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Article

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The Subject Portal EconBiz and the EconBiz Partner Network

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ABSTRACT

This short paper introduces the search portal EconBiz and its major features as well as the international partner network built around EconBiz.

Keywords: Subject portal, International cooperation, Balkan libraries, Economics and business studies, EU-project EEXCESS.

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I. Introduction

EconBiz.de shown in Fig. 1 is a free a subject specific search portal for economics and business studies and related subjects. It offers a search for publications like academic books and articles as well as a calendar of events featuring current conferences. The portal can be accessed through the website www.econbiz.de as well through Apps for iPad, iPhone or Android smart phones.

The EconBiz partner network is a community of academic institutions and libraries working together to improve the portal and the services in order to create a leading search portal. Many Balkan countries are already members of the partner network.

II. Major Search Features of EconBiz and Integration of Features

EconBiz.de is a free a portal provided by the German National Library of Economics (ZBW). It includes more than 9 million datasets relevant for economics and business studies in many different languages. The portal aims to support research and teaching with a central entry point for all kinds of subject-specific information and direct access to full texts. The search results can be filtered according to year of publication, topics, type of publication and more. Availability options try to show the best way to the document. The search can also be narrowed down to open access material only. The research guide EconDesk offers online- chat or mail –options to

help users if they have questions on search strategies or on how to get hold of documents.

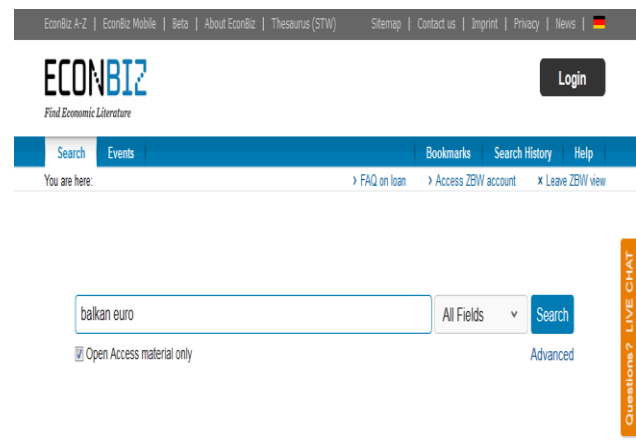


Fig. 1. ECONBIZ.

A calendar of events in economics and business studies is also part of the portal. It covers future conferences and summer schools from all parts of the world. A number of newly developed features can be accessed through the EconBiz beta pages. An Online Call Organizer helps to keep track of upcoming events and call-for-paper deadlines. This feature is based on the winning concept proposed in an idea competition. A visual search function for events, shown in Fig. 2, helps to locate interesting conferences in the region or country of interest.

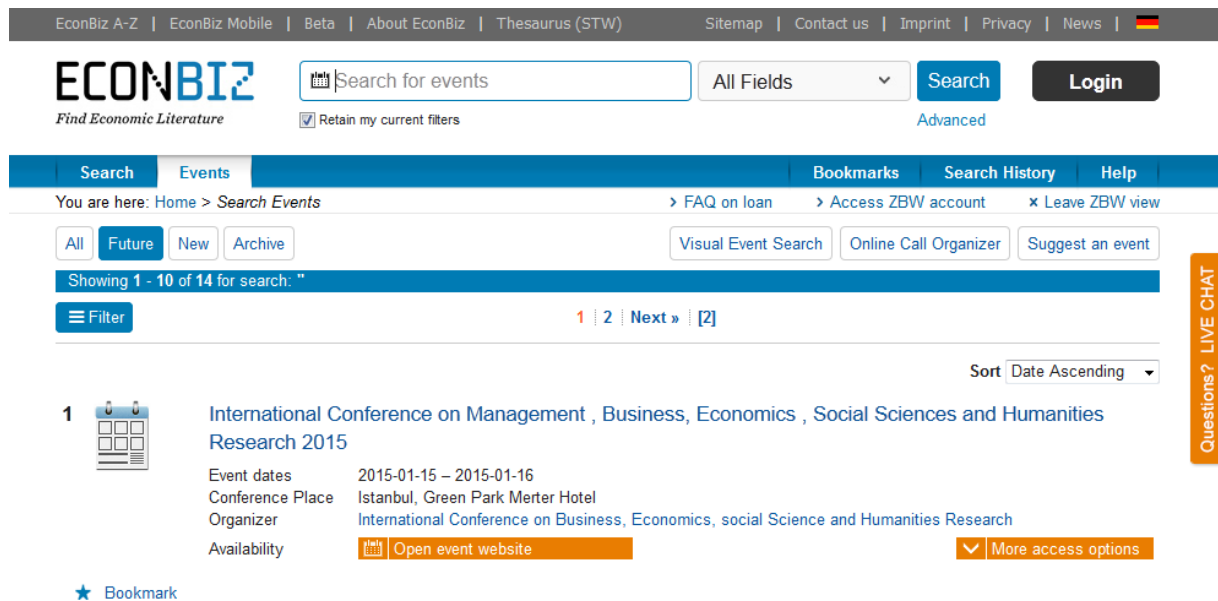


Fig. 2. The search for publications or events can also be included in library websites or other websites.

Integrate the [EconBiz search](#) into your website

Use the following HTML code to integrate the EconBiz search into your website:

```
<form name="econbizsearch" method="get" action="http://www.econbiz.de/Search/Results" target="_blank">
  <a href="http://www.econbiz.de/" target="_blank" title="External link to EconBiz"></a>
  <div style="display: inline-block;">
    <input type="text" name="lookfor" size="100" style="height: 21px; width: 215px; padding: 1px 6px; border-radius: 4px; border: 1px solid #A0A0A0;" placeholder="Search for publications" />
    <input type="submit" value="Search" style="height: 25px; background-color: #007BB4; color: #FFFFFF; border-radius: 4px; border: 0px;" />
  </div>
</form>
```

If you customize the code, please use the EconBiz logo.

The search form will look like this on your website:

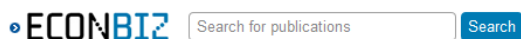


Fig. 3. In addition to the web-portal free apps for iPad, iPhone or Android-Smartphones can be used to access the portal.

III. The International EconBiz Partner Network

In 2012 the ZBW started to build an international partner network around its subject portal. By the end of 2014 22 partners from 22 different countries were part of the network. Seven Balkan countries are already participating in the network. Koç University Library in Istanbul was one of the first international partners of the network. An annual meeting and an annual student competition help to tie closer connections between the partners. The partners also make recommendations for the EconBiz calendar of events thus promoting events in their countries and improving the calendar at the same time. The partners communicate via mail, in webinars or through an open facebook-group. In early 2015 a wiki for the partners will also be provided to increase communication options for the partners.

IV. Conclusion and Future Developments

EconBiz is a free portal for students and researchers in economics and business studies. The international partner network is growing fast. Future developments will be based on input by cooperation partners, research and developments from third-party funded projects. For example, EconBiz is part of the EU-funded project EEXCESS. The vision of EEXCESS is to push high-quality content to platforms and devices which are used every day. Instead of navigating a multitude of libraries, repositories and databases, users will find relevant and specialized information in their search and study environments. Thus, in the future, EconBiz content will be accessible not only through genuine EconBiz channels like the website and apps but also through search plugins provided by EEXCESS as shown in Fig. 3.

References

EconBiz: www.econbiz.de

EconBiz-Beta: <https://www.econbiz.de/eb/en/beta/about-beta/>

EconBiz calendar of events:
<https://www.econbiz.de/Events/Results>

EconBiz: Include Search in website:
<https://www.econbiz.de/eb/en/integrate-search-in-your-website/>

EconBiz Apps: <https://www.econbiz.de/eb/en/econbiz-mobile/>

EconBiz Online Call Organizer (OCO):
<https://beta.econbiz.de/oco/profile>

EconBiz partner network:
<http://www.econbiz.de/eb/en/about/econbiz-partner-network/econbiz-partner-network/>

EconBiz partner network Facebook group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/econbizpartnernetwork/>

EconBiz Visual Event Search:
<https://www.econbiz.de/eb/en/beta/visual-event-search/>

EconDesk: <https://www.econbiz.de/eb/en/hilfe/ask-econdesk/e-mail/>

EEXCESS: <http://eexcess.eu/>

EEXCESS-Browser-Extension:
<http://eexcess.eu/results/chrome-extension/>

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<http://www.zbw.eu/en/>



Dr. Tamara Pianos is the head of Information Provision and Access at the ZBW the German National Library of Economics – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics. Her major fields of activity are the subject portal EconBiz, information literacy and the international EconBiz partner network.

After finishing her PhD in Canadian Studies she started her traineeship to become an academic librarian in Osnabrueck and Cologne. From 2002 to 2005 she worked at the German National Library of Science and Technology (TIB) in Hanover. In 2005 she started working for the ZBW in various capacities.

<http://www.zbw.eu/en/search/econbiz-mobile/tamara-pianos/>

<http://www.mendeley.com/profiles/tamara-pianos/>