



PROF DR TOBIAS THOMAS

CURRICULUM VITAE

5th most influential economist in Austria according to the Economist-Ranking 2019 of Die Presse, F.A.Z. and Neue Zürcher Zeitung (2018: 6th; since 2020 no longer listed in accordance with the ranking's regulations due to the current position at Statistics Austria), quotations in Austrian media in 2023: 1,788 (2022: 1,601)

Residency: Vienna (Austria), Citizenship: German
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CURRENT POSITIONS

Austrian Federal Statistical Office (Statistics Austria) Director General, Vienna (Austria)	since 06/2020
Austrian Productivity Board (PROD) Vice Chairman of the Austrian Council of Economic Advisors on Productivity and Competitiveness, Vienna (Austria)	since 05/2022
University of Graz Graz Schumpeter Centre, Graz (Austria) Professor of Economics	since 07/2024

FURTHER BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

SCIENTIFIC BOARDS

German Economic Association/Verein für Socialpolitik Member of the Standing Field Committee on Economic Policy	since 03/2024
Member of the Standing Field Committee on Economic Systems and Institutional Economics	since 09/2018
Complexity Science Hub (CSH) Member of the CSH Science Advisory Board, Vienna (Austria)	since 09/2021

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) Representative, New York (USA)	since 06/2020
United Nations Conference of European Statisticians (UNCES) Representative, Genève (Switzerland)	since 06/2020
European Statistical System Committee (ESSC) Representative, Luxemburg (Luxemburg)	since 06/2020
OECD Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy (CSSP) Representative, Paris (France)	since 06/2020

FORMER POSITIONS**Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf**

Professor of Economics (adjunct), Düsseldorf (Germany)

06/2019-06/2024

Lecturer of Economics

10/2012-05/2019

EcoAustria – Institute for Economic Research

Director, Vienna (Austria)

01/2017-05/2020

Media Tenor International AG

Research Director, headquarter in Zurich (Switzerland) and offices in Hanoi (Vietnam), New York (USA), Pretoria (South Africa)

12/2013-12/2016

German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK)

Director Economic Policy in Berlin (Germany) and Brussels (Belgium)

09/2008-11/2013

Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg

Institute of Public Finance, Chair: Prof. Dr. Klaus W. Zimmermann

Senior Research Assistant (post doc)

07/2006-08/2008

Research and Teaching Assistant

08/2001-06/2006

FORMER BOARDS AND COMMITTEES (SELECTION)**Austrian Statistical Society (ÖSG)**

Vice President, Vienna (Austria)

09/2020-03/2024

Commission Future of Statistics (KomZS)

Member of the High-Level-Expert Group for the strategic planning of the German Federal Statistical Office (Destatis), Wiesbaden (Germany)

05/2022-01/2024

Partnership Group (ESS-PG)

Elected Member, Strategic Advice Body to the ESSC, Athens (Greece)

01/2021-12/2023

Austrian Pension Commission

Scientific Advisor, Vienna (Austria)

11/2019-12/2023

Central European University (CEU)

CMDS Fellow, Budapest (Hungary)

07/2018-10/2022

ECONWATCH Society for Policy Analysis

Chairman and Founder, Berlin (Germany)

11/2003-11/2019

RESEARCH STAYS (SELECTION)**Columbia University**

Research stay at the invitation of Nobel Prize-Laureate Joseph E. Stiglitz, New York (USA)

08/2019

Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance

Research stay at the invitation of Kai A. Konrad, Munich (Germany)

05/2018

ACADEMIC EDUCATION**Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg**

Academic title: Habilitation in Economics

Thesis (cumulative): "Empirical Inquiries in Public and Media Economics"

03/2021

Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg

PhD-Studies in Economics

Academic title: Dr. rer. pol (PhD in Economics, summa cum laude)

Thesis (in German): "Luxury. Status Seeking and Conspicuous Consumption in Microeconomic Models of Human Behavior"

08/2001-06/2006

Technical University Berlin

Studies in Economics

Academic title: Diplom-Volkswirt (MSc in Economics)

Diploma thesis (in German): „Human Capital, Technological Change and Employment. An Integrative Model Approach“

10/1997-09/2000

Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität of Bonn

Studies in Economics

04/1995-09/1997

SCIENTIFIC LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS (SELECTION)

European Public Choice Society, Annual Meeting, Presentation Vienna University of Economics and Business, Vienna (Austria)	04/2024
German Economic Association/Verein für Socialpolitik, Standing Field Committee on Economic Policy, Presentation, Cologne (Germany)	03/2024
NeSt - Netzwerk empirische Steuerforschung/Network for Empirical Tax Research, Kick-off Conference, Keynote, Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF), Berlin (Germany)	06/2023
German Economic Association/Verein für Socialpolitik, Annual Congress, Panel Contribution at the Core Conference, Basel (Switzerland)	09/2022
Kurt Rothschild School of Economics and Statistics at Johannes Kepler University, Research Seminar Presentation, Linz (Austria)	03/2022
European Public Choice Society, Annual Meeting, Presentation Hebrew University Jerusalem (Israel)	04/2019
University of Graz, Research Seminar, Presentation, Graz (Austria)	04/2019
Radein Society for the Comparative Study of Economic and Social Systems, Annual Meeting, Presentation, Radein (Italy)	02/2019
Center for Media, Data and Society (CMDS) at Central European University (CEU), Presentation, Budapest (Hungary)	01/2019
German Economic Association/Verein für Socialpolitik, Standing Field Committee on Economic Systems & Institutional Economics, Presentation, Hamburg (Germany)	09/2018
European Public Choice Society, Annual Meeting, Presentation, Rome (Italy)	04/2018
3rd Economics of Media Bias Workshop, Presentation, University of Cologne (Germany)	02/2018
German Economic Association/Verein für Socialpolitik, Annual Congress, Organization of Conference Session and presentation, Vienna (Austria)	09/2017
European Public Choice Society, Annual Meeting, Presentation, Budapest (Hungary)	04/2017
Organization of Research Workshop “Measuring Migration Climate” and presentation, SOEP/German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Berlin (Germany)	11/2016
Organization of Research Workshop “The Economics of Media Impact” and presentation, Dusseldorf Institute for Competition Economics (DICE), Düsseldorf (Germany)	10/2016
ETH Zurich, Organization of Research Workshop and Presentation “Media and their influence on Economic Reforms”, Zurich (Switzerland)	04/2013
13th International Agenda Setting Conference, Presentation, Lucerne (Switzerland)	11/2012
Verein für Socialpolitik/German Economic Association, Annual Congress, Presentation, Graz (Austria)	09/2008
International Institute of Public Finance, 64th Annual Congress, Presentation, Maastricht (Netherlands)	08/2008
Hayek-Foundation, Presentation, Berlin (Germany)	05/2007
Scottish Economic Society, Annual Conference, Presentation, Perth (Scotland)	04/2007
Max Planck Institute of Economics, Research Lecture, Presentation, Jena (Germany)	10/2005

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS**Peer-Reviewed Scientific Contributions**

- “Whatever it takes! How Tonality of News affects Government Bond Yield Spreads in the Eurozone”. Published online first in: *European Journal of Political Economy* (2024) (with L. P. Feld, P. Hirsch and E. A. Köhler).
- “Fostering Excellent Research by the Austrian Micro Data Center (AMDC)”. Published online first in: *Journal of Economics and Statistics/Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik* (2023) (with R. Fuchs, T. Göllner and S. Hartmann).
- “Measuring partisan media bias in US Newscasts from 2001-2012”. Published online first in: *European Journal of Political Economy* (2023) (with L. Bernhard and R. Dewenter).
- “Does the 4th Estate Deliver? The Political Coverage Index and its Application to Media Capture”. In: *Constitutional Political Economy*, 31 (2020), 292-328 (with R. Dewenter and U. Dulleck).
- “Decarbonization until 2050? Climate Policies and Energy Forecasts for Germany, Austria and Switzerland” (in German). In: *Journal for Energy Economics/Zeitschrift für Energiewirtschaft*, 44 (2020), 195-221 (with Manuel Frondel).
- “Media Coverage and Immigration Worries: Econometric Evidence”. In: *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 160 (2019), 52-67 (with C. Benesch, S. Loretz and D. Stadelmann).
- “Can Media Drive the Electorate? Impact of Media Coverage on Voting Intentions”. In: *European Journal of Political Economy*, 58 (2019), 245-261 (with R. Dewenter and M. Linder).
- “The Distance Bias in Natural Disaster Reporting - empirical evidence for the United States”. In: *Applied Economic Letters*, 16 (2019), 1026-1032 (with M. Berlemann).
- “Champagne or Seltzer? - Economic Consequences of the Reform Reluctance to End the German Solidarity Surcharge” (in German). In: *Perspectives of Economic Policy/Perspektiven der Wirtschaftspolitik*, 19 (2018), 313-330 (with J. Berger and L. Strohner).
- “Reluctant to Reform? A Note on Risk Loving of Politicians and Bureaucrats”. In: *Review of Economics*, 68 (2017), 167–179 (with M. Hess and G. G. Wagner).
- “Do media data help to predict German industrial production?”. In: *Journal of Forecasting*, 36 (2017), 483-496 (with K. Kholodilin and Dirk Ulbricht).
- “Can news draw blood? The impact of media coverage on the number and severity of terror attacks”. In: *Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy*, 23 (2017), 1-16 (with K. Beckmann and R. Dewenter).
- “Media Coverage and Car Manufacturers’ Sales”. In: *Economics Bulletin*, 36 (2016), 976-982 (with R. Dewenter and U. Heimeshoff).
- “What price makes a good a status good? Results from a mating game”. In: *European Journal of Law and Economics*, 36 (2013), 35-55.
- “Consumption Behavior and the Aspiration for Conformity and Consistency”. In: *Journal of Neuroscience, Psychology, and Economics*, 3 (2010), 83-94 (with M. Göbel and A. Schneider).
- “Taxation of status goods”. In: D. Southerton (Ed.) “*Encyclopedia of Consumer Culture*”, Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications (2010), 877-880.
- “Questionable Luxury Taxes: Status Seeking and Conspicuous Consumption in the History of Economic Thought” (in German). In: *ORDO Yearbook of Economic and Social Order/ORDO Jahrbuch für die Ordnung von Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft*, 59 (2008), 91-113.
- “Taking up the Cudgels for German Council of Economic Experts. A Plea for a More Differentiated Analysis of Economic Advice Institutions” (in German). In: *Perspectives of Economic Policy/Perspektiven der Wirtschaftspolitik*, 8 (2007), 335-358 (with U. Papenfuß).
- “Informal Institutions: Political Action and the Social and Historical Contextualization of the homo oeconomicus”. In: *HRSS – Hamburg Review of Social Science*, 1 (2006), 273-294 (with M. Göbel).

Current Discussion Paper

“Too hot to play it cool? Temperature and media bias”. DICE Discussion Paper 408 (2023) (with D. Stadelmann and Nikita Zakharov).

Other Scientific Contributions

“Decarbonization by 2050? A Highly Ambitious Goal for Germany” (in German). In: et - Energy Industry Issues/et - Energiewirtschaftliche Tagesfragen, 70 (2020), 20-27 (with Manuel Frondel).

“Tenant’s Paradise Austria? Myth and Reality” (in German), List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 45 (2020), 319-346, (with P. Koch and W. Schwarzbauer).

“Birds of a Feather Flock Together. A Network Analysis of Policy Advisers” (in German), Economics Review/Wirtschaftsdienst, 99 (2019), 278-285 (with Wolfgang Schwarzbauer und Gert G. Wagner).

“Income Inequality, Perceived Inequality and the Impact of Media Coverage” (in German), Economic Policy Papers/Wirtschaftspolitische Blätter, 65 (2018), 39-64 (with M. Diermeier, H. Goecke and J. Niehues).

“Biased Perceptions: How Coverage on Inequality Unsettle People” (in German)“ In: IW Bulletin/IW Kurzbericht, 57 (2017), 1-3 (with M. Diermeier, H. Goecke and J. Niehues).

“Sentiment on Business Locations as a Determinant of Investment Activity“ (in German). In: Economic Policy Papers/Wirtschaftspolitische Blätter, 63 (2016), 171-187 (with C. Helmenstein and P. Krabb).

“What Influence Do Researchers Have in the Media and in Economic Policy?“ (in German. In: Economics Review/Wirtschaftsdienst, 95 (2015), 68-75 (with J. Haucap and G.G. Wagner).

“Stuck in the middle? – The Council of Experts Between Citizen Advice and Policy Advice“ (in German). In: Economics Review/Wirtschaftsdienst, 95 (2015), 171-173.

“Too Little Influence of Economic Expertise? Empirical Findings on the Impact of Economists and Other Scientists on Economic Policy“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 40 (2014), 422-435 (with J. Haucap and G.G. Wagner).

“Economic Policy Advice: Does the Advice of Economists Reach Politics and the Public?“ (in German). In: Economics Review/Wirtschaftsdienst, 94 (2014), 180-186 (with J. Haucap).

“Functions of Scientific Advice: Information and Transparency as Policy Advice Approach“ (in German). In: Policy Advice and Political Consulting/Zeitschrift für Politikberatung, 3 (2011), 427-434 (with U. Papenfuß).

“Internalizing External Costs Through Taxation and Negotiation“ (in German). In: WiSt – Economic Studies/WiSt – Wirtschaftswissenschaftliches Studium, 37 (2008), 82-88 (with K.W. Zimmermann).

“Public Goods, Natural Monopolies and the Limits of Market Supply“ (in German). In: WiSt – Economic Studies/WiSt – Wirtschaftswissenschaftliches Studium, 32 (2003), 340 -344 (with K.W. Zimmermann).

Scientific Notes and Comments

“Ensuring Life Satisfaction Through Work and Prosperity“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 45 (2020), 377-379 (with S. Cassel).

“Social Problems Cannot be Solved by State-Controlled Prices“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 45 (2020), 373-375 (with S. Cassel).

“More Direct Democracy on the Federal Level“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 45 (2020), 471–473 (with S. Cassel).

“Market Design: Consider the Limits of Knowledge“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 45 (2019), 49-51 (with S. Cassel).

“The Answer to Robots is Education and Participation“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 45 (2019), 53-55 (with S. Cassel).

“Achieving More Wealth Through Scientific Policy Advice“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 44 (2018), 395-397, (with S. Cassel).

- “More Evidence-Oriented Instead of Political Intuition“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 44 (2018), 399-401 (with S. Cassel).
- “Introduce Economics as a School Subject Now!“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 44 (2018), 69-71 (with S. Cassel).
- “Strengthen Developing Countries Through Trade Liberalization“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 44 (2018), 65-67 (with S. Cassel).
- “Using the Scope for Sustainable Public Finances Now“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 43 (2018), 483-485 (with S. Cassel).
- “Using the Opportunities of Migration“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 43 (2018), 487-489 (with S. Cassel).
- “Take Advantage of the Opportunities of Digitization“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 43 (2017), 189-191 (with S. Cassel and J. Haucap).
- “More Competition in the Taxi Market“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 43 (2017), 204-206 (with S. Cassel and J. Haucap).
- “From the “Sick Man of Europe” to “Europe’s Engine““ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 43 (2017), 63–65 (with S. Cassel).
- “Strengthen the EU by Allowing Different Levels of Integration“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 43 (2017), 59–61 (with S. Cassel).
- “Corporate Taxes in Europe: Strengthen Competition“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik 42 (2017), 441-443 (with S. Cassel).
- “Policy Evaluation as an Instrument for Better Economic Policy“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 42 (2017), 337-339 (with S. Cassel).
- “Creating More Equal Opportunities in Education“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 42 (2017), 333-335 (with S. Cassel).
- „Federalism Reform: More Autonomy for the “Laender““ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 42 (2016), 251-253 (with S. Cassel).
- “Strictly Limit Municipal Economic Activities“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 42 (2016), 247-249 (with S. Cassel).
- “Improve Investment Conditions“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 42 (2016), 105-107 (with S. Cassel).
- “Adjust Retirement Age Automatically“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 42 (2016), 101-103 (with S. Cassel).
- “Correct the Economic and Social Policy Course“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 40 (2014), 201-203.
- “Minimum Wage: Symbolic Policy with Side Effects“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 40 (2014), 89-90.
- “With Liability to Stability in the Eurozone“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 40 (2014), 91-93, (with S. Cassel).
- “Conclude Regional Free Trade Agreements Rapidly“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 40 (2014), 201-203, (with S. Cassel).
- “Put German State-Owned Enterprises to the Test“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 40 (2014), 204-206, (with S. Cassel).
- “Coalition Agreement 2013: Threat to Germany’s Competitiveness“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 39 (2013), 290-291.
- “Do not Overstretch the Mandate of the European Central Bank“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 39 (2013), 292-294, (with S. Cassel).

“Proceed Energy Transition Market-Orientated – Otherwise the Customer Pays More“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 39 (2013), 91-93, (with S. Cassel and J. Haucap).

“Financial Market Stability: Basel III does not Solve the Problems“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 39 (2013), 94-96, (with S. Cassel).

“Consumer Protection: Information and Education Instead of State Paternalism Through the Back Door“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 39 (2013), 182-184, (with S. Cassel).

“Understanding Growth as the Key to Sustainability“ (in German). In: List Forum for Economic and Financial Policy/List Forum für Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik, 39 (2013), 185-187, (with S. Cassel).

“Wiesmeth, Hans: Environmental Economics: Theory and Practice in Balance“ (in German). Recension in: Journal of Environmental Policy & Law/Zeitschrift für Umweltpolitik & Umweltrecht, 27 (2004), 468-470.

Scientific Books (SELECTION)

“Markets and Politics - Insights from a Political Economy's Perspective“ (in German), Marburg: Metropolis (2009) (Editor with W. Schäfer and A. Schneider).

“Luxury - Status Seeking and Conspicuous Consumption in Microeconomic Models of Human Behavior“ (in German), Marburg: Tectum (2007).

Scientific Book Contributions (SELECTION)

“Factor Evidence“ (in German). In: B. Kolm and A. J. Kammel (Eds.) "Austria as a Business Location - Prospects and Factor Optimizations“, Verlag Österreich (2021), 161-193.

“On the Role of the Media in Democracy“(in German). In: M. Leschke/N. Otter (Eds.) "Growth, Development, Stability - Governance Problems and Solutions," Schriften zu Ordnungsfragen der Wirtschaft, Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter (2020), 179-205.

“Who are the Hidden Champions?“ In: M. Motshekga/R. Schatz/T. Thomas (Eds.) „African Growth Report 2015 – 2nd revised edition“, Rapperswil: InnoVatio Publishing (2015), 7-24, (with M. Motshekga).

“Impact of Economists in Research, Media, and Politics“ (in German). In: R. Schatz/T. Thomas (Eds.) "Growth 2015", Rapperswil: InnoVatio Publishing (2015), 103-121.

“Skilled Workers of Tomorrow - an Asset for Austria as a Business Location" (in German). In: R. Schatz/T. Thomas (Eds.) "Wachstum 2015", Rapperswil: InnoVatio Publishing (2015), 94-100.

“The Economics of Political Reform and the Role of Economists“(in German). In: W. Schäfer/A. Schneider/T. Thomas (Eds.) "Markets and Politics - Insights from a Political Economy Perspective," Marburg: Metropolis (2009), 77-96.

“Evolution, Institutions and Reform Behavior - Or Why Reforms Often Are Not Reforms“(in German). In: S. Bayer/K.W. Zimmermann (Eds.) "The Order of Reforms and the Reform of Orders: Facets of Political Economy," Marburg: Metropolis (2008), 347-384 (with M. Göbel).

“Public Corporate Governance - Fundamentals and Perspectives of the Management and Control of Public Enterprises“(in German). In: C. Schaefer/J. Fischer (Eds.) "Neues Public Management", Berlin: Raabe (2007), B 1.2, 1-34 (with U. Papenfuß).