

## **Press Releases**

### EPICO KlimaInnovation

The launch of a new policy-oriented think tank for market-based and innovation-oriented climate and energy policy in Berlin

Berlin, 18 February 2021: EPICO KlimaInnovation, the Energy and Climate Policy and Innovation Council e.V., a new, policy-oriented think tank is launched in Berlin. EPICO KlimaInnovation aims to advance the path to climate neutrality with a market-oriented and innovation-oriented perspective.

"Climate protection is a matter of existence for mankind and nature; at the same time, technological leadership is the guarantee of survival for the German economy. The reconciliation of ecology, economy and social issues through sustainable growth has to be made concrete. We must pursue the 1.5-degree target with a binding regulatory framework for massively accelerated innovation. EPICO KlimaInnovation will develop credible concepts for this," says Andreas Jung MdB, Chairperson of the Advisory Board of EPICO KlimaInnovation, on the occasion of the first Advisory Board meeting.

Dr. Bernd Weber, founder and Executive Director of EPICO KlimaInnovation emphasises: "Our approach is both innovative and pragmatic. We will develop viable, balanced strategies with and for policymakers to implement climate neutrality in an efficient, reliable and socially acceptable way. The lever for this lies in strengthening the dynamics of the market and innovation. The opportunities for additional value creation and new jobs through a consistent focus on climate innovation are enormous. We should seize them now."

EPICO KlimaInnovation is both a think tank and a network that brings together key players in climate and energy policy and provides a platform for contributing and discussing goal-oriented approaches and driving them forward in a socially just and equitable manner.

### **Management:**

#### **Dr. Bernd Weber**

Founder and Executive Director of EPICO KlimaInnovation, previously Director Industry, Energy and Environment at the *Wirtschaftsrat* (Economic Council)

## **EPICO KlimalInnovation's independent advisory board is constituted:**

EPICO KlimalInnovation is supported by an independent advisory board, which advises on the guidelines and fundamental direction of the think tank and its activities.

Experts from politics, business, science and civil society are engaged in the advisory board of EPICO KlimalInnovation. The membership of the advisory board is explicitly personal and the members are not performing this role in an institutional capacity.

### **Chairperson:**

#### **Andreas Jung MdB**

Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

### **Members:**

#### **Christoph Bals**

Political Director, Germanwatch e.V.

#### **Jörg Dürr-Pucher**

Chairman of the Renewable Energy Platform Baden-Württemberg, President of the Lake Constance Foundation, Managing Director, Clean Energy GmbH

#### **Prof. Dr. Ottmar Edenhofer**

Professor for the Economics of Climate Change at the Technical University of Berlin, Director and Chief Economist of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Director of the Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC)

#### **Tanja Gönner**

Spokeswoman of the Board of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

#### **Dr Andree Groos**

Managing Director, Vaillant Group

#### **Ursula Heinen-Esser**

Minister for the Environment, Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Consumer Protection of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia

#### **Dieter Janecek Member of the Bundestag**

Spokesman for Industrial Policy and the Digital Economy of the Bündnis 90/DIE GRÜNEN Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

#### **Stefan Kapferer**

Chief Executive Officer, 50Hertz Transmission GmbH

#### **Dr. Lukas Köhler**

Member of the Bundestag

Spokesman for Climate Policy of the FDP Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

**Dr. Andreas Lenz MdB**

Chairman of the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Sustainable Development in the German Bundestag, CSU

**Prof. Dr. Andreas Löschel**

Chair of Microeconomics at the Westphalian Wilhelms University Münster, Chairman of the Expert Commission for the Monitoring Process "Energy of the Future" of the German Federal Government

**Dr. Johannes Merck**

Board of Directors, Michael Otto Environmental Foundation

**Hildegard Müller**

President, German Association of the Automotive Industry e.V. (VDA)

**Prof. Dr. Karen Pittel**

Professor of Economics at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Director of the Ifo Center for Energy, Climate and Resources, Co-Chair of the German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU)

**Cornelia Quennet-Thielen**

Former State Secretary

**Dr. Klaus Schäfer**

Chief Technology Officer, Covestro AG

**Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Christoph M. Schmidt**

President of the RWI - Leibniz Institute for Economic Research, Vice President of the German Academy of Science and Engineering (acatech), Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of the ESYS project (Energy Systems of the Future)

**Dr. Rolf Martin Schmitz**

Chairman of the Board, RWE AG

**Nadine Schön MdB**

Deputy Chairwoman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag, responsible for the "Digital Agenda", among other things

**Olaf Tschimpke**

Chairman, NABU International Nature Conservation Foundation

**Michael Vassiliadis**

Chairman of the Mining, Chemical and Energy Workers' Union (IG BCE)

EPICO Klimainnovation is an independently financed non-profit organisation. Its independent work and projects are funded through the support of or in partnership with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the European Climate Foundation, and Breakthrough Energy.

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