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Press Release/Short Vita

Klaus F. Zimmermann Celebrates 50th Birthday

Klaus F. Zimmermann, President of the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) and Director of the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, will celebrate his 50th birthday on December 2, 2002.

DIW Berlin is Germany's largest economic research institute, while IZA is an independent labor economics research institute supported by Deutsche Post World Net. In addition to these management positions, Klaus F. Zimmermann holds teaching positions as Professor of Economics at Bonn University and the Free University of Berlin. He also acts as a policy adviser for influential national and international advisory panels. Among others, he is a member of the "Group of Economic Analysis" (GEA), an expert body established by the President of the EU Commission. Due to his contributions to numerous journals and his commitment to national and international scientific management, Zimmermann is one of the most prolific and influential German economists. His main research interests are in labor economics, population economics, migration, industrial organization, and econometrics.

Klaus F. Zimmermann was born December 2, 1952, in Göppingen, Germany. He studied economics at the University of Mannheim, where he also earned his doctorate and was promoted to professor. His subsequent academic career took him to the Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium, the Social Science Research Center in Berlin, and the University of Pennsylvania. In 1989, following a brief stint as visiting professor at the University of Dortmund, he accepted a position as Full Professor of Economics at the University of Munich. Until 1998, he engaged in teaching and research in Munich, interrupted by visiting positions in the United States (Dartmouth College) and Japan (Kyoto University). He was also founder and director of the SELAPO Center for Human Resources, Dean of the University of Munich Economics Department, and Co-Founder of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE).

Zimmermann was the first German economist ever to receive the "Distinguished John G. Diefenbaker Award" of the Canada Council for the Arts in 1998. In the same year, he moved on to become founding Director of IZA and quickly established the institute as an internationally acclaimed center for labor economics. At the same time, he became a Professor of Economics at the University of Bonn. Since 2000, Zimmermann has been President of DIW Berlin and since 2001 Honorary Professor of Economics at the Free University of Berlin. With his numerous positions in the field of

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scientific policy advice, Zimmermann is one of the most sought-after German economists.

Professor Zimmermann has authored or edited 24 books and more than 150 articles in refereed journals and anthologies. He has written on various pivotal issues predominantly in the area of labor, migration and population economics. His work has appeared in numerous refereed journals such as the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Econometrica* and the *Journal of Human Resources*. Since 1988, Zimmermann has been editor-in-chief of the renowned *Journal of Population Economics*. As Program Director for Human Resources and Labour Economics (1991-2001), he was part of the leadership circle of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR, London) and contributed to the center's development into the most influential European research and advisory network in the field of economics.

Although Zimmermann already looks back on a scientific career of exceptional achievement, he has great ambitions for the future. "DIW Berlin has the potential to become the number one among the European economic research institutes. IZA will expand on its role as one of the most influential centers of international labor market research," Zimmermann said.