



Call for Papers

CESifo / Ifo Conference on

“Do We Need National or European Champions?”

EU countries are deeply divided about the role of industrial policy, with preferences ranging from neo-liberal approaches to strong government support for national champions. Does this facilitate the sell-out of national economies with hands-off governments, or do interventionist governments hurt themselves because they create huge and inefficient corporations? Is economic patriotism legitimate? Should other EU members counter by adopting similar national policies? Do we need a common industrial policy that supports European champions? What is the best way of unleashing Europe's innovation potential? These questions are central to the future position of the European market in the international division of labour and yet, the views about the relative role of the various government levels concerning these questions of competition supervision, regulation and industrial support vary strongly.

To discuss the pros and cons of government support for national or European champions, **CESifo** and the **Ifo Institute** will jointly organise a conference in **Munich** on **16-17 November 2007**. Invited papers will be presented by

Philippe Aghion (Harvard),

Martin Hellwig (Bonn),

Paul Seabright (Toulouse) and

Xavier Vives (IESE and INSEAD).

Researchers working in the field are invited to submit proposed (draft) papers electronically by **30 April 2007** to baier@ifo.de. Both theoretical and empirical policy-oriented papers are welcome. A focus on the implications of champions-related policies for innovation and growth of economies is particularly encouraged.

Accepted papers will be published in a conference volume in the CESifo Seminar Series with **MIT Press**, subject to a refereeing process. Submission of papers for the conference implies their submission for initial publication in the conference proceedings.

The organisers will provide accommodation and will reimburse economy travel costs for authors of accepted papers. The conference will be funded by the Pact for Research and Innovation of the Leibniz Association as part of the project “How to Construct Europe,” jointly conducted by the CESifo network and the Ifo Institute. Further questions regarding the organisation and scientific content of the conference should be addressed to the conference organisers:

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