

KOF Bulletin

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ECONOMY AND RESEARCH

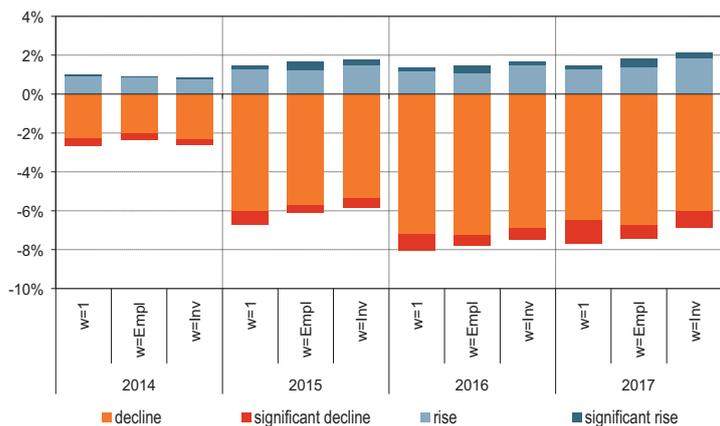


EFFECTS OF THE ANTI-MASS IMMIGRATION INITIATIVE ON INVESTMENT AND EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Is the adoption of the Anti-Mass Immigration Initiative affecting investment and human resources planning for the coming years? This question was investigated by a special survey carried out by KOF among Swiss enterprises. Although approximately 13 per cent of the companies stated that investment security has declined, the number of companies actually adjusting their investment and human resources planning is still low. Nevertheless, almost half of the respondents fear that the medium-term growth prospects for the Swiss economy will be affected.

After the adoption of the Anti-Mass Immigration Initiative on 9 February, KOF surveyed over 8,100 companies in the processing, construction and service industries as to the effects they expect the initiative to have on their enterprise. Over 2,700 companies took part in the survey. The enterprises were asked whether, and if yes how, they expect the result of the referendum to affect their planning security, recruitment costs and growth perspectives.

**G 1: Investment in Switzerland:
Effects of the Anti-Mass Immigration Initiative (AMII)**



w=1: Unweighted count

w=Inv: Weighted including investment

w=Empl: Weighted including employment

Source: KOF

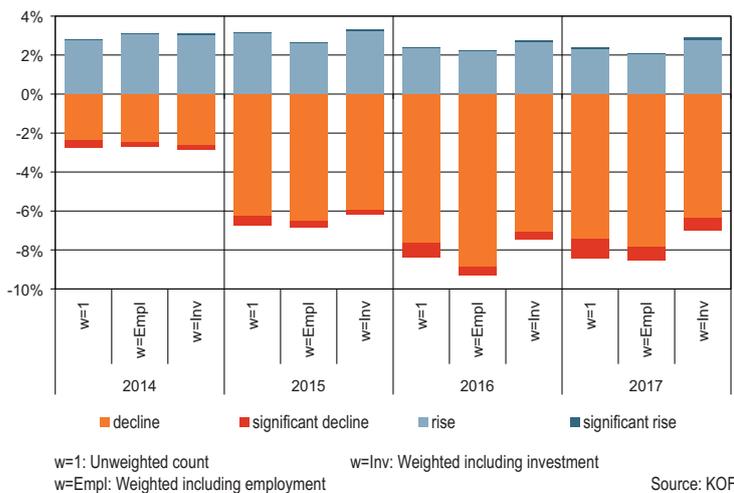
13 per cent of the surveyed companies think that investment planning conditions in Switzerland have become less reliable as a consequence of the adoption of the Initiative. The companies also foresee an effect on recruitment costs: Close to 32 per cent of the companies anticipate a rise in costs. As regards Switzerland's long-term growth potential, the companies clearly expect negative consequences: Almost half of the respondents are of the opinion that the adoption of the initiative will affect the growth prospects of the Swiss economy.

INVESTMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES PLANNING STILL PREDOMINANTLY UNCHANGED

As yet, relatively few companies have adjusted their investment plans or staff numbers. The respondents stated that the adoption of the Initiative has little effect on their investment and level of employment in the current year.

The situation will be somewhat different in the coming years: Approximately six per cent of the companies stated that they plan to reduce investments in 2015. Around eight per cent and seven per cent, respectively, plan to downsize their investments in 2016 and 2017 (see G 1). In contrast, less than two per cent of the respondents intend to invest more in Switzerland. All in all, this indicates a slightly negative effect of the Anti-Mass Immigration Initiative on investment planning. The situation is similar in the employment field: approximately seven per cent of the companies expect to scale down their human resources policies in 2015 while nine per cent expect to do this in 2016, 2017 and the subsequent years (see G 2). Only three per cent of the respondents plan to employ more staff.

G 2: Human Resources Planning: Effects of the AMII



The trend among companies which invest both in Switzerland and abroad is going towards increased activities outside Switzerland. As of 2015, approximately 12 per cent of these companies intend to invest more abroad than they had previously planned.

CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES WITH HIGH PERCENTAGES OF FOREIGN EMPLOYEES ARE MORE SCEPTICAL

Regression analysis of the respondents' statements has led to the identification of those factors that have the most significant impact on the companies' response behaviour. Differences arise, for instance, between the various sectors: among the respondents in the processing, construction and service industries it is mostly construction companies which expect a decline in investments.

Furthermore, the estimated models illustrate that the response behaviour also correlates closely with the current percentage of foreign employees. The higher the number of foreigners among the current staff, the higher the probability that the company is planning to reduce employment and investment in Switzerland in the coming years as a consequence of the Initiative.

MOST SIGNIFICANT EFFECT AMONG INSECURE COMPANIES

In addition, the estimated models suggest that the negative effects of the Initiative on investment and employment in Switzerland will be particularly significant among companies which report that they suffer from higher investment insecurity. Higher investment insecurity not only substantially increases the probability of companies stating that, due to the Initiative, they intend to

reduce investments and employment in Switzerland as of 2015, but also that they intend to invest more outside Switzerland. It may thus be assumed that enterprises which consider investment planning conditions to be more secure are already adjusting their investments for the coming year.

It is also interesting to note the company characteristics which have an insignificant effect on the response behaviour. Generally, we have found that the response behaviour of a company does not depend on the distance of a company's location from the Swiss border. Furthermore, the percentage of yes votes at a company's domicile does not seem to affect the response behaviour. Nor do the factors 'language region' or 'amount of turnover generated abroad' appear to play a significant role in a company's view of the effects of the Initiative on the enterprise.

COMPANIES ADOPT WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE

All in all, the Initiative thus seems to have had a negative effect on the companies' medium-term expectations. Most enterprises are holding back on concrete measures. However, depending on the actual implementation of the Initiative, the percentage of companies that will adjust their investment and human resources planning in the future may indeed rise.

KOF BUSINESS TENDENCY SURVEY: CONTINUED OPTIMISM AMONG COMPANIES

The KOF Business Situation Indicator for the Swiss private sector was virtually unchanged in April, compared with the previous month. However, when compared with the beginning of the year, the business situation has worsened slightly (see G 3). Overall, businesses are confident about business prospects.

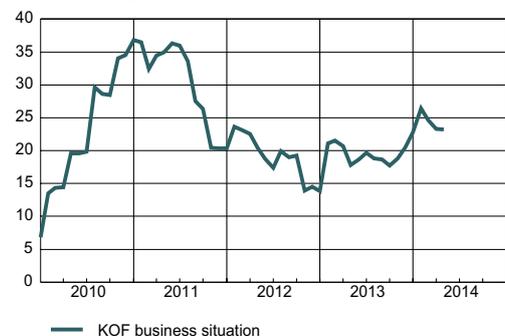
In the manufacturing sector, the business outlook is somewhat worse. Overall, however, the situation here continues to be satisfactory. Incoming orders are no longer speeding up and the current levels for backorders are assessed just as unfavourably as at the beginning of the year. Thus, the recovery has stalled.

Capacity utilisation changed little in the first quarter of 2014 and was at a seasonally adjusted level of nearly 82 per cent. Machine and equipment utilisation remained below average. In addition, companies were not able to reduce inventories of manufactured goods and, compared to three months ago, they assessed inventories more frequently as too high. Production plans for the near future are not as expansive as before. Expectations regarding exports and business development in general are both less optimistic than at the beginning of the year.

In the construction sector, the business situation improved. In contrast to the situation one year ago, the weather rarely hampered construction companies in their work. There was a noticeable expansion in building activity. Since these companies continue to have rather full order books, they also want to continue to increase production in the near future. The project engineering sector reports a very good business situation, which has cooled off slightly since the beginning of the year, however. The agencies expect a stable demand in the coming three months. They are not looking for additional employees as much as they were previously.

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G 3: Business Situation Indicator Once Again in Decline
(balance, original value)



RETAIL TRADE MORE OPTIMISTIC

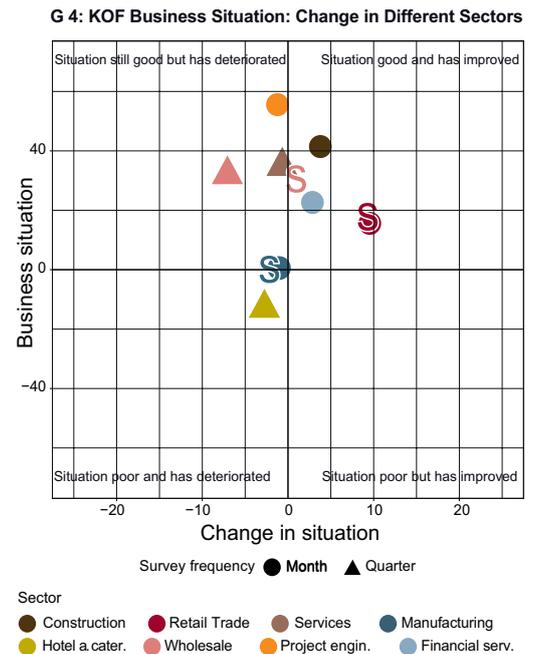
The retail trade assesses their business situation as much more favourable than before (see G 4). Customer frequency was greater than before the beginning of the year, and it was possible to drive revenues. Inventories continue to be too high in the opinion of retailers. However, since the survey participants expect greater revenues in the next three months, they still want to order more new goods than in the previous month. Overall, the business expectations of the retailers are more positive than previously. They therefore intend to also increase the number of employees.

In the wholesale trade, the business situation was almost as good in April as in January. Demand increased once again and companies were able to slightly reduce their inventory levels. Their earnings situation has improved. However, they are not planning any further price increases in the near future even though they largely expect procurement prices to increase. Business expectations at the wholesalers level therefore remain confident but less optimistic than at the beginning of the year.

The business situation in the hotel and catering sector cooled off for the second time in a row after a sharp improvement in the situation in the fall of last year. Although the operations hardly had to absorb any more drops in revenues in the first quarter 2014 compared to the previous year, the earnings situation has still worsened considerably since the beginning of the year. Particularly business in the mountain regions suffered under an eroding income situation. As a consequence, the business situation there worsened more than the overall average. The hotel and catering business attempted to counter the disappearing income with increased employee layoffs. The current personnel numbers are now considered as almost adequate. The operations facilities are considered to be slightly too large overall.

SENTIMENT OF BANKS SLIGHTLY SUBDUED

The finance and insurance sector was not able to maintain the good business situation at the beginning of the year into spring. Especially insurances report that the business situation has become somewhat more bleak. However, it is still largely good. The insurance sector continues to have an optimistic view of the course of business in the near future. The number of insurance employees is considered to be a little too low. However, there are still few plans to increase staffing levels. The banks' business expectations are less hopeful in April than they were at the beginning of the year, but they remain positive. Since staff numbers are again more often estimated as too high, the tendency to reduce employee numbers has increased.



Among the other service sectors, the business situation is essentially stable. Demand increased here once again in the past three months so that the number of employees was again frequently considered too low. Since companies expect a somewhat less strong increase in demand in the near future, they want to expand the workforce less quickly than previously. The business expectations among the service providers remain optimistic, though no longer as positive as at the beginning of the year.

The results of the current KOF Business Tendency Survey from April 2014 are based on the answers from more than 6,000 companies from industry, construction and the most important service sectors. This corresponds to a response quota of around 57 per cent.

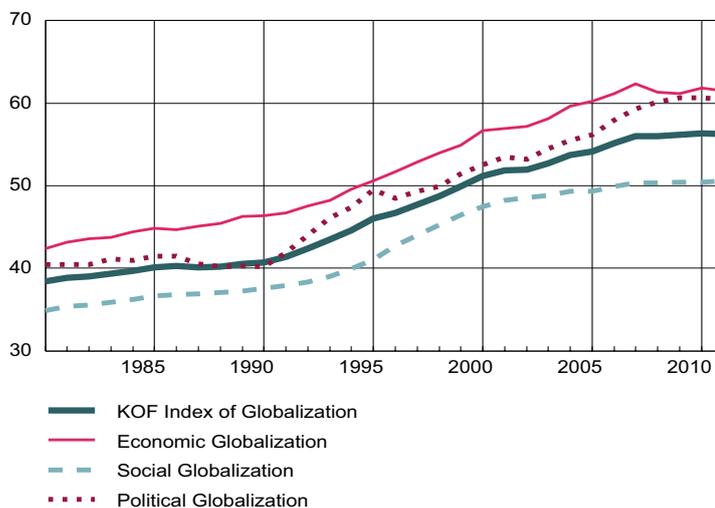
Further information regarding the KOF Business Tendency Surveys is available at:

[www.kof.ethz.ch/en/surveys/business-tendency-surveys/ >>](http://www.kof.ethz.ch/en/surveys/business-tendency-surveys/)

KOF INDEX OF GLOBALIZATION 2014: SWITZERLAND NO LONGER AMONG THE TOP TEN

The current KOF Index of Globalization reflects the economic, social and political dimensions of globalization in 2011 – a year dominated by the Arab Spring, the nuclear catastrophe in Fukushima and the Eurozone debt crisis. According to the index, globalization has stalled since the outbreak of the financial crisis in 2008 (see G 5). The degree of globalization has declined in northern and southern Africa and in the Near and Middle East, while the index has risen slightly in East Asia. In all other regions, globalization stagnated in 2011.

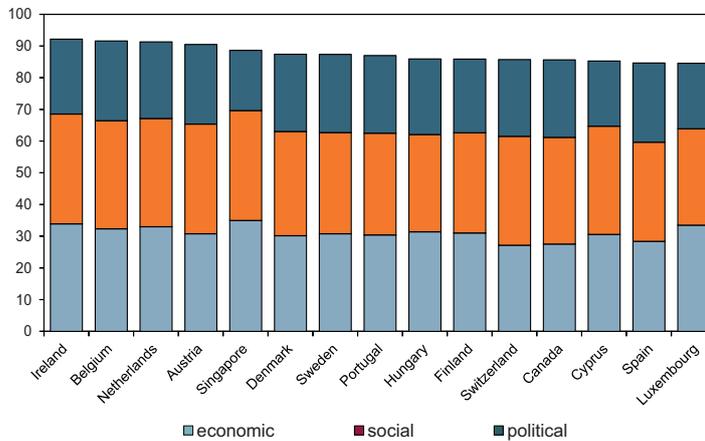
G 5: KOF Index of Globalization Worldwide



According to the KOF Index of Globalization, Ireland was the world's most globalized country in 2011 (see G 6). In last year's edition, the most globalized country was Belgium. However, owing to the survey method, this year's index data is not directly comparable with the previous year's data. According to the latest method, Ireland was already number one in 2010, superseding Belgium in the top spot. As in the previous year, Ireland and Belgium were followed by the Netherlands, Austria and Singapore. Denmark and Sweden swapped sixth and seventh place, respectively, while Portugal remained in eighth place. Hungary advanced one place to rank nine, one place higher than Finland which moved up three places – the biggest jump among the most globalized countries.

Switzerland, which dropped two places to rank 11, recorded the largest decline among highly globalized countries. Gaining two places, the USA, the world's biggest economy ranked 32nd. The fact that the US economy is not particularly open to the rest of the world stands in the way of a higher ranking. China, the second-biggest economy dropped three places to rank 72.

G 6: The World's 15 Most Globalized Countries



There was little movement at the bottom end of the Index of Globalization. Somalia is still the least globalized country in the world, followed by the Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Eritrea and Laos. In 2011, Libya recorded the largest decline on the index, sliding 27 places to 137 (out of 191 countries). Algeria and Egypt also dropped around ten ranks each due, most likely, to the upheavals caused by the Arab Spring. In 2011, the biggest gains in the overall index were made by Samoa (+34), Sierra Leone (+27) and Papua New Guinea (+24).

ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION

The reasons for Switzerland's decline on the index are to be found in the economic dimension of globalization which measures, on the one hand, cross-border trade, investment and income flows in relation to GDP and, on the other, the impact of restrictions on trade and capital movement.

In the former dimension, Switzerland, a small open economy, is among the top 20. In the latter dimension, Switzerland was doing less well in 2011, dropping substantially compared to the previous year. The average tariff rate according to the WTO rose, and respondents of a Global Competitiveness Report survey reported an increase in tariff and non-tariff import restrictions. These two factors were mainly responsible for Switzerland's decline from rank 26 (2010) to rank 37 (2011) in the economic globalization sub-index. However, it should be noted that the index reflects a country's relative position. For instance, despite a reduction in trade barriers, a country may still decline in the sub-index of trade and capital movement restrictions if it reduces its barriers more slowly than other countries.

The front-runner in the 2011 economic globalization sub-index was Singapore, followed by Ireland and Luxembourg. At the bottom of the league are Nepal, Ethiopia and Burundi.

SOCIAL GLOBALIZATION

The KOF Index of Globalization measures the social dimension in three different categories. The first comprises personal cross-border contacts, for instance telephone calls and letters. The decline of such contacts in 2011 was predominantly responsible for the drop the North African countries experienced in the overall index. Tourism flows and the size of foreign population are also part of the first category. Secondly, cross-border flows of information are measured in terms of access to the Internet, TV and foreign press products. Thirdly, cultural proximity to the global mainstream is assessed according to the number of McDonald's restaurants and Ikea branches as well as book exports and imports in relation to GDP.

In 2011, Switzerland ranked fourth in terms of the social dimension of the Globalization Index behind Singapore, Ireland and Austria. Bringing up the rear of the sub-index are Myanmar, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

POLITICAL GLOBALIZATION

The political dimension of globalization is measured in the number of foreign embassies, international organizations which the country has joined, UN peace missions in which the country was involved and bilateral and multilateral agreements the country has concluded since 1945. In 2011, France was top of the league in this index, followed by Italy and Belgium. At the bottom of the league are small islands and archipelagos.

While the Arab Spring is reflected in a decline of some North-African countries in the 2014 KOF Index of Globalization, this is not the case for the other two main events of the year 2011 – the nuclear catastrophe in Fukushima and the Eurozone debt crisis. Japan dropped four places in the economic globalization sub-index, a surprising development given the increase in its energy imports. This is due to a rise in non-tariff barriers to trade. All in all, Japan's economy is not strongly globalized (rank 125 out of 154 countries included in the sub-index).

The Euro crisis did not affect the extent of globalization in European states. Ireland and Portugal, two of the hardest-hit countries, are among the top ten in the overall index. Cyprus follows in 13th place and Greece in 23rd place (both countries dropped one rank). Spain advanced from rank 16 (2010) to rank 14 (2011). Although the Euro crisis did not leave any direct traces on the KOF Index of Globalization, the financial and economic crisis has resulted in a stagnation of the index since 2008.

METHODOLOGY

The KOF Index of Globalization measures the economic, social and political dimensions of globalization. It records changes in the globalization of a number of countries over a considerable period of time. The current 2014 KOF Index of Globalization, which involves 23 variables and consists of an economic, a social and a political component, covers up to 207 countries over the period 1970 to 2011. The KOF Index measures globalization on a scale from 1 to 100. The values of the underlying variables are divided into percentiles. Extreme peaks are smoothed, resulting in lower fluctuation over time. The underlying data for the last few years were updated. The new Index is therefore not comparable with the KOF Index of Globalization published a year ago. Any comparisons with previous years in this text are therefore based on the new calculation method.

More information regarding the 2014 KOF Index of Globalization:

<http://globalization.kof.ethz.ch> >>

KOF INDICATORS



KOF EMPLOYMENT INDICATOR – THE JOB MACHINE IS BOOMING

It appears that the labour market is in for a good year. The KOF Employment Indicator, which is put together using data from the quarterly KOF Business Tendency Surveys of Swiss companies, shows the highest value since mid-2011. Employment prospects improved primarily in those sectors which until now suffered under the strong Swiss franc and weak demand from Europe. The only remaining “problem child” is the banking industry.

In the coming months, the Swiss labour market can look forward to a positive development. The KOF Employment Indicator, which is based on the Business Tendency Survey of Swiss companies, climbed to 3.7 points (see G 7). The indicator is not only 2.4 points higher than in the previous quarter but also at its highest level in three years.

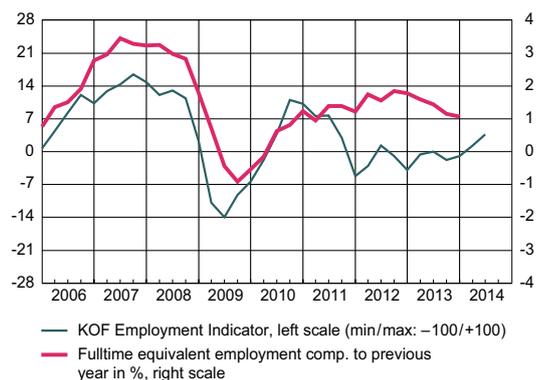
The indicator is based on information from companies about whether they estimate their workforce level as being too high, too low or suitable and whether they plan to increase or decrease workforce levels in the coming three months. The indicator provides an early estimation of the situation in the labour market. The current level means that the proportion of companies which consider the employment situation as positive is larger than the share of companies which anticipate a worsening of the situation.

RESULTS BY SECTORS

Those sectors which until now suffered under the strong Swiss franc and weak demand from Europe are primarily responsible for the high indicator number. At the moment, they are again more optimistic about their situation. Therefore, for the first time since the end of 2011, the number of companies planning to add to their workforces is about the same as the number planning to reduce their number of workers. In the retail trade, which recently suffered considerably from strong shopping tourism, the situation is also more relaxed.

In the hotel and catering sector, the indicator is in positive territory for the first time in five years. At the same time, the labour market situation is stable at a high level in the other service sectors, in insurance and also construction. The only sector, which continues to have a negative indicator, is banking. This is likely not least an expression of the structural adjustments, which banking in Switzerland has been undergoing for some years.

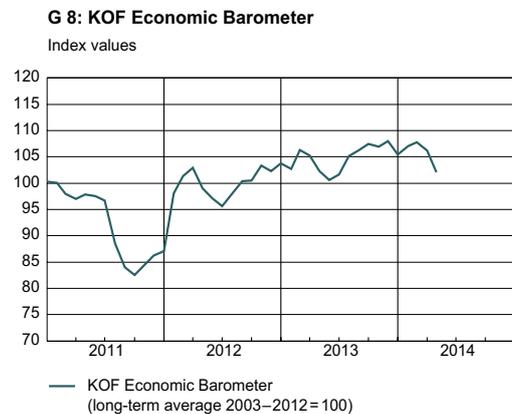
G 7: KOF Employment Indicator and Employment
(Employment according to FSO)



KOF ECONOMIC BAROMETER – SECOND CONSECUTIVE DECLINE

The KOF Economic Barometer decreased in April 2014. After increasing in the first two months of this year, it has now declined for the second time in a row (see G 8). However, with a value of currently 102.0 (revised from 106.3 in the previous month) the KOF Barometer is still above its long-time average. The Swiss economy continues to perform well but the increase could be less powerful in the near future.

From a Swiss perspective, the international environment has further brightened slightly. However, this does not give an additional boost to the Swiss manufacturing sector. The manufacturers' export expectations are not as optimistic as in the previous months. The banking sector currently also shows signs of weakness. Both net interest income and the commission rates are under pressure. The prospects for the construction industry, the hotel and catering sector as well as consumption in general have hardly changed compared to March. Domestic demand is still supporting the economic development.



BAROMETER AND REFERENCE SERIES

The KOF Economic Barometer is a composite leading indicator for the Swiss economy. The latest version comprises 219 indicator variables, which are combined based on statistically determined weights. The indicator variable selection and their weights are updated annually. These updates are performed after the release of the previous year's annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data by the Swiss Federal Statistical Office. In 2014, this will be in October. The reference series is a smoothed continuous growth rate of Swiss GDP.

FURTHER KOF PUBLICATIONS

You will find a complete list of all KOF publications (KOF Analyses, KOF Working Papers and KOF Studies) on our website.

<http://kof.ethz.ch/en/publications/> >>

KOF ECONOMIC FORECAST

How much GDP growth does the KOF expect for this year? How will the labour market develop? You find the latest KOF Economic Forecasts here:

http://www.kof.ethz.ch/static_media/bulletin/74/kof_bulletin_forecasts_2014_05_en.pdf >>

AGENDA

**KOF EVENTS****KOF Research Seminar:**

tba

Volker Nitsch, Darmstadt University of Technology

ETH Zurich, 14 May 2014The Political Economy of Pricing and Capacity Decisions for Congestible Local Public Goods
in a Federal State

Bruno de Borger, University of Antwerpen

ETH Zurich, 21 May 2014

Government Debt and Growth: the Role of Liquidity

Mathieu Grob  ty, SNB

ETH Zurich, 21 May 2014

The Price Sensitivity of Health Plan Choice among Retirees:

Evidence from the German Social Health Insurance

Amelie Wuppermann, University of Munich

ETH Zurich, 28 May 2014

Consistency of Higher Order Risk Attitudes

Harris Schlesinger, University of Alabama

ETH Zurich, 2 June 2014

Do Fitness Regimes Work? Moderating Vulnerabilities from Global Economic Booms

Michael Klein, Tufts University

ETH Zurich, 4 June 2014

tba

Peter Tillmann, University of Giessen

ETH Zurich, 16 July 2014<http://www.kof.ethz.ch/de/veranstaltungen/k/kof-research-seminar/> >>**KOF-ETH-UZH International Economic Policy Seminar:**

The Regime-dependent Evolution of Credibility:

A Fresh Look at Hong Kong's Linked Exchange Rate System

Michael Funke, University of Hamburg

ETH Zurich, 15 May 2014

Persistence in the Price-to-dividend Ratio and its Macroeconomic Fundamentals

Helmut Herwartz, University of G  ttingen

ETH Zurich, 22 May 2014www.kof.ethz.ch/de/veranstaltungen/k/kof-eth-uzh-seminar-in-international-economic-policy/ >>**KOF Media Agenda:** www.kof.ethz.ch/en/medien/agenda/ >>

OTHER EVENTS

Conference on “Exchange Rates and External Adjustment”

Zurich (Switzerland), 2–3 June 2014

www.snb.ch/de/ifor/research/conf/id/sem_2014_06_02 >>

Annual Conference of the Spatial Econometrics Association (SEA)

Zurich (Switzerland), 3 – 6 June 2014

www.spatialeconometricsassociation.org >>

17th World Congress of the International Economic Association (IEA)

Dead Sea (Jordan), 6 – 10 June 2014

www.iea-world.org/JordanCongress_GeneralInfo.php >>

Silvaplana Workshop in Political Economy

Pontresina (Switzerland), 26–30 July 2014

ees.elsevier.com/ejpe/img/Silvaplana_2014_submission.pdf >>

Jahrestagung 2014 Verein für Socialpolitik

Evidenzbasierte Wirtschaftspolitik

Hamburg (Germany), 7–10 September 2014

<http://socialpolitik.de/De/vfs-jahrestagung> >>

Schweizer Tage der öffentlichen Statistik

Die Statistik: Kommunikationsmittel und Entscheidungshilfe

Yverdon-les-Bains (Switzerland), 8–10 October 2014

www.statoo.ch/jss14/ >>

Annual CIRET Conference

Hangzhou (China), 9 – 11 October 2014

www.ciret.org/conferences >>

8th Annual Conference on the Political Economy of International Organizations

(Call for Papers: 30 September 2014)

Berlin (Germany), 12 – 14 February 2015

www.peio.me/ >>

Add event: www.kof.ethz.ch/publications/bulletin/event/index_en >>

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NEXT PUBLICATION DATES

13 June 2014 | 4 July 2014

TABLES – KOF Spring Forecast 2014

SWITZERLAND

Real Gross Domestic Product by Type of Expenditure																
Percentage change against																
	2004-2012	previous quarter (annualized, trend cycle component)												previous year		
		2013				2014				2015				2013	2014	2015
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Private consumption	1.7	2.5	2.0	1.7	2.0	2.6	2.6	2.2	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.5	2.3	2.2	1.8
Public consumption	0.7	3.1	3.0	2.7	1.3	-0.7	-0.8	0.1	1.3	2.1	1.6	0.8	0.5	3.0	0.3	1.3
Gross fixed capital formation	2.5	-0.8	1.5	2.1	2.5	4.4	5.2	5.1	4.2	3.0	2.6	2.6	3.1	0.2	3.9	3.5
– Construction	1.7	-2.3	-3.1	-0.9	2.2	3.7	3.3	1.7	0.7	-0.3	-0.3	0.5	1.9	0.3	2.0	0.5
– Machinery and equipment	3.0	-0.6	4.1	5.6	4.0	4.8	7.2	8.0	6.6	6.0	5.4	4.2	3.6	0.2	5.5	6.0
Exports of goods (1) and services	4.8	-1.3	2.0	3.5	4.2	5.0	4.7	3.0	4.1	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.0	1.1	4.3	4.7
– Goods	4.5	-4.1	-0.1	1.8	4.4	6.9	6.1	3.6	4.8	5.8	5.7	6.3	5.8	-0.5	4.5	5.3
– Services	5.7	4.2	3.2	5.0	6.0	4.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	3.5	5.5	4.6	3.0	4.4	3.8	3.5
Imports of goods (1) and services	4.2	-1.2	1.5	5.4	5.4	3.5	1.6	2.6	3.9	5.1	5.5	4.7	4.6	1.1	3.6	4.4
– Goods (1)	3.4	-2.5	0.0	3.0	4.9	5.1	3.8	3.7	4.0	4.8	5.0	4.7	4.2	-0.1	4.0	4.4
– Services	7.7	3.3	3.8	8.5	6.8	1.1	-1.8	-0.7	2.6	5.7	7.4	5.9	5.3	5.7	2.3	4.2
Change in stocks (2)	0.0	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.0	-0.6	-0.9	-1.0	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	0.8	-0.5	-0.3
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	2.1	2.0	2.4	1.8	1.5	2.0	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1

(1) Without valuables (i.e. precious metals, precious stones and gems as well as objects of art and antiquities)

(2) Percentage contribution to GDP-growth

Other Macroeconomic Indicators																
Percentage change against																
	2004-2012	same quarter of previous year												previous year		
		2013				2014				2015				2013	2014	2015
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Real effective exchange rate of Swiss Franc	1.4	-3.0	-0.7	-0.7	4.4	1.4	0.6	-5.3	-1.8	-5.8	-2.6	-5.0	-1.4	-1.6	0.3	-3.6
Short term interest rate ((3-month Libor CHF) (1))	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Yield of 10 years federal bonds (1)	2.1	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	0.9	1.1	1.5
Consumer prices	0.7	-0.4	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	-0.2	0.2	0.7
Full-time equivalent employment (2)	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.1
Unemployment rate (1,3)	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.1	2.9

(1) Level

(2) Percentage change against previous quarter (annualized, trend cycle component)

(3) Unemployed as percentage of labour force according to census of 2000

GLOBAL ECONOMY

Percentage change against																
	2004-2012	previous quarter (annualized, seasonal adjusted)												previous year		
		2013				2014				2015				2013	2014	2015
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)																
– OECD total	1.7	1.2	2.3	2.6	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.0	1.3	2.0	2.1
– European Union (EU-28)	1.1	-0.2	1.5	1.0	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.1	1.5	1.7
– USA	1.7	1.1	2.5	4.1	2.4	1.9	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.8	1.9	2.6	2.7
– Japan	0.7	4.5	4.1	0.9	0.7	3.8	-0.4	0.4	0.9	1.6	1.7	2.8	0.6	1.5	1.5	1.3
Oil price (\$ per barrel) (1)	77.0	112.9	103.0	110.1	109.4	108.6	109.1	109.6	110.1	110.7	111.3	111.8	112.4	108.8	109.3	111.6

(1) Level

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