

Networks of Think Tanks in Europe: overview, perspectives, strategies

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Content

- overview, facts
- Developing your/our network
- Practical evidence



Think Tanks in Europe



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- no tradition of TT in continental Europe (vs. USA, GB)
- now at least 1 „free market“ TT in each EU-member country
- until now: hardly any cooperation among TT
- no knowledge of the other TT topics
- no division of labour among TT
- many TT compete with Universities

Think Tanks: aims (common goals)



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- to create a **world** which is more **free**
- and to **influence public policy** by
 - **making all persons (politicians) interested** acquainted with free market approaches and
 - to **promote these ideas** and
 - to discuss **topical questions** concerning economic and social politics and
 - to offer studies and solutions on a scientific basis

Content

- 4 Think Tanks in Europe
- Developing your network
 - by communication
 - by cooperation
- Practical evidence



Developing your network



What is networking?:

„The challenge for the new millenium is to harness the vast reservoir of knowledge, information and associational energy that exists in public policy research organizations in every region of the world.“

James G. McGann (Foreign Policy Research Institute)

Developing your network



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Why?

- **Flexible networks** of the civil society and economies without hierarchic barriers are getting more and more important
- Change of the conception of the individual state **from central ,hub‘ to peripheral equal player** among many others – naturally with special tasks
- A minimum of legal restrictions enables **free action of these networks in globalized society and economy**
- Networks have become **essential bases** for modern democracy, quality of life and economic growth
- Networks make our Institutes stronger

Developing your Institute by networks



- The impact of a network depends on **fast forwarding of information**
- Networks are markets for knowledge and information and in an ideal case some kind of **virtual development center** for innovation and new ideas

Developing your think tank by communication



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Basics and musts

- **Fast, correct and usefull information** is the most important factor to run a network
- Such information is a **powerful resource** for public affairs activities, because...
- ...**policy-makers need basic information** about the world and the societies they govern
- speak the same language and share the same systems of values
- Join forces (devisision of labour!!!)

Developing your think tank by communication



Within networks, the others know your aims, your facts and your arguments and your power. So the values

- **continuity** and
 - **credibility**
- are very meaningful.

But others do not share these values, even if they come from the same background they communicate in a different way.

Developing your think tank by cooperation



- Independent from the concrete issue it is necessary to **establish networks** between institutions and acting persons in
 - Policy (eg. In the free market TT world)
 - Economy
 - Civil society
 - Media

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- 4 Developing your think tank
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Developing your Think

Tank:

Practical evidence

Create a label for your TT



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- to be successful adapt the rules of businesses
- act professionally
- organize your think tank as if it were an enterprise
- optimize the daily (operative) work
- plan strategically

Developing your Think Tank:

Practical evidence

- Know your targets
 - research and analysis on policy problems
 - local, national, international
 - providing advice on immediate policy concerns
 - providing supply of key personnel to government



Developing your Institute: Practical evidence

- national/regional
 - strategies that sell:
 - lunches
 - conferences
 - research work
 - analysis on policy problems
 - dinner speakers
 - endowed Hayek chair
 - student programmes
 - pay back time (synergies)
 - phone calls (1 min.)



Developing your Institute: Practical evidence

- international
 - strategies that sell:
 - attend conferences
 - exchange research work
 - best practises on analysis on policy problems
 - keep contacts





**Thank you
for your attention
and see you in Vienna...
at the
AUSTRIAN BALL
June, 17th 2005
Castle of Laxenburg/Viennna**