Call for Papers

The Shadow Economy, Tax Evasion and Social Norms

July 23-26, 2009 University of Muenster, Germany

Subject

Economists are analyzing issues such as the shadow economy, tax evasion, corruption or social benefit fraud since the late 1960s. These ongoing research efforts have contributed, among other things, to a better understanding of why such behavior patterns occur, what extend they may have, how they may be traced, how they can be handled and what their impact on welfare may be over time. The conference aims at bringing together researches working in these areas with a view to explore and discuss recent advances in the field and to increase awareness with respect to the subject in general. Researchers working in these areas are therefore invited to submit papers.

Submission

Submissions of abstracts or full papers consistent with one of the conference topics, or their interaction, or with related issues such as corruption, social benefit fraud, etc. are welcome. Papers may be theoretical, empirical, experimental, agent-based, etc. Submissions can be made at any time, but should be made no later than **April 15, 2009**, to: shadow2009@wiwi.uni-muenster.de Acceptance for presentation will be communicated no later than May 15, 2009.

Keynote Speakers

Keynote speakers will give talks on specific topics of interest. They include *James Alm* (Georgia State University, USA), *Axel Dreher* (University of Göttingen, Germany and KOF/ETH Zürich, Switzerland), *John Duffy* (University of Pittsburgh, USA) and *Friedrich Schneider* (University of Linz, Austria).

Publication

Papers presented at the conference may be submitted to the organizers in due course after the conference for possible inclusion into a conference volume, which will be published by an internationally well known publisher. The volume by *Pickhardt* and *Shinnick* (2008), 'The Shadow Economy, Corruption and Governance' may serve as an example (see www.e-elgar-economics.com).

Venue

The conference will take place at the University of Muenster (Münster), Germany. Münster is located in the northwest of Germany, near Dortmund and Bremen and fairly close to the Netherlands. Münster was founded in the year 805 and became well known when the Thirty Years War ended in 1648 as a result of a peace treaty signed in Münster's town hall. Today, the restored city center with its arcades, churches, narrow alleys, lively squares, pubs and street cafes is popular with tourists and locals alike.

Travel

Münster can be reached via its international airport Münster/Osnabrück or, alternatively, via the airports of Bremen, Dortmund, Düsseldorf and Frankfurt. Münster is also well connected with the German high speed train system.

Organizers

The conference is organized by *Michael Pickhardt* and *Aloys Prinz*, Institute of Public Economics, Münster School of Business and Economics, University of Muenster, Germany.

Contact

Please visit the conference homepage at http://www.wiwi.uni-muenster.de/shadow2009/ for further information, or contact the conference coordinators at: conco@wiwi.uni-muenster.de.