

Economic Surveys and Data Analysis

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Edited by

Günter Poser in co-operation with Daniel Bloesch



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Preface

The Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys (CIRET) held its 25th conference at the joint invitation of the Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques (INSEE) and of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris from October 11 to October 14, 2000.

As key note speaker Professor Edmond Malinvaud addressed the conference participants with his opening speech on "The Role of Business Survey Data in Macroeconomic Research and Practice". This volume contains the opening speech as well as a selection of papers that were presented at the conference.

The papers cover a wide range of topics: (i) Macroeconomic analysis and forecasting, (ii) Leading indicators, (iii) Innovation and technology, (iv) Labour market analysis and consumer surveys, (v) Analysis of survey data with advanced econometric methods and (vi) Use of survey data for economic policy recommendations.

On behalf of CIRET I like to thank all persons who have contributed to the success of the conference:

Hélène Erkel-Rousse (INSEE) and Ronny Nilsson (OECD) and their staff were competent organizers and charming hosts. Mr. Seiichi Kondo, Deputy Secretary-General at the OECD, gave the closing speech. Petra Huth and Ruth Vognstrup at the Swiss Institute for Business Cycle Research (KOF) in Zurich supported the local organizers INSEE and OECD.

We thank the French Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry, the French Economic Forecasting Department and the European Central Bank for sponsoring the 25th CIRET conference.

We thank Jean-Jacques Vanhaelen at the National Bank of Belgium for his support in the reconstitution of CIRET as an association with legal seat in Brussels. The first general assembly of the renewed CIRET, headed by Professor Bernd Schips, new President of CIRET, was held in Paris on October 10, 2000.

Finally we appreciate the endeavour of Ronny Nilsson (OECD) who made this publication possible and we thank Susanne Boehm for formatting the papers.

Darmstadt, October 2002

Günter Poser

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