Interactive Tour "Money and Stability – ADVANCED"

The ADVANCED tour offers an in-depth exploration of the topic of Money and Stability. Stability is a guiding principle in monetary, economic and fiscal policy processes. Ensuring price stability is the core task of the Swiss National Bank. The tour focuses on the Swiss National Bank's mandate, the central aspects of monetary policy assessment, and the impact of the key interest rate on the economy and inflation. Current issues relating to monetary policy are addressed in a manner fitting to the student group.

The visit is divided into two stages:
- A guided tour of the exhibition led by hosts, where the students explore monetary policy through a specially set task.
- Free exploration, in which the students discover the Moneyverse on their own.

During the tour, students gain insights into the Swiss National Bank's monetary policy assessment. They take a behind-the-scenes look at economic analysis and learn which indicators shape the Swiss National Bank's monetary policy decisions. In a fictional economic scenario, students become decision makers themselves, taking on the responsibility for setting the policy rate.

The self-guided exploration of the exhibition and its socio-economic themes opens up a broad view on social and behavioural economics.

The combination of guided learning and independent exploration creates a lasting visitor experience. Students connect fundamental economic concepts with real-world questions and reflect on economic relationships from many different perspectives. The programme makes economic relationships tangible and strengthens the understanding of monetary policy decision-making. Furthermore, the tour encourages engagement with current economic developments.

Keywords

GDP, CPI, price stability, financial stability, inflation/deflation, monetary policy, mandate of the Swiss National Bank, key interest rate, monetary policy transmission mechanism, financial markets, foreign exchange market interventions, exchange rate, the role of commercial banks

Practical Information

Target audience

The programme is aimed at secondary school level II classes focused on economics and law, as well as classes focused on monetary policy.

- **Career advancement college,** commercial training with economics lessons
- **Vocational secondary school,** economics and law
- **Technical college,** economics and law
- **Secondary school,** economics and law as a major or complementary subject

Group size: max. 24 people
Duration: 150 minutes (excluding check-in/out)
Languages: German, French, Italian, English

Links to syllabus work

This advanced Money and Stability programme connects to various secondary school level II curricula and supports both subject-specific and cross-curricular competency areas. It is particularly suitable as an extension of or conclusion to relevant lesson units.

Outcomes

The students will

- be familiar with the mandate and areas of activity of the Swiss National Bank
- be familiar with the process and objectives of a monetary policy assessment
- encounter the interrelationships between the Swiss National Bank's key interest rate, monetary conditions, inflation and the economy
- understand how the Swiss National Bank implements its monetary policy and how its key interest rate affects consumers and businesses
- recognise how forecasts (of inflation, economic growth) are made and the uncertainties associated with them
- sharpen their understanding of the connection between monetary policy and everyday realities.

Level requirements

The tour is designed for students with a particular interest in monetary policy and economic relationships.
Recommended prior knowledge:

- The role of the Swiss National Bank and the role of commercial banks
- Supply and demand
- Markets and the business cycle
- Inflation / deflation

Preparation

Provided students have the appropriate level of competencies, the tour can be completed without preparation.

Depending on the extent of the students' prior knowledge, a preparatory teaching phase of two lessons may be beneficial.

Materials from the following Iconomix modules are suitable for preparation and follow-up work.

- Inflation – When money loses its value: Price changes under the microscope (video series) www.iconomix.ch/en/units/v08/video-inflation
- Monetary policy: Basics – From theory to practise: Today's monetary policy clearly explained using the example of the Swiss National Bank (technical text) www.iconomix.ch/en/units/m04
- Monetary policy: Application – Key interest rate, inflation and the economic situation: How a central bank makes decisions (web simulation) www.iconomix.ch/en/units/m05
- Monetary policy: Implementation on the money market – From key interest rates to SARON: How the Swiss National Bank implements its monetary policy (video series) www.iconomix.ch/en/units/v15
- Banks and financial crises – How banks work and how financial crises can arise (video series / German) www.iconomix.ch/de/module/v02

Also see the short texts in The SNB Explained series:

- What Determines the Swiss Franc Exchange Rate? www.snb.ch/en/snb-explained/swiss-franc
- Can the SNB Rescue Banks? www.snb.ch/en/snb-explained/financial-stability

Organisational Information

- The tour will take place in four small groups. We request that the teacher in charge decides on the groups beforehand. If possible, each group should have the same number of students. The maximum size of each small group is six people.
- Check-in takes place ten minutes before the start of the tour.
- The teacher in charge is responsible for the discipline of the class throughout the entire visit to the Moneyverse.

Moneyverse at Kaiserhaus Bern
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The Moneyverse is an initiative of the Swiss National Bank in cooperation with the Bern History Museum.