



**SEMINAR OF THE EUROPEAN IDEAS  
NETWORK (EIN)  
JOINTLY WITH KONRAD-ADENAUER-  
STIFTUNG (KAS)**

**WEALTH CREATION FOR ALL -  
WHICH POLICIES HELP TO STRENGTHEN  
TRUST IN MARKET ECONOMIES?**

**9th and 10th October 2017**

**Berlin**

**VADE-MECUM of the Speakers**





# **VADE-MECUM of the Speakers**





**Christian ARNDT,  
(HfWU Nuertingen-Geislingen University)**

Christian Arndt studied International Economics, specializing in Econometrics and Economic Policy, at the University of Tübingen and at the University of Los Andes in Merida (Venezuela) from 1996 until 2002.

Research Consultant at the Institute for Applied Economic Research at the University of Tübingen (2002-2009). Received his doctoral degree in 2008 at the University of Hohenheim. Since 2009, Professor at the HfWU Nuertingen-Geislingen University.



**Laura KOHLER,  
(etventure Startup Hub)**

Laura Kohler became managing director of the etventure Startup Hub GmbH in Berlin in December 2014. Since then she drives startup building, startup support and ecosystem building. She also leads several European Innovation and Technology projects making use of the broad business building and innovation management experiences of etventure and connects established corporate organizations to disruptive startups combining the best of both worlds. One of the major European projects of etventure Startup Hub is the ecosystem-building support action Be-IoT for the Europeans Platform Initiative.

Laura graduated from the University of Bochum with a degree in PR and Communication Management and holds an MBA in General Management from the Berlin School of Economics and Law. After university she joined the international media company Bertelsmann. She worked in Corporate Communications of the holding and E-Commerce at the traditional Bertelsmann Book Club in Berlin and afterwards built up the Bertelsmann innovation lab Bevation focusing on digital B-to-C-businesses and using the open innovation approach combining the professionalism of corporate employees working as entrepreneurs with the spirit of young entrepreneurs from outside Bertelsmann.



**Carsten MÜLLER MDB,  
Committee of Economic Affairs and Energy**

Born in 1970, Braunschweig, Germany. Graduated 1998 in Law from the University of Göttingen. Works since 2003 as CEO in different mid-sized companies. Multiple positions within the Christian Democratic Party, among others as Member of the CDU Niedersachsen State Executive Committee. MdB from 2005-2009 and again since 2013.



**Luděk NIEDERMAYER MEP,  
Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs**

Luděk Niedermayer was born on 13 March 1966 in Brno, in the Czech Republic. He graduated from Masaryk University in theoretical cybernetics, mathematical informatics and systems theory. In 1991, he joined the Czech National Bank, where he took part in a training programme aimed at the financial markets. After five years he became the youngest member of the board of the Czech National Bank. In December 2000, he was appointed Vice-Governor and stayed on in that function until 2002. He participated in the analysis of the Czech National Bank's monetary policy and in its changing. Currently, he is active in working groups in the IMF and the IBRD.

After leaving the Czech National Bank, he started to work in the private sector, becoming a Director in Deloitte Czech Republic (2008 – 2014). Luděk Niedermayer received a Gold Medal for merit in the financial sector from Masaryk University in 2009.  
MEP since 2014.



**Markus PIEPER MEP,  
Chairman of the Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Circle (SME Circle)  
of the EPP Group**

Born in 1963. Münsterland (North Rhine-Westphalia), Germany. Studied geography, economics and regional planning, University of Hanover. Doctorate: Changing Significance of Location Factors in Economic Terms. Project Director in international management and municipal consultancy firm (1989–1994). Managing Director, Osnabrück Chamber of Commerce (1994–2004). Lecturer at the University of Osnabrück (1995–2004). Since 2007 Member of board of trustees, Max-Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedecine. 1999–2004, Vice-Chairman, Federation for Safety

at Work, Hanover. Since 2004, Vice-Chairman, German and European Policy Education Institute North Rhine-Westphalia (DEPB). Since 2004, Coopted Member, CDU Steinfurt District Executive, CDU Münster Executive. Since 2007, Member, North Rhine-Westphalia CDU Executive. Since 2008 member of the CDU Borken District Executive. MEP since 2004.



**Hans-Gert POTTERING,  
Former President of the European Parliament, Chairman of the Konrad  
Adenauer Foundation**

Born in 1945, Bersenbrueck, Germany. Graduate of Law, Political Science and History, Universities of Bonn and Geneva (1968–1973). Received doctoral degree in 1974. Since 1995 Honorary Professor at the University of Osnabrück. Multiple positions within the Christian Democrats. MEP from 1979 to 2014, among others as Chairman of the EPP group in the European Parliament 1999–2009. 12th President of the European Parliament (2007–2009). Since 2010 Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.



**Paulo RANGEL MEP,  
EIN Chairman, Vice- Chairman of the EPP Group in the European  
Parliament Responsible for Political Strategy and the European Ideas  
Network**

Paulo Rangel is a Member of the European Parliament since 2009 and vice-chairman of the EPP Group, responsible for the EPP's think tank, European Ideas Network. Since 2015, Mr. Rangel is also vice-chairman of the EPP. Member of the Constitutional Affairs Committee and member of the Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Mr. Rangel is as well Head of the Portuguese PSD Delegation and Administrator of the Robert Schuman Foundation, since 2009. Former Member of the Portuguese Parliament, on the 10th legislature, Mr. Rangel was the Chairman of PSD parliamentary group in 2008-2009. Prior to this, Paulo Rangel was Deputy Secretary of State in the Ministry of Justice under the 16th constitutional government. Law graduate, by the Catholic University of Oporto, Mr. Rangel has attended a master degree in juridical-political sciences, by the University of Coimbra, and attended a Doctorate in Public Law, by the Law faculty of Nova University of Lisbon. Lecturer in the Law Faculty of the Law Faculty of the Portuguese Catholic University and lecturer of the MBA in the Porto Business School. Mr Rangel is a member of the board of directors of the Porto Trade Association, chairman of the General Assembly of RAR Group and regular commentator in various branches of media. Mr. Rangel has made many speeches and lectures, scholarly articles and books on legal, political and constitutional issues, including *Repensar o Poder Judicial*, Publicações Universidade Católica, 2001, *O Estado do Estado*, D. Quixote, 2009. Research work: with the DAAD in Frankfurt, with the European Institute in Florence, the University of Osnabrück, the University of Upsala, the University of Lausanne, the University of Bologna, the University of Genoa and the University of Freiburg. Awarded the Grosse Verdienstkreuz mit Stern by the Federal Republic of German (2009); the Council of Europe's René Cassin Prize (1989); the D. António Ferreira Gomes Prize (1986).



**Sofia RIBEIRO MEP,  
Member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs**

Sofia Ribeiro, born in 1976, is originally from the Autonomous Region of the Azores, whose interests she defends with pride in the functions she performs. She has a degree in Mathematics (2000) and a postgraduate degree in School Administration (2008), both from the University of the Azores. She held teaching positions in public education in the Azores Region from 1999 to 2005. In 2004, Sofia Ribeiro became a member of the Azorean Democratic Union of Teachers (SDPA), becoming its Vice President in 2007 and then assuming its Presidency. She was also a member of the Secretariat of the National Federation of Education (FNE) from 2005 to 2014, member of the Regional Council of Strategic Dialogue and Vice-President of UGT-Açores from 2010 to 2014. Sofia Ribeiro was also a member of the Regional Advisory Commission on Women's Rights (2007-2010) and was a member of the Regional Council for Strategic Coordination of the Autonomous Region of the Azores (2010-2014). Sofia Ribeiro has been an MEP since 2014, being a member of the Portuguese delegation of the European People's Party. In the course of her current duties, she is a full member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and the Delegation for Relations with the United States and a substitute member of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the Delegation for Relations with Canada.



**DR. Klaus-Heiner RÖHL,  
Senior Economist, Cologne Institute of Economic Research**

Born 1968 in Buchholz, Lower Saxony. Studies in political economics at Kiel University, diploma in 1993. Postgraduate studies and work as research assistant at Dresden University of Technology from 1994 to 2000. Doctoral thesis "Saxony's Agglomerations – Innovation and Growth Poles for Regional Economic Development?". From 2001 to 2002 Research Fellow at Ifo Institut for Economic Research. Since march 2002 Researcher at Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft Köln (Cologne Institute for Economic Research), Capital Office Berlin. Since august 2010 Senior Economist in the research unit "Structural Change and Competition".

Scientific focus:

- Small and Medium Enterprises (SME), Entrepreneurship and Start-ups
- Business Regulation and Administrative Burden
- Regional Economics



**Paul RÜBIG MEP,  
Group Vice-Coordinator of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and Member of the Committee on Budgets**

Born in 1953. Upper Austria. Ing. Mag. Dr. in business management, Industrialist (blacksmithing, plasma and vacuum industries); Member of the Upper Austria Land Assembly and Chairman of the EU Membership Committee (1991-1995); Member of the Austrian Nationalrat (1996); Chairperson of the WIFI Austria, Institute for Economic Promotion of the Upper Austrian Economic Chamber(1990-1996); Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce in Upper Austria; President of the SME Union since 2001; Vice-President of the Paneuropean Union in Austria. MEP since 1996.



**Ludger SCHUKNECHT,  
Chief Economist & Head of the Directorate General Fiscal Policy and International Finance and Monetary Policy at the German Ministry of Finance**

Born in 1962, Gelsenkirchen, Germany. Research Fellow and Doctoral Student at Universität Konstanz (1988-1992). Economist at the IMF (1992-1996) and Economist at the research department at the WTO (1997-1999). Head of the ECB's fiscal surveillance section (1999-2007). Senior Advisor, Directorate General Economics of the ECB (2007-2011). Since October 2011 Head of the Directorate General Fiscal

Policy and International Financial and Monetary Policy and Chief Economist, German Federal Ministry of Finance.





**Arjen SIEGMANN**

**Economist (Academic Institute of CDA, Den Haag)**

Siegmann studied econometrics and concluded his PhD in 2003, with a thesis highlighting the “Optimal Financial Decision Making under Loss Averse Preferences”. He worked as a post-doc for the Netherlands Central Bank (DNB) and in the same year, he received a NWO scholarship, where he worked as a post-doc researcher at the Vrije Universiteit and part-time as a researcher at De Nederlandsche Bank from 2003 to 2007.

He became an assistant professor at the VU University in Amsterdam in 2008 and an associate professor in 2010. His publications and fascination are in the field of the financial economy, hedge funds, pension funds and housing market. Within the Scientific Institute, Siegmann engaged in the economic issues and the development of Christian Democratic thinking about socio-economic issues.





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**Published by :** Publications Team  
Press and Communications Service  
EPP Group in the European Parliament

**Editor :** Pedro López de Pablo

**Coordination :** Guillermo Martínez Casán

**Layout :** Véronique De Jonghe

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