



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST ASSOCIATION EUROPEENNE DES ECONOMISTES AGRICOLES

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Ulrich Koester

Research

KOESTER has published more than 350 scientific contributions, of which 77 are in refereed journal. He has published more than 290 articles in national and international journals and chapters of books. This outstanding

contributions to research fall into three areas

- * EU market policy and trade
- * Trade and developing countries
- * Transition countries



Teaching

One of the most striking features of KOESTER is his prescient ability to seize on new and important topics in agricultural economics and related research areas and integrate them into his lectures. In so doing, KOESTER skillfully combines theory with real world problems, which is greatly appreciated by students. Many former students confirm that it was KOESTER'S lectures which motivated them to change their field of study and transfer from plant or animal production to agricultural economics. In 2002, KOESTER has earned the award "Best teacher of the year in the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Science at the University of Kiel".

KOESTER has taught many different subjects for undergraduates and graduates. The topics included "Money and Banking" and "International Finance" (State University of New York), "Introduction to economics", "Macroeconomics" and "Theory of economic and agricultural policy" (University of Göttingen), "Econometrics and Development Economics" (Technical University Berlin). After he accepted the offer of the University of Kiel his lectures mainly concentrated on "Market Analysis" and "Market Policy".

KOESTER'S approach to research and teaching impressed many excellent and motivated students who also

quickly learned that the academic training of junior scientific staff is very near and dear to KOESTER. Accordingly, 17 out of his 40 PhD students are Professors at Universities who have already brought forth a second generation of professors themselves. More than 50 of his former students (including the PhD students) are professors at universities or universities of applied sciences, mostly in Germany, but also abroad.

KOESTER has been the teacher and mentor of a large number of agricultural economists in leading positions in Germany, and in other countries, especially in many developing countries. One of his former PhD students, Ousmane BADIANE who is currently the Director of IFPRI, Unit in Dakar, Senegal writes: "I first sat in his class in October 1980 as a second year student at the University of Kiel and went on to write my dissertation under his supervision from 1984 to 1987.

Among many of his outstanding contributions to the profession, I would like to cite the following three:

1. He has been a major and early bridge linking the community of German and European agricultural economists to their peers globally, thereby helping position the University of Kiel as a respected centre of learning.
2. He has trained a long line of outstanding teachers and other professionals over a period spanning more than two decades who are now in leadership position at numerous universities and



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organizations around the globe.

3. He has attracted and trained a number of African and other developing country professionals, and has done so with a sense of commitment and dedication that goes far beyond the ordinary."

KOESTER's textbook "Grundzüge der landwirtschaftlichen Marktlehre" is now into its fourth edition and is used at most universities in Germany, Switzerland and Austria. It has been translated into Serbian and Russian. KOESTER has also contributed a chapter co-authored by EL-AGRAA on "The Common Agricultural Policy" in EL-AGRAA (Ed.) The European Union. Economics and Policies (8th Edition. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge. 2007. pp. 373-410). The 9th edition is currently in print.

After official retirement in Kiel (2003), KOESTER has revised his textbook twice. He continues to teach Master Students at the University of Kiel and in PhD courses at IAMO in Halle. Moreover, he has accepted visiting professorships with teaching obligation at the Mongolian State University of Agriculture in Ulaan Batar, Mongolia, the University of Warmia and Masuria, Olsztyn, Poland, Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary, Agricultural University, Prague, Czech Republic, University Babe?-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and International School of Economics Tbilisi (ISET), Georgia.

Contribution to Policy Making

KOESTER considers himself to be a public economist who should serve as an advocate of the general public interest. Hence, he defines his task as a contribution to actual policy making by providing information on the comprehensive effects of actual and alternative policy decisions. Of course, policy makers and farmer unions have often been unhappy with the results of his analysis and his proposals. Nevertheless, his advice was always in great demand.

For more than 20 years, he served on the Advisory Council to the German Minister for Agriculture and Food, where he significantly contributed to many reports. Although KOESTER'S opinion often contradicted that of the Minister, he continued his task. The most decisive factor for this was the fact that all reports of the Advisory Council to the German Minister for Agriculture and Food were published without any censorship of the Ministry. Thus, the Council contributed to the policy debate, influenced attitudes and perceptions, and thus prepared the ground for the policy changes of the 1990s and early 2000s.

KOESTER'S advice was also well accepted in transition countries. He contributed to documents about "Strategy for Agricultural Policy" in numerous countries including Ukraine, Poland, Serbia, Croatia, Romania, Latvia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia. One of his most important tasks for the EU was KOESTER'S chairmanship of an international team that prepared the study "Disharmonies in EC and US Agricultural Policy Measures" in 1988. He also contributed to the important EU study on "EC Agricultural Policy for the 21st Century", Reports and Studies. European Economy, No.4, Brussels, 1994. Moreover, KOESTER has worked for many international organizations such as IFPRI, the FAO, IFAD, the World Bank, the European Parliament, the EU Commission, the OECD and others. His contribution to policy making has been documented in many publication which focused more on policy makers and the public at large.

Service to the Profession

KOESTER has provided outstanding service to the agricultural economics profession:

- He has contributed tremendously to the profession through former students who held and hold high academic and scientific positions in the EU, the OECD, the FAO, the World Bank and at IFPRI.
- He continuously participated in international conferences: KOESTER participated in every IAAE



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conference

since 1971 except one, and he has presented an invited papers at four of these conferences. He has presented contributed papers at three IAAE conferences, and at one conference (in Harare) he organized a session.

- KOESTER has served as a member of many editorial boards. He was a member of the editorial board of Agricultural Economics and served as co-editor of the Quarterly Journal of International Agriculture. Since 2002 he is Co-editor of EuroChoices. At present he serves on the editorial advisory boards of the Quarterly Journal of International Agriculture and of South-Eastern Europe Journal of Economics.

- KOESTER has been asked to evaluate numerous research organizations in Germany and abroad. In 1989/90 he was a member of an international committee that evaluated the agricultural universities and research organizations in the former GDR and prepared recommendations for restructuring. He has also twice been asked to review the work of IFPRI. He was part of a two-member evaluation team of the Centre for World Food Studies, VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and a member of a team which evaluated the Agricultural Economics Research organization in Finland.

- KOESTER was in charge for assessing the higher Education System in Ukraine and Belarus and to recommend a restructuring in 2010 and 2011.

- Koester a curriculum for introducing a specialization in aricultural economics at the International School of Economics at Tbilisi, Georgia in 2011.

In sum, Prof. Dr. Ulrich KOESTER is one of the most distinguished members of our profession in Europe. His performance is clearly exceptional in research, education and policy advice, and he has provided outstanding service and leadership to the profession. Therefore, we believe that Prof. Dr. Ulrich KOESTER is an excellent and most suited candidate for the EAAE Fellowship and would like to highly recommend him.