

Argmax: Economics News, Data and Analysis

This website contains economics news, data, and analysis, as well as various other economics related services. My name is John Irons and I am currently the Research and Policy Director at the Economic Policy Institute, a DC-based think tank. (This is a personal web site, and statements on this site do not necessarily represent the views or policies of EPI.)

The author of Argmax was formerly the director of tax and budget policy at the Center for American Progress, and before that a senior economic research and policy analyst, and Staff Economist at OMB Watch, a Washington DC nonprofit organization. And prior to that, he was an economics professor at Amherst College. I have a B.A. in economics from Swarthmore College and a Ph.D. in economics from MIT.

Austrianeconomists

The bloggers:

Pete Boettke, George Mason University, pboettke@gmu.edu
Chris Coyne, West Virginia University, chris.coyne@mail.wvu.edu
Peter Leeson, George Mason University, pleeson@gmu.edu
Fred Sautet, George Mason University, fsautet@gmu.edu

Motivation:

In 1891 the American Academy of Political and Social Science invited Eugen von Böhm-Bawerk to summarize the theoretical insights and practical implications of the Austrian School of Economics for an English language audience largely ignorant of these developments in modern political economy. He titled his essay "The Austrian Economists."

We have taken that title ourselves, and our purpose will be similar though we assume that our audience will more or less have heard of the scientific, public policy and ideological importance of the Austrian School of Economics. However, it is our opinion that there are many confusions in the academic discourse about the relevance of the core insights of Menger, Bohm-Bawerk, Mises, Hayek, Lachmann, Rothbard and Kirzner. It is our aim to clarify these confusions and demonstrate the continuing relevance of this tradition of economics and political economy for academic and public policy debates.

Gary Becker's and Richard Posner's Blog

Gary Stanley Becker (born December 2, 1930) is an economist and a Nobel laureate. Born in Pottsville, Pennsylvania, Becker earned a B.A. at Princeton University in 1951 and a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in 1955. He taught at Columbia University from 1957 to 1968, and then returned to Chicago, where he holds joint appointments with the department of economics and sociology and the graduate school of business. Becker won the John Bates Clark Medal in 1967, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1992, and received the United States' Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2007. [1]

Becker was one of the first economists to branch into what were traditionally considered topics belonging to sociology, including racial discrimination, crime, family organization, and

drug addiction. (Cf. Freakonomics and Rational addiction.) He is known for arguing that many different types of human behavior can be seen as rational and utility maximizing. His approach can include altruistic behavior by defining individuals' utility appropriately. He is also among the foremost exponents of the study of human capital. Becker is also credited with the "rotten kid theorem". He is married to Guity Nashat, an historian of the Middle East whose research interests overlap his own. (Wikipedia)

Richard Allen Posner (born January 11, 1939, in New York City) is currently a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. He is one of the most influential living legal theorists and a major voice in the law and economics movement, which he helped start while a professor at the University of Chicago Law School. He currently serves as a lecturer at the Law School.

Posner is the author of nearly 40 books on jurisprudence, legal philosophy, and several other topics, including *The Problems of Jurisprudence*; *Sex and Reason*; *Overcoming Law*; *Law, Pragmatism and Democracy*; and *The Problematics of Moral and Legal Theory*.

Since many years Prof. Becker and Prof. Posner write a blog about economical, political and sociological subjects. Their blog is cited in many newspapers and magazines.

B.de Long Blog (Berkeley)

Blog of Brad DeLong, Professor of Economics at U.C Berkeley and a Research Associate of the NBER; a Fair and Balanced Economist Member of the Reality-Based Community

Eurointelligence

Eurointelligence is the independent internet-based service for economic commentary and analysis of the euro area.

Eurointelligence is committed. It is our conviction that the euro area's interests are underrepresented in the European media and policy circles. We will take an unashamedly euro area perspective.

Eurointelligence is exclusive. We offer insights as to what policy makers are likely to decide and analyse the economic consequences of these decisions.

Eurointelligence is independent. Unlike commercial or investment banks we are independent of national governments and European institutions, which allows us to challenge conventional wisdom.

Eurointelligence is free – for an initial period. We will launch a subscription service later this year. The website will be fully and freely accessible until then.

What we offer:

A daily morning news briefing of the European media for readers with an interest in euro area news beyond the national newspaper coverage. It is not intended as an encyclopedic account but as a pointer to important or unusual information. It has its own individual style, is about 2-3 pages long and highly readable. It will be available online each working day before 9am CET.

A weekly ECB Watch. Every Friday customers will be offered an in-depth intelligence briefing about what policy makers are likely to do and the economic consequences of their actions. Its focus is on monetary policy, as well as fiscal policy and structural policies as

discussed in the Eurogroup and ECOFIN meetings. It will be available online every Friday before 12 pm CET. ECB Watch Updates will be available throughout the week.

Regular contributions to our discussion series. We invite experts with contrasting views to state their case on important and controversial topics. These contributions should provide a fresh new angle.

Briefing Notes, a concise summary of arguments on current topics. They come with graphics, attached documents and many links. Briefing notes serve as a convenient search tool for people in need of in-depth background information.

Weekly entries in our two webblogs. EMU MONITOR provides informed debate among a group of academic experts on the macroeconomics in the euro area. MUNCHAU'S BLOG is a more general discussion blog about the euro area by Wolfgang Munchau, who has known to many readers through his regular Financial Times columns. Both blogs have new entries at least once a week.

In publication reviews we offer a brief comment on recently released reports and data for the euro area together with the respective links. At least every two weeks we also review one of the topical books, working papers and academic articles.

Our pages contain many analytical charts. Daily updates of market rates will be uploaded every morning. Monthly, quarterly, bi-annual, annual and irregular updates will be online soon after they become available.

We provide one of the most extensive lists of links to data sources and reports in the euro area currently available. We also include newsfeeds from Eurostat and Euractiv with the latest information about statistical releases, financial services and the political debate about the future of the EU.

Our advanced search function allows comprehensive screening of all current and archived documents including PDF-files.

Eurozone Watch

Eurozone Watch grew out of two observations: The first is that a lot of important things happening in the economics and economic governance of the euro area get lost in the sheer volume of (mainly national) news reported every day. Although many economic and political developments in EMU member countries have a direct impact for the partners in the Eurozone, these are all too rarely assessed in the context we today live in: a common economy with a common currency. This blog provides a space to bring together and discuss the most salient current developments from a euro-economics and euro-politics perspective.

The second observation is that an increasing number of researchers in the EU and other places in the world compile interesting data on how EMU really works in practice; however, the debate on the policy implications of these findings remains underdeveloped. This is perhaps unsurprising as on most issues there is not even a consensus on the status quo analysis. Therefore Eurozone Watch is also supposed to provide researchers and practitioners of EMU with space for this policy debate.

The two founders of the blog are Daniela Schwarzer and Sebastian Dullien.

Sebastian is a trained economist with working experience in international organisations and think tanks. At present, he is working as an economics correspondent at the Financial Times Deutschland. You can find more information on his work on his personal website www.dullien.net.

Daniela is a political economist. She is currently a senior fellow with the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, (SWP) specialising on EU issues and France. Before, she worked with the Financial Times Deutschland for five years as an editorialist and France correspondent.

MarginalRevolution

Marginal Revolution is a blog focused on economics run by economists Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok, both of whom teach at George Mason University. The blog's slogan is "Small steps toward a much better world." The site is updated daily and focuses on current events and newly released reports or books. The "small steps" advocated by the slogan are usually free-market-based policies, ranging from new forms of property rights to following the results of behavioral economics studies. As of July 2005, Marginal Revolution had a BlogPulse rank of 88, the highest of any economics blog. *(Wikipedia)*

Nouriel Roubini Blog (NYU Prof.)

RGE Monitor delivers ahead-of-the-curve global economic insights that financial professionals need to know. Our analysts define the key geostrategic debates and continuously distill the best thinking on all sides. This intelligence, along with exclusive analysis from internationally-known experts, is accessed through a powerful Web interface that provides both focused snapshots and deeper perspectives. Whether you are establishing direction, executing transactions, influencing decisions or performing in-depth research, RGE Monitor is your essential resource.

Our Story

RGE Monitor was founded in 2004 by a prestigious team of economic and political experts. Today, thousands of senior managers at first-tier public and private financial institutions rely on our insights. Our clients include prominent asset managers, hedge funds, commercial banks, investment banks, policy organizations and universities. Thanks to our innovative content and services, RGE Monitor has been named one of the world's best economics websites by BusinessWeek, The Economist, Forbes and the Wall Street Journal.

The Knowledge Problem

Economics blog by Northwestern University Senior Lecturer Lynne Kiesling.

VOX: Research-based Policy Analysis and Commentary from Europe's leading Economists

VoxEU.org is a policy portal set up by the Centre for Economic Policy Research (www.CEPR.org) in conjunction with a consortium of national sites, including the Italian site LaVoce (which provided inspiration for the idea and help from the start, (www.LaVoce.info), the French site Telos (www.telos-eu.com), and the Spanish site Sociedad Abierta.

Vox aims to promote research-based policy analysis and commentary by leading scholars. The intended audience is economists in governments, international organisations, academia and the private sector as well as journalists specializing in economics, finance and business. Each member of the consortium shares its content with the others so that the best contributions will appear in English, Italian, French and Spanish. This ensures that the best ideas will reach much deeper into the policy-making community in Europe and beyond than they would if posted or published in a single language or newspaper. Consortium members decide independently which items to translate.

Vox runs on DRUPAL, an open source content management system. DRUPAL has its origins in a student project at the University of Antwerp.