

## **Presentation of the Speaker**

by Karl Borch \*

It is a great pleasure to welcome Edmond Malinvaud here, to my *alma mater*, the University of Oslo. He is going to talk about the economics of unemployment insurance. The subject is very important — unfortunately — to most European countries. The problems involved must be very difficult, since no country seems to be completely satisfied with its present system of unemployment insurance.

It would be tempting to take the easy way out, and just say that Malinvaud is so well known that he does not need any introduction. He is however known for so many achievements in different fields, that few people will be able to give a complete list. I shall not even try to do so here, since it would take much time — time which can be better spent listening to Malinvaud. I must however make one remark to drive my point home.

In our fields of interest, economics and statistics, there are two important international organizations : the International Economic Association, and the International Statistical Institute. There are relatively few of our colleagues who are members of both organizations, and only a handful has been active in both. Edmond Malinvaud however has been President of both, first of ISI, and then of IEA. It has never happened before that a person has served as president of both these organizations, and it is extremely unlikely that anybody in the future will match Malinvaud's achievement.

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