With up to 900 participants and almost 500 lectures, the annual meetings of the Verein für Socialpolitik rank among the largest and most respected economic conferences in Europe.

Beside various expert panels and keynotes, the conference’s Open Meeting offers a platform for more than 450 researchers to speak within about 150 sessions. Also three VfS standing field committees present their scientific work.

The Verein für Socialpolitik assigns various prices and awards during the annual conference. As the umbrella organisation of German-speaking economists, the Verein für Socialpolitik considers one of its primary tasks to honor outstanding contributions to intellectual discourse and research in economics, particularly by younger researchers.

Sunday is workshop day, book a place to bring forward your scientific career. For female scientists the VfS also offers a mentoring workshop and a Women’s Network Meeting. Child care will be provided for families.

For more information on the VfS Annual Conference 2021, please look here:

Local Organisation
Jürgen Jerger (University of Regensburg)
The Annual Congress of the Verein für Socialpolitik consists of a core conference with invited lectures concerning "Climate Economics" and of an Open Meeting with mixed topics. Presentations and Organised Sessions for the Open Meeting may be submitted from all fields of economics.

The submissions are evaluated by anonymous referees and subsequently selected by the Programme Committee. The decision of acceptance may be expected by the end of May 2021. Membership in the Verein für Socialpolitik and acceptance of its Code of Ethics are required for presenting at the annual conference. The membership can be sought on the homepage of the association (www.socialpolitik.org), after the paper has been accepted.

EconStor – Make your publications visible. The publication is optional: During the submission process, the submitter can decide whether the accepted and revised paper should be published on EconStor in time for the conference.

Scientific Programme Committee of the Open Meeting
Anke Gerber (University of Hamburg)
Hendrik Hakenes (University of Bonn)
Philipp Harms (University of Mainz)
Leo Kaas (University of Frankfurt)
Michael Kvasnicka (University of Magdeburg)
Dominika Langenmayr (University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)
Sarah Lein (University of Basel)
Hannah Schildberg-Hörisch (University of Dusseldorf)
Philipp Schmidt-Dengler (University of Vienna)
Carsten Trenkler (University of Mannheim)

Chair of the Scientific Programme Committee of the Open Meeting
Almuth Scholl (University of Konstanz)

Call for Papers 2021

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Call for Papers 2021

Call for Papers

February 1 - March 1 2021

Climate Economics

Global climate change is one of the biggest challenges of our time. Slowing down climate change and adapting to its inevitable consequences will require enormous investments into new technologies and infrastructures for many decades to come. At the political level, effective climate policy requires collective action by sovereign states and a fair distribution of the costs among countries with very different levels of economic development. This year’s core conference highlights that economics is essential for understanding these problems as well as for analyzing and evaluating possible solutions.

Three keynotes by leading international scholars will give an overview of current economic research on climate policy design. William Nordhaus (Yale University) was awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize for integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis. He will talk about the failed architecture of current international agreements and present alternative designs. Much of the growth in future energy consumption is projected to come from non-OECD countries. Catherine Wolfram (University of California at Berkeley) will explain how technologies and policies designed to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions will work in the context of the energy systems in these markets. Complementary to reducing emissions are policies that regulate the extraction of fossil fuels and protect natural carbon sinks. Bård Harstad (University of Oslo) will argue that such supply-side policies have many advantages and, if designed optimally, can help to conserve tropical forests as well as coal.

A panel discussion with politicians, researchers, and stakeholders will focus on the economic implications of climate neutrality objectives stipulated in the European Green Deal.

Scientific Programme of the Core Conference
Ulrich Wagner (University of Mannheim)