Heterogeneity & Inflation: From Microeconomic Variation to Macroeconomic Impact

Call for Papers

The BIS Innovation Hub Eurosystem Centre and the BIS Monetary and Economic Department, in association with CEPR, CEBRA and Basel University is organising a conference on Inflation Heterogeneity: Micro-Level Variations and Macro-Level Effects.

Conference Dates: 26–27 May 2026 | **Host:** BIS, Basel. | **Submission deadline:** 15 March 2026

This conference will explore different dimensions of heterogeneity - across consumers, firms, and shocks - and the resulting macroeconomic implications for aggregate inflation and policy. It will also explore the practical implications for the measurement, nowcasting and forecasting of inflation, including projects such as Spectrum of the BIS Innovation Hub. The conference is aimed at both academic and policy audiences.

The **scientific committee** includes Raphael Auer (BIS & CEPR), Boris Hofmann (BIS), Sarah Lein (University of Basel & CEPR), Chiara Osbat (ECB), Elvira Prades (BIS & Banco de España), Andras Valko (BIS) and Henning Weber (Bundesbank).

Academic keynote speakers:

- **Klaus Adam** (University of Mannheim, UCL, & CEPR)
- **Xavier Jaravel** (LSE & CEPR)

Focus areas: Submissions are being sought on the following topics:

- **Micro-to-Macro Linkages:** The influence of heterogeneous shocks and differences in consumer experiences (welfare, consumption baskets) and firm pricing behaviour (market power, price stickiness) on aggregate inflation dynamics and persistence.
- **Global and Sectoral Drivers:** The role of global supply chains and sectoral/regional variations in driving diverse inflationary pressures.
- **Heterogeneous Expectations:** Formation and impact of heterogeneous inflation expectations across agents, and the resulting implications for monetary/fiscal policy design and transmission.

- **Frontiers in Data & Methods (AI/ML):** Innovative use of AI/Machine Learning for collecting, treating, and analysing massive, unstructured datasets (e.g., web scraped/scanner data) to extract granular insights on inflation.

Submission Details:

- **Submission Deadline:** 15 March 2026.
- **Submission Email:** inflationconference@bisih.org (Please submit a full paper or extended abstract).

Support: Travel reimbursement (economy class airplane/first class train) and accommodation (up to 2 nights in Basel) will be provided for active participants (speakers and discussants) from academic institutions.