



British-German Alumni: Staying connected in 2020

Facing the economic impacts of COVID-19

1745-1900, Tuesday 28 April 2020

In association with the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office and the British Embassy in Berlin and with support from the Sir Heinz Koepller Trust and Bridge International Dialogue.

Panellists

Simon Mair

Research Fellow, University of Surrey

Simon is an ecological economist, trying to understand the current economy in order to build a better one. Simon's research interests include the history of economic thought, utopian economics, and various kinds of models. He is currently working the ways labour and capital have been conceptualised in different theories of production, and where energy ought to enter into these theories; Stock Flow Consistent modelling of no-growth economies; and exploring the economic potential of utopian fiction. Simon holds a PhD in Ecological Economics from the University of Surrey (UK).

Ulrich Hoppe

Director General, German-British Chamber of Industry and Commerce

Ulrich Hoppe is Director General of the German-British Chamber of Industry and Commerce. Before joining the German-British Chamber in May 1998 he held the position of Vice President and Treasurer of the German American Chamber of Commerce in New York. He joined the Chamber network in 1993 as a Finance Manager at the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce in Bonn.

Robert Woods

Director of EU Analysis and head of Global Economics, Her Majesty's Treasury

Robert Woods is Director of EU Analysis and head of Global Economics at HM Treasury. Since joining in 1988, he has worked in a variety of economist roles on the domestic and international sides of the Treasury, including Director of Macroeconomics and Head of Fiscal and Macroeconomic Policy. He also did a 4 year secondment to the Bank of England working on monetary policy issues from 2010-2014. He holds a BA in Economics from the University of Cambridge and an MSc in Economics from the University of Warwick.

Hanni Schölermann

Senior Economist, European Central Bank

Hanni Schölermann is a Senior Economist in the Directorate-General International and European Relations of the European Central Bank. Prior to joining the ECB, she worked at the IMF Europe Office in Brussels. She holds a degree in Economics from the University of London and a Master's degree in Public Policy from the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin.

Sydney Nash**British-German Forum Alumnus**

Sydney Nash is the Policy Team Leader at the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), the UK's leading automotive trade association, representing more than 700 companies. Sydney is responsible for government relations and delivery of SMMT's policy agenda and has lead responsibility for developing and delivering the automotive sector's Brexit and international trade strategies.

Lorna Simmonds**Team Lead for Europe, Economics Unit, Foreign and Commonwealth Office**

Lorna Simmonds leads the Europe Team within the Economics Unit of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The Unit has an analytical focus and looks at economic and political economy developments across the world. Previous posts within the Civil Service include the Department for Exiting the European Union, and the Department for Work and Pensions.

Discussion questions

Economies across the world are already feeling the immense impact of the current global pandemic. The impact upon economies will ultimately shape our future. What will the world look like in 6 months, a year or even 10 years from now?

Critical questions to be addressed will include:

- How can the UK, Germany and other partners work together to lessen global economic impact?
- Will economies bounce back or be significantly changed - for example a rejection of consumerism and hyper consumption?
- What is the future of capitalism likely to look like post COVID-19?
- Will we see a move towards universal income?
- What about food security and the link to national/European agricultural policy?
- Do the international just-in-time supply chains need to change?
- With what implications for intra Europe and global trade and the nature of borders in relation to border closures and export controls?
- How can Germany and the UK assist in lessening the economic impact on developing countries?