Not Too Hot, Not Too Cold: Lessons from the Last Two Economic Crises

Jason Furman will draw on his experience and research in responding to the financial crisis and the COVID-crisis to discuss some key lessons, including the dangers of too small a response (in the case of the financial crisis) but also the downsides of an overly large response and an overheated economy (in the case of the COVID crisis).

Jason Furman is the Aetna Professor of the Practice of Economic Policy jointly at Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) and the Department of Economics at Harvard University. Furman engages in public policy through research, writing and teaching in a wide range of areas including U.S. and international macroeconomics, fiscal policy, labor markets and competition policy.

Previously, Furman served eight years as a top economic adviser to President Obama, including serving as the 28th Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers from August 2013 to January 2017, acting as both President Obama’s chief economist and a member of the cabinet. In addition to articles in scholarly journals and periodicals, Furman is a regular contributor to the Wall Street Journal and Project Syndicate and the editor of two books on economic policy. Furman holds a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University.