

# Programme

European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

## European Competitiveness at a Crossroad – How does Europe achieve a Regulatory Breathing Space?

**Date & Time:** 16 April 2024, 11:30 – 13:15

**Location:** European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung  
11 Avenue de l'Yser, 1040 Brussels

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Has the EU lost sight of its strategic competitiveness? Companies are navigating through troubled waters. The bureaucratic requirements resulting from a multitude of directives and regulations as well as the cumulative effects of parallel legislation are burdening the economy. At the same time, the reduction in EU bureaucracy announced at the beginning of the legislative period has yet to materialise. In social policy, the EU Commission is increasingly operating in a grey area of the European treaties, with overlapping legislation introducing multiple reporting obligations. What could an ambitious and comprehensive strategy to secure Europe's competitiveness look like? And how could European companies gain regulatory breathing space to compete better on a global level?

We will discuss these and other related questions at our KAS-BDA event with **Christian Ehler**, MEP, EPP Coordinator for the ITRE Committee at the European Parliament, **Michael Wimmer** from the European Commission, **Arne Franke** from the Confederation of German Employers' Associations (BDA) and **Michael Hüther** from the German Economic Institute (IW). The panel discussion will be moderated by **Sandra Parthie** (IW).

Our joint event will take place on **16 April 2024 from 11:30 to 13:15**. We look forward to welcoming you at the European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung!

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## European Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

11:15      **Registration**

11:30      **Welcoming Remarks**

**Beatrice Gorawantschy**  
Head of the European Office  
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

11:40      **Panel Discussion and Q&A with**

**Christian Ehler**  
Member of the European Parliament, EPP

**Arne Franke**  
Director EU Affairs  
Confederation of German Employers' Associations (BDA)

**Michael Hüther**  
Director  
German Economic Institute (IW)

**Michael Wimmer**  
Director Strategy, Better Regulation & Corporate Governance  
Secretariat-General, European Commission

*Moderated by*  
**Sandra Parthie**  
Head of EU Brussels Liaison Office  
German Economic Institute (IW)

12:40 – 13:15      **Lunch Reception**