

## A New Chapter for the IZA Network

August 20, 2025

Dear IZA Network Members,

Over the past months, we have made significant efforts to ensure the continued work of the global IZA Network and preserve its essential role in advancing labor economics beyond December 2025, when the Bonn-based institute will officially close.

Today, we are delighted to announce that these efforts have been highly successful: the IZA Network—including the renowned IZA Discussion Paper Series and the IZA World of Labor—has found a new institutional home at the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER), effective January 1, 2026.

Founded in 1989, LISER is a multilingual, internationally connected public research institute at the heart of Europe. With a staff of 200 from over 30 countries and a mission rooted in interdisciplinary excellence, LISER is deeply embedded in Europe's research landscape. It maintains strong ties with EU institutions, universities, and policy practitioners across the continent.

LISER also has robust and long-standing connections with Germany, both structurally and academically. The institute collaborates actively with German universities and research centers through joint publications, events, researcher exchanges, and participation in advisory boards. These connections make LISER a natural fit for hosting the IZA Network—while also positioning the network to expand its European and international reach.

LISER fully embraces the IZA Network's mission. Taking over its core activities aligns closely with LISER's long-term goals: fostering international collaboration, supporting policy-relevant research, and nurturing the next generation of researchers.

Under LISER's stewardship, the following core activities will continue:

- The IZA Discussion Paper Series, a trusted and visible platform for disseminating top-tier labor economics research;
- The IZA World of Labor, providing concise, policy-relevant insights for decision-makers and serving as a valuable resource for teaching;
- Flagship events such as the Summer School and key thematic workshops;
- A visiting program for fellows.

Beyond preserving these core activities, LISER is committed to enhancing the IZA Network's global reach and impact. Plans are underway to expand accessibility and strengthen connections with European policymaking communities, while also fostering collaboration and exchange through short- and long-term visiting opportunities as well as through an enhanced event program. These initiatives will leverage Luxembourg's strategic location to establish a stronger European policy footprint and ensure IZA-generated research continues to inform real-world decision-making.

Both leadership teams will work closely to ensure a smooth, respectful transition with minimal disruption. Our most important priority is to ensure the continuity of the network's valuable contributions to labor economics and related areas of research.

We want to emphasize that this engagement represents a long-term institutional commitment to nurture and grow the IZA network, its activities, and its visibility. This project has the full support of both IZA's and LISER's leadership and Boards. We are deeply motivated by a shared belief in the value of rigorous, independent, and policy-relevant labor economics. At a time of growing threats to academic freedom and evidence-based policymaking, we aim to maintain a beacon for open, collaborative, and impactful social science research in Europe and beyond.

Further details on the transition, network governance and future activities will be shared with you in the fall of 2025. We look forward to your continued valuable contributions as the IZA Network embarks on this exciting new phase.

Sincerely,

Aline Muller (CEO LISER)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'AM' followed by a stylized flourish.

Martin T. Clemens (CFO IZA)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Martin T. Clemens' in a cursive script.