment in Europe

The **ELNEP** was founded in autumn 2006 to provide a counterweight to mainstream policy advice in Europe. The participating institutes identified a worrying lack of diversity in the European economic policy debate, which is biased heavily towards the supply side, exhibits a knee-jerk preference for 'market' solutions over social institutions, and draws conclusions from the micro for the macro level and from national for European policies.

The analytical and forecasting activities of the **ELNEP** put greater emphasis on macro policies and consider both demand and supply side measures to be crucial in supporting growth and employment.

The network pays particular attention to issues of the labour market, employment, wages and income distribution, and wherever appropriate takes a European, rather than national, perspective: policies that may work in a single country may be counterproductive at European level.

The members of the network are financially and intellectually independent. At the same time they have institutional links to national labour movements. The regional diversity of the network ensures in-depth expertise at country level.

Currently the **ELNEP** comprises seven institutes and one individual university researcher. An extension of the network is foreseen. The present members of the network are:

- **AGORA** (Stockholm, Sweden)
- **Arbeiterkammer Wien** (Vienna, Austria)
- **Economic Council of the Labour Movement** (ECLM, Copenhagen, Denmark)
- **European Trade Union Institute for Research, Education and Health and Safety** (ETUI-REHS, Brussels, Belgium)
- **Institut de Recherches Economiques et Sociales** (IRES, Paris, France)
- **Labour Institute for Economic Research** (LIER, Helsinki, Finland)
- **Macroeconomic Policy Institute** (IMK, Düsseldorf, Germany)
- **Carlos Rodriguez Gonzalez** (Universidad del País Vasco, Bilbao, Spain)

The **ELNEP** will issue its first economic forecast and policy recommendations on 18th April 2007. There will be a press conference in Brussels and parallel activities in national capitals. The forecast is prepared using the econometric multi-country model of the ECLM (Heimdal) and the IMK's macro model of the German economy. The network operates its own web-site: <http://www.elnep.org>, from where the report can be downloaded.