

Economy talks of the EES at Tegernsee in October 2024

New elections, updated EES constitution and the topic “securing prosperity”

This year's EES General Assembly and Autumn Economic Talks took place in Rottach-Egern/Tegernsee in Bavaria on October 24. The annual financial results for 2023 were accepted unanimously and the members of the Management Board and Supervisory Board were discharged without dissenting votes. Dr. Ingo Friedrich was re-elected as EES-President with 100% of the votes cast. Among other issues, the statutes were updated to include the topic of data protection and at the same time streamlined with the deletion of paragraph 14 on the EES Secretary General. In addition, twelve new Senate members received their certificates in a ceremony. The economic talks that followed the General Assembly discussed the topic of “Securing prosperity in challenging times”.

“It is a great pleasure to represent this extraordinary committee,” thanked the unanimously re-elected EES President Dr. Ingo Friedrich for the trust that had been shown in him and summarized the success of the efforts of recent years as follows. “We are on the right course to becoming one of the most important players in European politics.”



The EES General Assembly 2024 and Autumn Economic Talks in Rottach-Egern/Tegernsee were very well attended. EES President Dr. Ingo Friedrich was unanimously confirmed in his position for a further two-year term.

The number of Senate members is growing every year. “But it was never our goal to build a large organization with as many members as possible. Rather, we wanted to form an exclusive circle of representatives from economics, politics and science who collaborate, form a network and support each other. And that is exactly what we realize. In future, we will present the exclusivity of our Senate members and our organization even more clearly to the public,” announced Rolf von Hohenhau, Chairman of the EES Supervisory Board.

“We are very well positioned in terms of content. And we are able to present our topics at European level through our network in close cooperation with our partner organizations such as SME Connect - and thus constructively support EU policy,” stated Michael Jaeger. As an example, the EES Managing Director and President of the Taxpayers Association of Europe (TAE) referred to the initiative to reduce bureaucracy <https://www.stop-eu-bureaucracy.com>, which was also the topic of the monthly online briefing EES Live at the beginning of November 2024. As a result of the EU Taxonomy Regulation on its own, European companies are facing a tsunami of additional reporting obligations that many SMEs in particular will struggle to cope with. It's high time to ring the alarm bell - was the conclusion of the EES Live event. The EES will vigorously support the Stop Bureaucracy Initiative with the expertise

of its Senate members. It is important to prevent the already ailing economies of many European countries from being further weakened in global competition.



The EES General Assembly 2024 welcomed 12 new senators (in the pictures, each with certificates in hand). Picture above (left to right): Tobias Winkler, Andreas Fasching, Head of the EES office in Munich, Carmen Sanne-Salomon, Irene Saenger, Stefanie Wissler, Zuhai Klaasen, Dr. Ingo Friedrich and Ekrem Yigitdoel. The following two pictures show the new Senate members Tanja Jahnke, Franziska Frosch, Matthias Holder and Moritz Diehl as well as Stephan Wuehr, Kevin Scarsella von Haag and Datty Ruth.



Flipping the switch

“We must soberly state that Germany has now brought up the rear in terms of growth among the established industrialized nations. Our economy has been shrinking for two years now. The main reasons for this are bureaucracy and excessively high energy prices, but also the lack of skilled staff,” Friedrich explained. The headlines of the past days on the postponement of billion-euro investment projects in semiconductor plants and thus in the latest technologies of two American high-tech companies (Wolfspeed in Ensdorf/Saarland, Intel in Magdeburg/Saxony-Anhalt) showed the extent to which Germany is losing its attraction as investment location for companies from all over the world.

The strict ban of combustion engines by 2035 should also not be allowed to happen as it would hinder research and development of CO₂ free fuels. Friedrich: “We will still have billions of vehicles with combustion engines worldwide over the coming decades.” The development of CO₂-reduced or CO₂-free fuels is therefore of enormous importance not only for aircraft, but also for cars and trucks in particular - and hence for the European automotive industry. “There is an opportunity to flip the switch with a different policy and achieve better results, as has been achieved in Spain and Greece, for example,” said the EES President. And, of course, a different policy in Germany could also set the course in the right direction.

In this context, Tobias Winkler, Deputy EES General Secretary and directly elected member of the German Bundestag in district 243 (Fürth and Neustadt a.d. Aisch/Bad Windsheim districts), gave a brief assessment of government policy in Berlin. He predicted the near end of the ‘traffic light coalition’ and explained that the CDU/CSU were well prepared to take over government responsibility.

How can the value of assets be protected?

During the economic talks, two financial market experts, Robin Beugels, Chief Investment Officer Hauck Aufhäuser Lampe Privatbank AG, and investment professional Norbert Brestel, discussed this topic. Their common tenor: if you want to secure and even increase the value of your assets in the long term, you have to bet on the stock markets.

Finally, at the Senate Dinner at Freihaus Brenner in Bad Wiessee, Katalin Fuerstin von Wrede gave an insight into her philosophy of life and how she balances her job as Managing Director of Fuerst Carl Schlossbrauerei Ellingen with her private life as mother and wife.



A worthy conclusion to an interesting EES event: the emotional and very personal speech by Katalin Fuerstin von Wrede.

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