



Prof. Dr. Irene Bertschek
(Vice Chair of the Commission)

- Prof. Dr. Irene Bertschek has been a member of the Commission of Experts for Research and Innovation, appointed by the German Federal Government since 1 May 2019.
- Since 2001, she has been head of the ‘Digital Economy’ research unit at the ZEW – Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research in Mannheim. She has also held the professorship in ‘Economy of Digitalization’ at the Justus-Liebig-University Giessen since 2017.
- After studying economics at the University of Mannheim (Diploma) and the Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium (Master of Arts), majoring in econometrics and industrial economics, Dr. Irene Bertschek received her doctorate from the Université catholique de Louvain as part of the European Doctoral Programme. During this time, she spent research stays at CREST-INSEE in Paris and at the Humboldt University Berlin. She has been working at the ZEW since 1999. From 2011 to 2017, she was Professor of Applied Empirical Economic Research at the University of Mannheim.
- Her research focuses on how digitalization changes economic processes and how it affects the productivity and innovation behaviour of businesses. Her methodological expertise lies in applied microeconometrics and the analysis of firm-level data.
- She works on numerous national and international economic research projects and is associate editor of Information Economics and Policy.
- She contributes her expertise to high-level advisory bodies for science and politics. Among other things, she is vice-president of the steering group of the Swiss National Science programme “Digital Change” of the Swiss National Science Foundation and a member of the Learning Systems Platform at acatech, the German Academy of Science and Engineering. Since 2022, she has also been a member of the Federal Chancellor’s Future Council, which makes proposals to strengthen resilience and technological technological sovereignty in key technologies and in digitalisation.