

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 2011

Vision without action  
is merely a dream.  
Action without vision  
just passes the time.  
Vision with action  
can change the  
world.

—Joel Arthur Barker



**Thank you for the fruitful co-operation throughout the past year and wish you a healthy and prosperous new year.**

Dear colleagues, partners and friends,

May the new year be rich in innovation, good news and financial success.

The declining year brought about a number of important changes. Dr Lowitzsch was awarded the Kelso Professorship for Comparative Law, East European Economic Law and European Legal Policy (with emphasis on Employee Financial Participation) at the European University Viadrina. As his assistant, Stefan Hanisch was appointed lecturer and research associate.

Dr Lowitzsch remains to be closely affiliated with the Inter-University Centre at the Free University of Berlin as assistant

director. The accession of Viadrina to the Inter-University Centre partnership is currently being negotiated.

On 21 October 2010, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) adopted the Own-Initiative Opinion SOC 371 “Employee Financial Participation in Europe”. Dr Lowitzsch participated as an expert for EESC Group I (employers).

Furthermore, the German Hans Böckler Foundation granted the funding of the project “Employee Share Ownership and Co-Determination”.

Finally, on 18 November 2010, the Inter-University Centre, as leading member of a European consortium, has been awarded

the Commission-funded project “Promoting Employee Financial Participation in the EU-27 (PRO-EFP)”.

A total of 9 national workshops each organised by the national partners aim to disseminate results providing policymakers with concrete tools and instruments to promote EFP. Viadrina will host the German event on 30-31 May 2011. As main event, the “Week of Employee Financial Participation” will take place on the premises of the EESC in Brussels on 17-19 October 2011. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

**Prof. Dr iur. Jens Lowitzsch**  
**Dipl. iur. Stefan Hanisch**