

## *The Swedish Network for European Studies in Economics and Business – factsheet*

### **About the network**

The Swedish Network for European Studies in Economics and Business is a national research network sponsored by the Swedish government, and has the following background and objectives:

”It is important to support the emergence of a broad European profile in Swedish research. This should be accomplished in a way so as to enhance the understanding of the European Union in research and post-graduate education in legal studies, economics, and political science. A national network structure in which several universities and colleges participate should be established. The structure should comprise of one network for political science, one for economics, and one for legal studies – each with a co-ordinating secretariat. Both established researchers and PhD students should have access to the networks.”

*(From the government’s Proposition 1996/97:5)*

The economics network makes a ‘generous’ interpretation of the directives in the proposition, meaning that the disciplinary reach of the network stretches over economic history, economic geography, management/business administration, and economics. In terms of research areas the network covers both empirical research on European issues and theoretical research relevant to the study of integration processes, etc. The overall goals of the network are to create a good research environment for research falling into the network’s areas of interest, and to contribute to the wider dispersion of research results within these areas.

To reach its goals, the network offers its participating members different fora for the presentation and discussion of research and for the exchange of information with other researchers in the same or neighboring fields. These fora consist mainly of seminars and academic conferences. The network also develops contacts and disperses information about its activities outside the strictly defined research community (government and other public bodies, NGOs, etc.). Thereby, participating researchers get access to a wider web of contacts, the possibilities to participate in new projects and in new collaborations of different kinds.

Another important task for the network is to gather, structure, and make accessible information on current research being conducted by its members. One important source of such information is the database of conference and discussion papers presented at the network’s conferences, which are accessed through the network’s internet site – [www.snee.org](http://www.snee.org).

Finally, the network also maintains close contacts with the related political-science and legal-studies networks; the collaboration between the networks results, inter alia, in the annual publication of a new volume in the yearbook series *Europaperspektiv* (European Perspectives), containing contributions (3 articles from each discipline) from prominent Swedish scholars with an interest in European studies.