EconStor is a subject-based repository for economics and business administration maintained by the German National Library of Economics / Leibniz Information Centre for Economics (ZBW). It provides a reliable archiving and publishing infrastructure and free access to all kinds of scholarly publications.

A predecessor of EconStor was established in 2003 when ZBW started to archive digital working paper series that were no longer available in print. In 2009 the repository was migrated to a DSpace infrastructure and operates under the name EconStor since. Some of EconStor’s features and the cross-linking with databases such as RePEc have been realized with the help of a third-party grant by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

EconStor currently hosts almost 70,000 publications. This content is provided by over 200 research institutions, universities, academic associations from Germany, and some international organizations.

Furthermore, EconStor has a strong affiliation with the Leibniz Association, a union of German non-university research institutions, and provides support for Economics-oriented Leibniz Institutes which do not have a local repository infrastructure.

The content in EconStor is organized into Communities and Collections. These Communities are usually universities, research institutes or publishing houses.

The scope of EconStor includes publications from all research areas in economics, business administration and neighboring sciences.

EconStor benefits from a widespread preprint culture within economics. Within the field, it is common practice to make research results freely available as working and discussion papers before they are submitted to scholarly journals in a final draft. EconStor archives most of the working paper series from Germany and many from abroad.

Most of the content is submitted via mediated deposit. EconStor offers a ‘Full Submission Service’ to editors of paper series, journals, and conference proceedings, i.e. the team takes care of the full text upload and metadata recording – free of charge, and based on a terms of use agreement.

Apart from complete working paper series or e-journals, EconStor is open for single authors as well. Scholars can register and self-archive their own publications. These publications appear in a special collection (‘EconStor Direct’) which is subdivided in common publication types.

Content and collection policy

EconStor 2014 Roadmap

Developments for 2014 will be focused on three main areas:

- **Altmetrics**: Measuring the impact of EconStor publications alternatively in consideration of their mentions in blogs and other social media.
- **Long-Term Digital Preservation**: EconStor’s digital content will be permanently archived by implementing a long-term preservation software from Ex Libris.
- The EconStor website will be optimized for the usage of mobile devices like smartphones and tablets.
Repository Profile:

EconStor

Promoting Visibility of EconStor Contents

EconStor offers multiple dissemination services and interfaces:

1) **Google Scholar Optimization**: The HTML splash pages of all items are enriched with bibliographic ‘meta tags’ according to Google Scholar’s Inclusion Guidelines for Webmasters.

2) **National RePEc Input Service**: For German research institutes EconStor offers the option of feeding the metadata for entire series, journals, and conferences to the renowned online database ‘RePEc – Research Papers in Economics’. As a result EconStor is now one of the biggest content providers for RePEc.

3) **EconStor is fully indexed** in further academic search engines and online databases like EconBiz, WorldCat and BASE.

4) **Publications of Leibniz Association researchers are integrated into the central Open Access Portal LeibnizOpen**.

5) **EconStor is OpenAIRE Compliant**, i.e. research publications from projects funded by EU’s Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) will be provided to the official portal OpenAIRE – Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe.

6) **Linked Open Data**: EconStor’s metadata is disseminated to the ‘Semantic Web’ by providing additional ‘machine readable’ linking options for external databases via a SPARQL endpoint.

Download statistics are publicly available, and compliant to the COUNTER Code of Practice in order to achieve an objective and reliable comparability of usage data. In 2013 the total number of downloads amounts to more than 2.3 million.

**Linked Open Data: Opening up EconStor for the semantic web**

**Spotlight: EconStor’s Linked Open Data Initiative**
http://linkeddata.econstor.eu/beta/

Today, repositories provide masses of (meta)data, which are constantly exported and harvested via OAI-PMH, aggregated and searched from service providers. Publishing this data as Linked Open Data (LOD) provides more opportunities for sharing and reusing this data and linking it to external sources (both repository and non-repository data).

**Goals** of publishing EconStor as Linked Dataset:

- Introducing semantic publishing by linking (and typing) metadata to external RDF datasets like DBPedia, FOAF and STW
- Creating new possibilities for querying distributed research information, e.g. ‘Show me the provenience and gender of all researchers who have published at a German research institute’
- Reusing existing LOD, e.g. for describing a resource with keywords from DBPedia or STW, or for expressing its language
- Identifying potentials for triplification of e.g. names for organizations or persons by linking them to authority data exposed as LOD
- Gaining experiences with hosting and maintaining a local LOD infrastructure

**Results**

- First Linked Dataset of a repository in Economics with links to external datasets like FOAF, DBPedia and STW
- HTML-View for browsing the RDF data
- SPARQL endpoint for querying the data in real time

**About the ZBW**: The ZBW was founded in 1919 and with its two branches in Kiel and Hamburg it is the world’s largest special library for economics. As a member of the Leibniz Association, a union of German non-university research institutes, ZBW is publicly funded by the Federal Government and the Federal States.