
UNCONDITIONAL BASIC INCOME

A SURVEY

Brandenburg University of Technology

Empirical Methods of Social Sciences

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I INTRODUCTION

According to the 2011 report of the OECD poverty in Germany has increased since the year 2000 more drastically than in any other industrialized country, especially amongst children (Reuter, 2011). The report also reveals that the uneven distribution of assets has increased as well, with the upper ten percent of Germans earning eight times as much as the lowest ten percent (Rosbach 2011). Apart from that, only 41 percent of Germans are in gainful employment; the majority of 59 percent is living from so-called transfer payments (Häni & Schmidt 2008). Although more people depend upon social welfare the number of people paying in is decreasing constantly (Attac Marburg 2006). Further the necessity of manpower is not given anymore, since many processes are automated already, with tendency to rise (ibid.). In light of decreasing birth rates and increasing numbers of people beyond the retirement age, and thus, diminishing numbers of people in the working-age, the question arises how Germany will be able to assure a secure standard of living for its inhabitants in future.

II THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Against this background, voices calling for an unconditional basic income recently became louder again. The concept is not new: Thomas More and Johannes Ludovicus Vives already argued for a basic income in the 16th century (BIEN 2008). Shortly after World War I Bertrand Russel promoted the idea of a basic income in Great Britain, followed by James Tobin and Milton Friedman in the USA during the 1960's (ibid.). Recently, the debate for an unconditional basic income was heated up again in Germany by claims from the German businessman Götz Werner and the political party *Die Piraten* (Meck 2010, Meiritz & Reinbold 2011).

Supporters of the concept of unconditional basic income often underpin their claims by arguing that an unconditional basic income is the only way to truly translate Article 1 of the German Constitution - "human dignity is inviolable" - into practice, as otherwise full social participation cannot be accomplished (Israel & Schwarz). The idea behind the unconditional basic income is simple: each member of society receives a basic income, guaranteeing his or her assurance of subsistence and legal claim (Netzwerk Grundeinkommen 2010). Furthermore, the unconditional basic income involves no considerations of indigence (thus the term unconditional) or enforcement of returns (ibid.). Therefore, the unconditional basic income differs from other forms of basic income or social welfares, which mostly require either derogative proofs of neediness or returns in some form or the other, as for example for unemployed a certain number of applications per month, the participation in educational or training programs, etc. The height of the monthly benefits citizens would receive differs from concept to concept (Israel & Schwarz). However, the idea is simple but the implementation is difficult. Critics argue that the unconditional basic income cannot be funded (Höschele 2010, Haas 2007). Assuming every German receives 1000 Euros per month then the unconditional basic income would swallow up expenses of about 984 Billion Euros per year (Strawe 2006). However, financial experts state that funding is guaranteed, since expenses for the social sector amounted to 750 Billion Euros in 2009, 33 percent of Germany's GDP (Süddeutsche Zeitung 2009). Adding the costs that could be saved by cutting bureaucratic institutions as for example job centers plus related expenses (employees, building rents and maintenance costs, costs for paper and ink, etc.) a guaranteed funding is likely. Furthermore, concepts for funding the unconditional basic income are speaking of levying taxes on consumption rather than on income as it is the case now, since everyone in society must consume, but not everyone has income (Weeber 2007). The unconditional basic income is said to support the autonomy of people, the justice of distribution and the flexibility of the labor market (Netzwerk Grundeinkommen 2010). It boosts education and creativity, since people will not be hindered anymore by existential fears to do the things they really want to do (ibid).

However, a new idea naturally raises criticism. Besides the issue of funding critics argue that an unconditional basic income cannot be social since everyone is receiving the same; but in a true welfare state only those in actual need should receive financial aid (Höschele 2010).

Another issue is related to the question what would happen to those members of society that are already in greater need of welfare, as for example physically or mentally disabled people (Haas 2007). Shall they receive extra financial grants? The latter, however, would corrode the whole idea of an (equal) unconditional basic income and would require again bureaucratic efforts the UBI actually aims to abolish (ibid.). Other points of criticism are referring to the proposal of a stepwise introduction of the unconditional basic income (Haas 2007). In this case, from whom shall the money be taken first? From students by abolishing scholarships? Or from children by taking away family benefits?

III STUDY DESIGN

3.1. PURPOSE

At a first glance, the unconditional basic income seems a reasonable and feasible concept. In light of the development in the economic and social sector during the last decades, the ability of people to ensure their living by income will decrease. More people will depend upon transfer payments. Hence, the economy will, by no means, be able to sustain a dignified livelihood for everyone in the next decades due to automation, the increasing knowledge-based society and so on. However, the unconditional basic income has some obvious shortcomings. First of all, it assumes that people will continue working even when receiving a basic income. No one can estimate how many people would actually stop working. However, to guarantee funding of the unconditional basic income for a longer period than one year, people will have to continue working to keep the GDP high. Additionally to this point, funding may be granted by levying consumption rather than income. In this case, it must be assured that people actually do consume. As soon as people keep parts of their income, the money is not in circulation and thus cannot be levied. The same counts for e.g. rental income or returns on interest. To control this, bureaucratic instruments would be necessary again, which would impose costs, leading to a lowering of the unconditional basic income. A further point of criticism refers to the problem that the concept does not make suggestions for people being in greater need already (disabled people or people in need of care, chronically ill people). The mechanism to control payments of extra sums for those people would again require bureaucratic expenses. Lastly, products bought on the international market would escape the consumption tax, even when the unconditional basic income is introduced Europe wide.

3.2. OPERATIONALISATION

It seems that the more information one has about the unconditional basic income, the less one is willing to accept it as the ultimate way to solve the problems mentioned at the beginning. Thus, the purpose of this study is to find out how the level of knowledge about the unconditional basic income influences the acceptance of the same. Therefore, the following hypothesis was set up:

As knowledge about the concept of unconditional basic income increases acceptance of the same will decrease.

Hence, the two variables in this study are *knowledge* and *acceptance*. Knowledge is the independent and acceptance the dependent variable. It is expected that with increasing knowledge acceptance will decrease; thus, the two variables are negatively connected. According to the Business Dictionary, knowledge can be defined as, amongst others,

“understanding that germinates from combination of data, information, experience, and individual interpretation” (The Business Dictionary 2011). According to the Free Dictionary, acceptance can be defined as “a belief in something” or “approval” (The Free Dictionary 2011).

With regards to the measurement of variables acceptance of the concept of unconditional basic income was simply measured as approval or disapproval. More precisely, participants were asked whether they would or would not appreciate the introduction of an unconditional basic income. Answer possibilities ranged from “yes”, “more likely yes”, “do not know” to “more likely no” and “no”. The measurement of knowledge was slightly more difficult, as “[...] knowledge is a concept - like gravity. You cannot see it, but can only observe its effects.” (Hunt 2003, p. 100). In this study knowledge was measured by asking participants questions on their level of background information about the concept. These questions were:

- i. Have you ever searched for further information about the concept?
- ii. Do you know the differences between the unconditional basic income and other social welfares?
- iii. Do you know for which economic and social reasons the unconditional basic income has to be introduced?
- iv. Do you know arguments against the unconditional basic income?

Answer possibilities to these questions were simply “yes” or “no”. To obtain different levels of knowledge, each “yes” answer was graded with two points and each “no” answer was graded with one point, leading to an overall knowledge scale ranging from eight (corresponding to high knowledge) to four (corresponding to no knowledge) points. Further information on the design of the questionnaire is given in chapter 3.3. Methodology.

The population chosen for this study were students. No restrictions regarding age, study course or residence were made. Inclusion of the population further modifies the hypothesis to:

As the knowledge of students about the concept of unconditional basic income increases acceptance of the same will decrease.

Students in this case are defined as all people enrolled at a university or advanced technical college, regardless of whether they are actively studying (visiting lectures, completing modules) or are only registered as a student without actively participating in academic activities such as lectures, seminars and so on.

3.3. METHODOLOGY

The study was performed using quantitative online questionnaires consisting of multiple choice as well as open questions. As online questionnaires were used, full anonymity of participants could be guaranteed. The questionnaires were composed of 14 topic related questions and five personal questions (age, gender, profession, highest educational status, political preference). After the question about whether participants have already heard about the concept of unconditional basic income and the questions on the background knowledge of participants mentioned in chapter 3.2., a short explanation about the concept was given. This explanation was included to make sure that each participant had at least some basic information about the concept before the questionnaire continued asking whether participants would appreciate the introduction of the concept or not. The full questionnaire can be found in Appendix A. Questionnaires were evaluated using SPSS. To visualize correlations between certain parameters 3D diagrams were used.

3.4. QUESTIONS

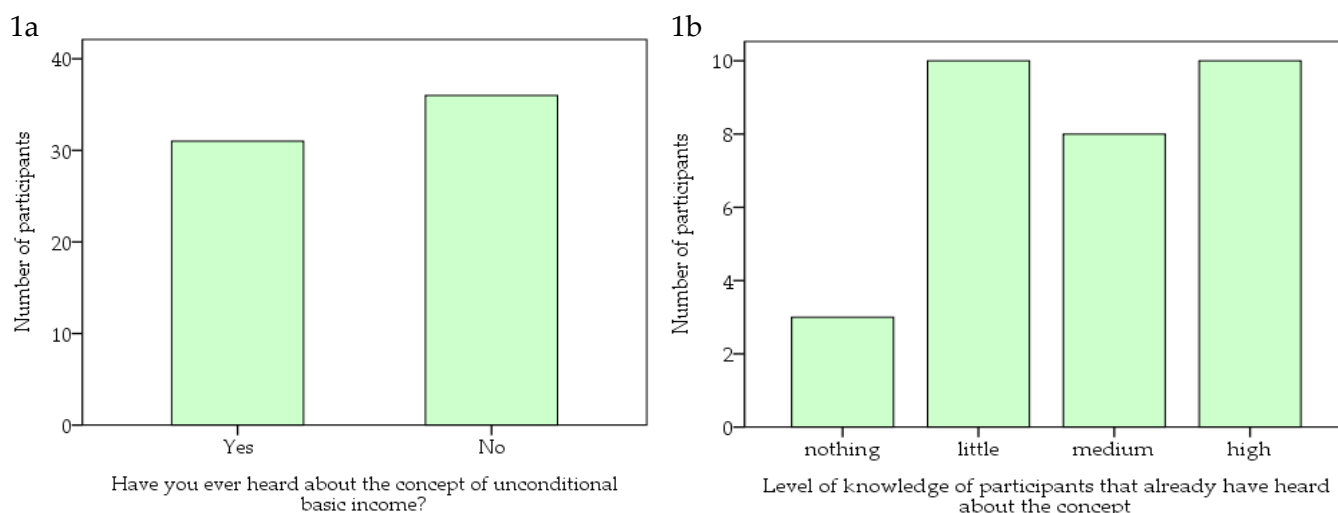
Further questions that shall be answered during the study were:

- i. Assuming an unconditional basic income would be implemented, would people still carry on working/studying to the same extent, or would they stop? In both cases, what is their motivation?
- ii. In case people would stop working/studying to the same extent, what would they do? Would they take up a different kind of employment, a voluntary engagement, self-employment, work fewer hours per week, do nothing?
- iii. What are the reasons for approving or disapproving the concept?
- iv. Is there a gender-specific difference in the level of knowledge and acceptance of the concept, respectively?
- v. How does the political preference of participants influence the acceptance of the concept?

IV RESULTS

In total, 67 questionnaires were evaluated. The demographic data of those 67 participants can be found in Appendix B. As can be seen in the table, significantly more male than female participants took part in the study. Further, almost 81 percent of participants were aged between 21 and 25. This may not be surprising when taking into consideration that the participants were all students, two third of them still in their undergraduate studies. According to a long-term survey performed by the working group of university research (Arbeitsgruppe Hochschulforschung) of the University of Konstanz, which has been performed from 1983 until 2007, the number of judgment abstentions among students regarding their political preference has increased between 1998 and 2007 by six percent to 16 percent (Bargel 2008). This is also reflected in this study. However, here the number of unspecified responses regarding political preference is with almost 33 percent twice as high. As the questionnaires were anonymous one can only speculate about the reasons for this high rate of unspecified responses. As Bargel points out, the increasing rate of unspecified political preferences might be based on a decreasing political interest. However, it can also be seen in Appendix B that traditional parties as Bündnis 90/ Die Grüne, SPD and CDU are favored by those participants that made a statement about their political preference.

Out of the 67 participants, 31 have already heard about the concept of unconditional basic income and 36 have not (Figure 1a). Out of those participants that have already heard about the concept, 18 displayed a medium till high level of knowledge and 13 little till no knowledge (Figure 1b). The 36 participants that have not heard about the concept were automatically classified as having “no knowledge”, which means that altogether 39 participants belonged to this group.



Figures 1a and 1b. Popularity of the concept of unconditional basic income (1a) and level of knowledge of participants already acquainted with the concept (1b).

Out of those participants that were already acquainted with the concept, the majority has heard about the concept longer than 12 months ago (45,2 %). The main source of information of those participants was the internet (25,8 %). Thirteen participants (41,9 %) did search for further information after they had first heard about the concept.

Out of the 67 participants of the study, 12 participants (17,9 %) would appreciate the implementation of an unconditional basic income; however, a significant majority of 45 participants (67,2 %) would not welcome such a step. The main argument for objecting the concept was the concern that the overall motivation to work would decrease (48,9 %) followed by the argument that the concept is unjust (13,3 %). Other objections were related to the question of funding (4,4 %), the general functioning of the concept, the danger of misuse as well as the loss of the value of work (each 2,2 %). Those participants that supported the implementation of the concept argued that the concept is more just and that a separation of income and employment are favorable (each 16,7 %). Other participants stated that, in general, advantages of the concept would outweigh disadvantages, that the concept would lead to equal opportunities for everyone, to a decrease of existential fears as well as to a stimulation of the economy (each 8,3 %).

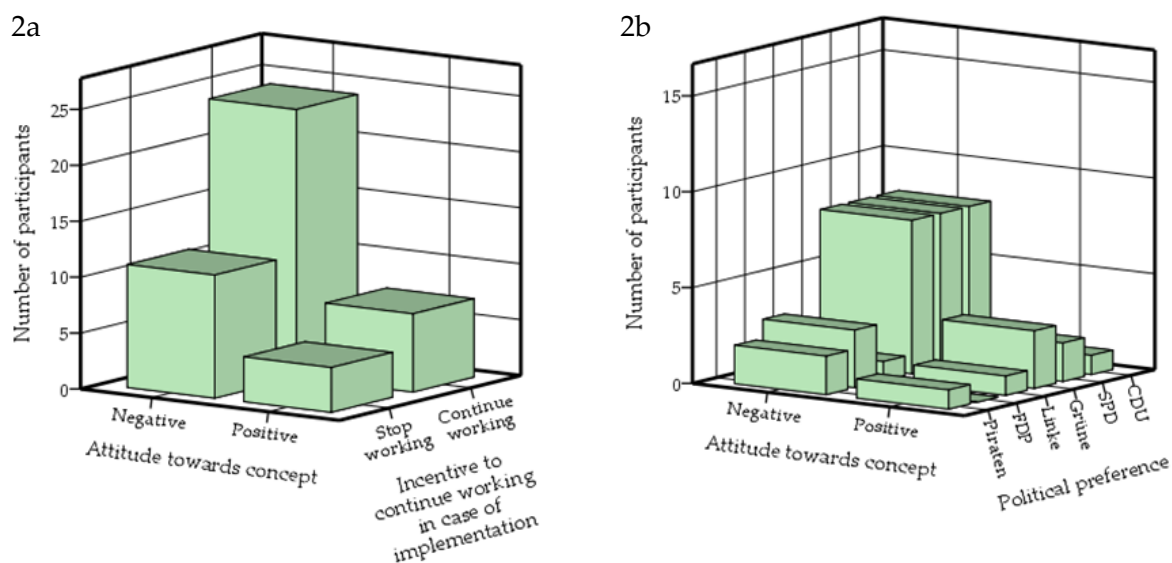
It was stated in the preceding paragraph that a lot of participants worried that the overall working motivation would decrease in case an unconditional basic income would be implemented. However, fifty-five percent of the participants would continue with their current occupation to the same extent in case of an implementation. The main motivation of participants of doing so was that work is promoting the individual self-determination (16,2 %) followed by the statement that participants have fun working (10,8%) and that the proposed payment would not be sufficiently high enough for participants to make a living (8,1 %). On the other hand, almost 24 percent of participants would not continue working to the same extent if an unconditional basic income would be implemented. Those participants stated that the height of the payment would be sufficiently high enough for them to make a living (31,3 %), that in case of an implementation they would rather devote more time on other things (family, social and cultural activities) than on work as well as that they do not like their side-job (each 6,3 %).

Those participants stating that they would stop working to the same extent in case an unconditional basic income would be implemented were also asked what they would do instead. Almost 44 percent of participants would simply work less, followed by participants which would take up a different kind of paid employment (12,5 %) and participants that would either engage in voluntary work or would start freelancing (each 6,3 %).

Even though the majority of the participants would still go working to the same extent in case of an implementation of an unconditional basic income, the belief that others would stop working was widespread (40,3 %). However, one participant out of three assumes that others would continue to work (32,8 %).

The majority of participants exhibits a negative attitude towards the proposal of financing an unconditional basic income partly via consumption taxes (58,2 %). Nevertheless, almost 20 percent of participants reveal a positive attitude whereas 22,4 percent of participants are indifferent towards this suggestion.

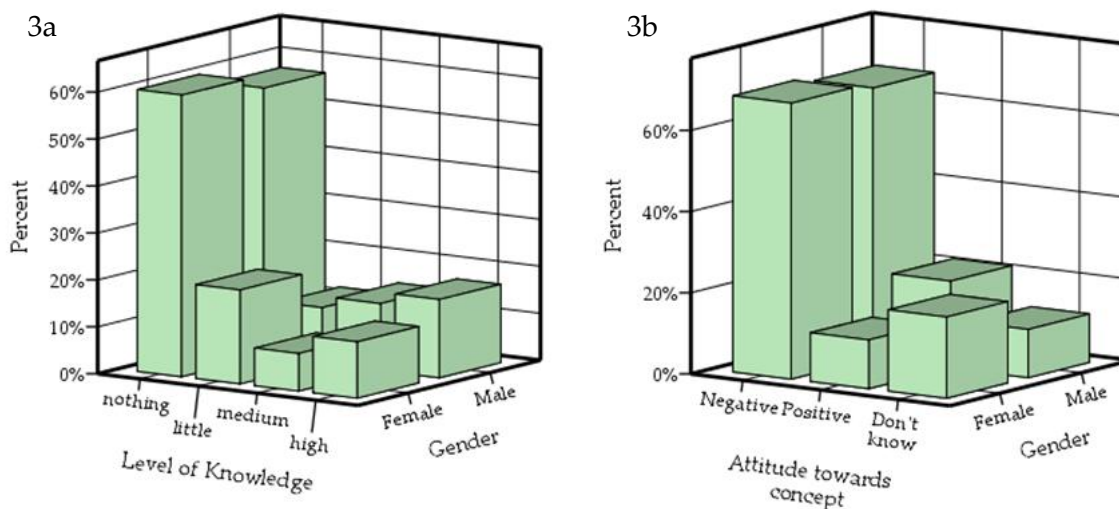
To visualize the results of the questions mentioned in chapter 3.4, 3D diagrams were created in SPSS to analyze correlations between different parameters. The correlation between the parameters “Attitude towards concept” and “Political preference” as well as “Incentive to continue working”, respectively, can be seen in Figure 2.



Figures 2a and 2b. Correlations between “Incentive to continue working” and “Attitude towards the concept” (2a) as well as “Attitude towards the concept” and “Political preference” (2b). “Don’t know” answers have been neglected for analysis in “Attitude towards the concept” questions.

As can be seen in Figure 2a the attitude towards the concept is not influencing the incentive of people to continue with their current occupation in case an unconditional basic income would be implemented. In both cases, i.e. positive or negative attitude towards the concept, more than 50 percent of participants of each group would rather continue with their current engagement to the same extent than stopping to do so. However, as absolute numbers of participants have been used for those figures, the amount of participants having a negative attitude towards the concept is, of course, higher.

The correlation between political preference and attitude towards the concept reveals that for each political party except for *Die Linke*, disapproval of the concept outweighs approval of the concept. In case of *Die Linke*, disapproval and approval of the concept were evenly distributed among participants that favored this party. Furthermore, in case of the *FDP* participants voting for this party exhibited a clear disapproval of the concept, with disapproval being as high as 100 percent. Those participants exhibiting a positive attitude towards the concept most likely voted for *Bündnis 90/ Die Grüne*.



Figures 3a and 3b. Correlations between “Gender” and “Level of Knowledge” (3a) as well as “Attitude towards the concept” and “Gender” (3b).

Figure 3 displays the correlation between the gender of participants and the level of knowledge and the attitude towards the concept, respectively. As the number of male participants has been almost twice as high as the number of female participants, relative numbers have been used to achieve comparability in those figures. As can be seen in Figure 3a, there is no significant gender difference in the group of participants displaying a low level of knowledge (females: 60 percent; males: 57,1 percent). Larger differences exist in the group of “little knowledge”, where females account for 20 percent and males for 11,9 percent, in the group of “medium knowledge” (females: 8 percent; males: 14,3 percent) as well as in the group of “high knowledge” (females: 12 percent; males: 16,7 percent). However, there is only a 10 percent difference of the level of knowledge between the genders, with 20 percent of females and 31 percent of males having a high to medium level of knowledge. Taking into consideration that the number of female participants has been much lower this difference can be regarded as not being significant.

Figure 3b shows the correlation between the gender and the attitude towards the concept. The amount of female and male participants having a negative attitude towards the concept is with 68 percent and 66,7 percent, respectively, almost equal. However, there are differences between the genders regarding the relative numbers of participants being sympathetic to the concept as well as those that were uncertain. The relative number of female participants having a positive attitude towards the concept is with 12 percent almost ten percent lower than those of the male participants (21,4 percent). Vice versa, the amount of female participants being unsure about their attitude towards the concept is almost double as high as the amount of male participants being uncertain (females: 20 percent; males: 11,9 percent).

The hypothesis of this survey was that with increasing knowledge the consent to the concept will decrease. The correlation between the level of knowledge and the attitude towards the concept can be seen in Figure 4.

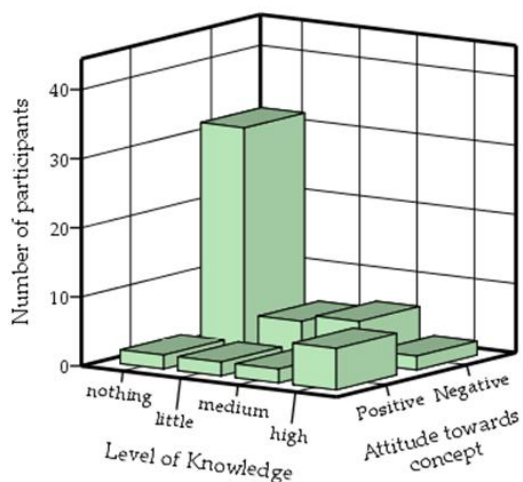


Figure 4. Correlation between the attitude towards the concept and the level of knowledge of participants.

According to the figure, participants having no knowledge about the concept mainly had a negative attitude towards the concept and thus, would not appreciate the implementation of an unconditional basic income. Vice versa, participants having a high level of knowledge about the concept are most likely to have a positive attitude towards the concept and thus, would rather appreciate if something as an unconditional basic income would be implemented. Thus, the hypothesis of this study was refuted. In fact, consent to and knowledge of the concept appear to be related to each other just the other way round as assumed.

V DISCUSSION

This survey was performed in order to reveal the attitude of students about the concept of the unconditional basic income, a subject that has been controversially discussed in the media recently. In a broader sense, the results obtained in this study may allow for drawing conclusions regarding the value the upcoming generation of high-skilled employees puts on continuous, full-time employment.

In 2010, the Society of Applied Economic Research (Gesellschaft für Angewandte Wirtschaftsforschung) performed a study on behalf of Dr. Götz Werner about the publicity and acceptance of the unconditional basic income (Haigner 2010). According to this study, 37,5 percent of Germans are familiar with the concept of the unconditional basic income, without defining what is exactly meant by “familiar”. This result could, however, be roughly confirmed in this study. Here, about 42 percent of the participants have at least once heard about the concept. Furthermore, the study mentioned afore states that the average consent of students to the concept was 0,59 on a scale ranging from -4 to +4, indicating a slight tendency towards an approval of the concept. This result could not be confirmed in this study. Here, the majority of participants exhibited disapproval towards a potential implementation of an unconditional basic income. This disapproval mainly resulted from the participants’ belief that in case of an implementation of the concept, the incentive of people to hold down an employment would drastically decrease. At the same time, more than half of the participants articulated that they would nevertheless continue with their current occupation even if such a concept would be implemented. This result is also reflected in the survey performed by the Society of Applied Economic Research, except from the fact that here 72 percent of participants were willing to continue working to the same extent. It has to be noted furthermore that the knowledge of participants about the concept was generally low, with approximately only every 7th participant having a high level of knowledge. However, contrary to the initial expectations, the acceptance of the concept did not decrease with increasing knowledge; in fact, those participants having a high level of knowledge were most likely to also have a positive attitude towards the concept and, vice versa, those participants having a low level of knowledge were most likely to disapprove the concept. It can thus be said that the initial hypothesis has to be discarded and that the two variables “acceptance of the concept” and “level of knowledge” are, other than expected, positively correlated.

Although the results of this study are quite distinct, the study design has some obvious shortcomings. First of all, it failed to achieve full representativeness in terms of the composition of participants. According to the Federal Statistic Office, 47 percent of students in Germany in the winter semester 2011/2012 were female (Statistisches Bundesamt 2011). In this study, however, only 37 percent of participants have been female. This deviant share of female participants may have altered the results obtained with the correlation between gender of participants and attitude to the concept (Figure 3b). An unconditional basic income might be especially interesting for those females planning a family in the remote or near

future, as with such regular and secure payments the financial side of starting a family might not form such a huge obstacle. Thus, a higher portion of female students participating in this study might have changed the overall attitude towards the concept. Secondly, the survey was performed as an online questionnaire and thus, potential participants without access to the internet might have not been reached. However, as the target group of this survey has been students it can be assumed that the accessibility of this group to the internet is given to a hundred percent. Thirdly, it has to be taken into account that the results of the survey might have been biased by participants that took part only because they have very strong feelings towards the topic (e.g. exceedingly approving or exceedingly disapproving) instead of a neutral perspective. This uncertainty cannot be neglected and must be considered when interpreting the results.

A further deficiency refers to the question whether the explanation of the concept given in the questionnaire was sufficiently comprehensive and understandable enough for participants with a low level of knowledge to make a sound decision about their attitude towards the concept. Associated with this issue, it furthermore could not be perfectly ensured that those participants that, according to the first four background questions, had a high level of knowledge really did so in reality. It must, however, be assumed that all participants of the study answered the questions truthfully and to the best of their knowledge.

VI CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

The unconditional basic income has been highly and controversially discussed lately, especially since political parties as *Die Piraten* have taken the issue into their political agenda. In times of shifting population demographics, globalized labor markets and a changing employment provision away from a production industry towards a service based society a rewarding income allowing for a self-determined and fulfilling existence cannot be anymore ensured for everyone. The unconditional basic income therefore calls for a separation of income from employment. As could be seen in this study not everyone approves this idea. Nevertheless, the challenges mentioned afore need to find recognition and potential answers to them are needed. The unconditional basic income might not be an optimal one, and it probably will not be implemented. However, it stimulates a discussion about the pressing problems our society has and will have in future.

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VIII APPENDIX A

Questionnaire on the knowledge and attitude towards the concept of unconditional basic income

i. *Have you ever heard about the concept of unconditional basic income?*

Yes

No

ii. *When have you first heard about it?*

Never

During the last 8 weeks

During the last 12 months

More than 12 months ago

Don't know

iii. *Where have you first heard about it?*

Nowhere

Radio news

Television

Newspaper article, internet

Don't know

iv. *After hearing about the UBI the first time, have you yourself actively searched for information?*

Yes

No

v. *Do you know something about the general concept of the UBI? (Do you know what distinguishes the UBI from other welfares as for example Hartz IV?)*

Yes

No

vi. *Do you know for which economic and social reasons the UBI according to supporters has to be introduced?*

Yes

No

vii. *Do you know arguments against the UBI?*

- Yes
- No

Explanation. Only 40 percent of Germans are currently able to make a living with what they earn from their employment. The other 60 percent are dependent on so-called transfer payments, as for example social welfares, pensions or Bafög. This trend will even sharpen in future due to the demographic change and the increasing automation in the production process of goods. This is why supporters of the unconditional basic income plea for a separation of employment and income. Assuming such a concept would be implemented, each German citizen would receive a certain income from the state, for example 1000 Euro. This payment would not be tied to any conditions, as for example the enforcement of work or degrading proofs of neediness. All hitherto existing social welfares as for example pensions, Bafög or housing subsidies would, on the other hand, omit with implementation of the concept.

viii. *Would you appreciate the implementation of the UBI?*

- Yes
- More likely yes
- Don't know
- More likely no
- No

ix. *If yes, why? If no, why?*

x. *Assuming the UBI would be implemented, would you still go working to the same extent?*

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

xi. *If yes, why? If no, why?*

xii. *If no, what would you do instead?*

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Take up a different employment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Take up a voluntary engagement | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Work less | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Start an own business | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| nothing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

xiii. *Do you think that others would still go working?*

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |

xiv. *According to Götz Werner the UBI shall be financed amongst others via a consumption tax.
Do you have a more positive or a more negative attitude towards this suggestion?*

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Rather positive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rather negative | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |

xv. *Gender*

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| Male | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Female | <input type="checkbox"/> |

xvi. *Age*

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| 20-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30-39 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 40-49 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 50-59 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 60-69 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 70-79 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 80-89 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 90-99 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not specified | <input type="checkbox"/> |

xvii. *Highest educational degree*

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| No degree | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Secondary school level | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A-levels | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| University degree | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not specified | <input type="checkbox"/> |

xviii. *Current occupation*

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Pupil | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Trainee | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Student | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Employee | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Civil servant | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Self-employed | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Seeking work | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pensioner | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not specified | <input type="checkbox"/> |

xix. *Political Preference*

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| CDU | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SPD | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bündnis 90/ Die Grüne | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Die Linke | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FDP | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Piraten | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not specified | <input type="checkbox"/> |

IX APPENDIX B

Data on gender, age, highest educational degree and political preference of study participants

Category		n	%
Gender	female	25	37,3
	male	42	62,7
Age	21	7	10,4
	22	15	22,4
	23	9	13,4
	24	15	22,4
	25	8	11,9
	26	1	1,5
	27	6	9
	28	2	3
	29	1	1,5
	30	2	3
	36	1	1,5
Highest educational degree	A-level	44	65,7
	University degree	20	29,9
	Not specified	3	4,5
Political Preference	CDU	9	13,4
	SPD	11	16,4
	Bündnis 90/ Die Grüne	13	19,4
	Die Linke	3	4,5
	FDP	3	4,5
	Die Piraten	3	4,5
	Other	3	4,5
	Not specified	22	32,8