



06/2013



Knowledge

Good ideas to
market

Regional a
social bene

Upcoming event: "Bright minds and ingenious ideas - Europe as an Innovation Union"

Thursday, 25 April 2013
12 - 14.ooh

The Innovation Union was presented as a flagship initiative of the Europe 2020 strategy. Its programme is ambitious and wide-ranging. Which role does innovation play? How do we make the EU more innovation-friendly? What obstacles are there? How do we plan to promote innovation? How can the existing creative potential be used more efficiently to safeguard growth and prosperity in Europe in the long run? And last, but not least: Does the European Union itself require a new set-up to achieve these goals?

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Upcoming event: "North-South Relations in the EU"

Friday, 12 April 2013
Athens

On April 12th, the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) together with its Greek partner organisations "Forum for Greece" and "European Expression" will host the conference "North-South Relations in the EU: Clashes of National Stereotypes in a Period of Economic Crisis" in downtown Athens. We are pleased to have Kostis Hatzidakis, Minister for Development and Infrastructure of the Hellenic Republic, as speaker for our conference, as well as Jorgo Chatzimarkakis MEP and Prof. Theodoros Pelagidis, among others.

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Germany's social market economy - a successful model based on principles and embedded adaptation mechanisms

The story of Germany's social market economy is a story of success, but also one of overcoming hurdles, adapting to challenges over time and - paradoxically- holding on to tradition while allowing everything to be overhauled and modernized. Professor Karl-Heinz Paqué, former State Minister of Finance of Saxony Anhalt, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management at the Otto von Guericke University and Michael Theurer MEP, Chair of the Committee on Budgetary Control, discussed the features of Germany's



Es gibt keine Alternative zu Frieden und Zusammenarbeit

Ist es möglich und sinnvoll, dem derzeit so gut wie bedeutungslosen regionalen Verbund südasiatischer Staaten SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) neues Leben einzuhauchen oder sollte besser eine neue Form der Kooperation gefunden werden? Um frischen Wind in diese Diskussion zu bringen, suchte eine Delegation aus Südasiens - Politiker, Journalisten und Akademiker aus Pakistan, Indien, Bangladesch und Sri Lanka - Denkanstöße in politischen Gesprächen in Brüssel. Die Gespräche in Brüssel über die Entstehung der

social market economy and debated whether it could serve as a blueprint for Europe. The admirable resilience of the German social economic model is constantly being achieved through flexibility and adaptability.

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Europäischen Union wie auch über verschiedene Visionen für ihre Zukunft, ermutigten die Teilnehmer, mit neuem Elan ergebnisoffen über eine engere Kooperation zwischen den südasiatischen Staaten nachzudenken. „Es gibt einfach keine Alternative zu Frieden und Zusammenarbeit“ war die einhellige Meinung.

mehr

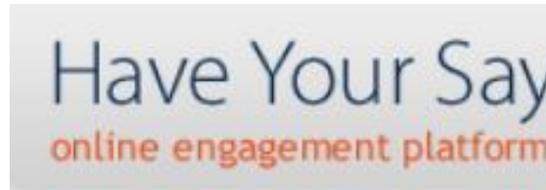


Debating Europe! - Bringing together German and Greek scholars and students

"It was just the right time to introduce such kind of project to Greek students", Prof. Heinz-Jürgen Axt concluded after his second lecture in as many days. "When times are good, anybody can do pro-European showcase events. However, it is even more necessary to discuss Europe and European integration when times are rough. It is no self-adulation to argue that this has been well achieved."

It was the first time that Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) teamed up with Greek NGO Evropaiki Ekfrasi (European Expression) and two major Greek universities to arrange a series of lectures which aimed at strengthening the significance of European integration among Greek students. Professor Axt, a Jean Monnet Chairholder at the University of Duisburg-Essen, together with representatives of FNF and Evropaiki Ekfrasi thus visited two Greek Jean Monnet chairs at the University of the Peloponnese in Tripoli and the University of the Aegean in Mytilini to debate the pros and cons of European integration and possible limits of European solidarity with local students.

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Consultations on Media Pluralism and Freedom in Europe

The European Commission has launched consultations on media freedom and pluralism and on audiovisual media regulator independence. Freedom of expression and media pluralism are core values of the European Union and are enshrined in Article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. The European Commission's Vice-President Neelie Kroes: "In the EU we face threats to our fundamental freedoms such as media freedom and pluralism across Europe. (...) Media Freedom is an important part of democracy, I urge you to give your views to these consultations."

In the meantime, the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) has also prepared a report on an "EU Charter: standard-settings for media freedom across the EU". EP Rapporteur, Renate Weber, MEP ALDE calls on the Member States and the European Union "to respect, guarantee, protect and promote the fundamental rights to freedoms of expression and information, and media freedom and pluralism."

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Wichtige Termine

04.04.2013 [Governing Council of the ECB](#), Frankfurt 08.04.2013 European Liberal Forum event in collaboration with FNF, the Centre for Liberal Studies and Open Society Foundations: "[You cannot walk straight when the road is bent. Integration of the Roma in Central and Southeast Europe: liberal policy recommendations](#)" 12.04.2013 FNF event: "[North-South Relations in the EU: Clashes of National Stereotypes in a Period of Economic Crisis](#)", Athens 12. - 13.04.2013 [Meeting of the Eurogroup](#), Dublin 15. - 18.04.2013 [European Parliament Plenary](#), Strasbourg 25.04.2013 FNF event: "[Bright minds and ingenious ideas – Europe as an Innovation Union](#)", Brussels

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