

iaw: history & development

Founded in 2001, the Institute Labour and Economy (Institut Arbeit und Wirtschaft, or iaw) is a cooperation of the University of Bremen and the Chamber of Labour Bremen, a non-profit legal organisation that represents the interests of employees in all sectors in the state of Bremen. The iaw researches, develops, and lobbies for political and economic measures to benefit employees in an increasingly complex society. With interdisciplinary research, academic consulting, public forums, and political engagement, it contributes to the ongoing public discourse about reshaping and reorganising the economy and society.

The Institute Labour and Economy shows a strong interaction between fundamental research and application-oriented research. This is characterised by business cooperations and pilot projects.

iaw activities:

- fundamental research
- contract research for companies and public institutions
- consulting for public institutions, companies and labour
- evaluations of institutions
- moderating labour conflicts
- organising events and meetings
- developing concepts for organisational reforms
- consulting in organisational development processes
- organising public colloquia
- publishing research reports and consultation briefings



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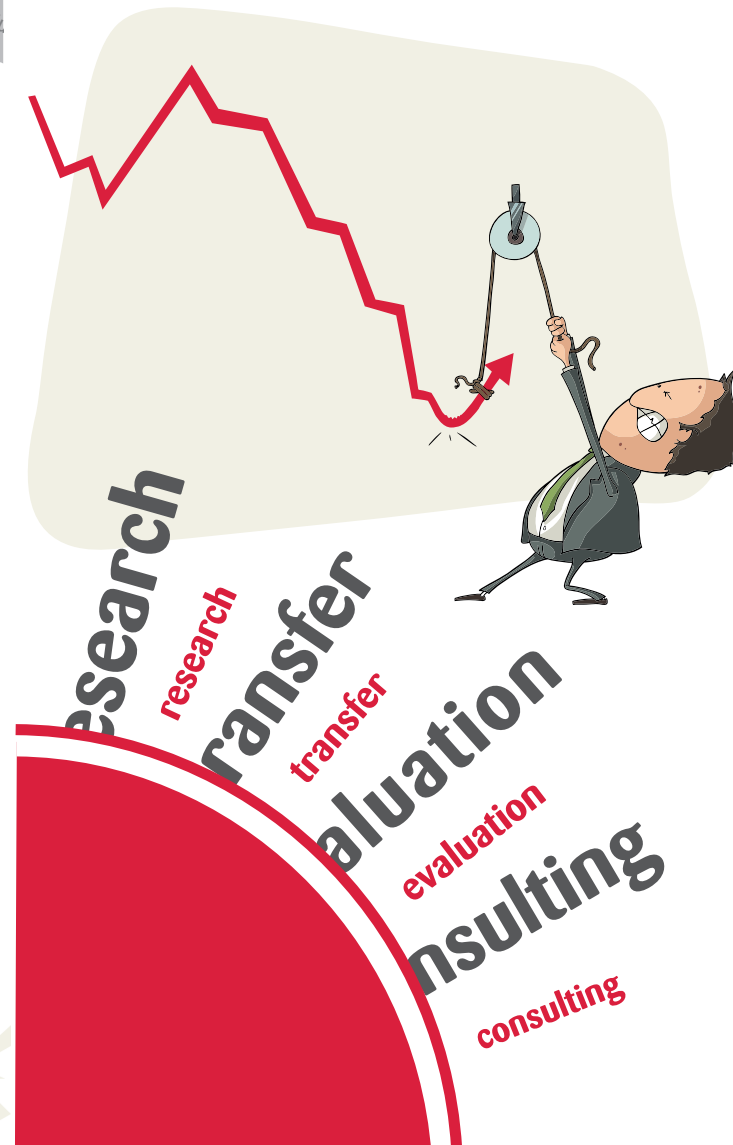
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Institute Labour and Economy
University of Bremen / Chamber of Labour Bremen





How have work and employment been changing in our society? Which changes are due to come?

Department I
„Institutional Change in Work, Employment and Society“

Department I focuses on labour market and social policy. It analyses how institutions and actor strategies evolve with respect to governing in the labour conditions and industrial relations. It focuses on wage agreements and the interplay between social partners, company regulations, and individual contracts. How work is organized and the proliferation of new types of employment and labour conditions and their effect on professional career patterns are core questions. The department I also explores the consequences for various forms of social inequality and develops political counterstrategies.



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Which are the most important aspects for enhancing sustainable employability over the life course?

Department II
„Perspectives for Sustainable Employability“

The employability of employees depends on many interacting factors and changes constantly. The department II focuses on the quality of vocational and academic pathways leading to employment, changing requirements for employment, and on-the-job training and skill acquisition. Also, it looks at the organisation of work, working conditions, quality of work, and the health and motivation of employees. Practice-oriented research is the foundation for its organisational design recommendations.



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What are the frameworks, conditions and processes of change in cities and regions? What are the relevant frameworks for economic and financial development in multilevel systems?

Department III
„Regional Development and Fiscal Policy“

Department III focuses on the analysis of frameworks, conditions and impacts of the socio-economic, ecological and political change in cities and regions within multilevel-governance-structures. Another topic is the analysis of economic policy, financial and tax policy on sublevels in multilevel systems. Thereby, a special topic is the embedment of city-states in multilevel systems with respect to the small and micro state research. It comprises consulting, moderation, and evaluation projects in all these areas.



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