



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

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NOVEMBER 6 – NOVEMBER 10, 2017

NEWSLETTER 2017-22

SEMINAR CALENDAR

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

Sascha Becker, University of Warwick:
Migration and Brexit

Monday November 6
16:30-18:00
R. 4011 (Esplanade 36)

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

Christoph Trebesch, IfW/CAU Kiel:
200 Years of Sovereign Haircuts and Bond Returns

Tuesday November 7
12:15–13:45
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Forschungsseminar “Environmental Economics and Management“

Christian Traeger, University of Oslo:
*ACE – Analytic Climate Economy (with Temperature and
Uncertainty)*

Wednesday November 8
12:15–13:45
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

Prof. Christian Welzel, Leuphana Universität Lüneburg:
*Rising Emancipative Values and the Populist Reaction: is
Democracy at Risk?*

Wednesday November 8
18:15–19:45
R. 1083a (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Astrid Dannenberg, Universität Kassel:
*Competitive Pressure to Cheat: Experimental Evidence of
Individuals and Groups*

Thursday November 9
17:15–18:45
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

HCHE Research Seminar

- no seminar -

PhD Seminar

- no seminar -

Sollten Sie Interesse haben, sich mit einem/r der Vortragenden zu treffen, wenden Sie sich bitte an den entsprechenden Veranstalter. Weitere Infos finden Sie auf unserer Homepage: <https://www.wiso.uni-hamburg.de/fachbereich-vwl/forschung/forschungsseminare.html>

ABSTRACTS

Forschungsseminar “Environmental Economics and Management“

Christian Traeger, University of Oslo:

ACE – Analytic Climate Economy (with Temperature and) Uncertainty

Abstract:

The paper develops an analytic integrated assessment model of climate change (AIAM). The model enhances our current understanding of climate policy and explains crucial relations to the broader audience. It is the first quantitative analytic model comprising all the relevant components of its numeric deterministic counterparts used in policy advising. The model comes with a new framework to address climate change uncertainties. The analytic solution overcomes Bellman’s curse of dimensionality for a wide range of stochastic processes. I show the different welfare implications of “objective” uncertainty, epistemological uncertainty, and anticipated learning and discuss policy and modeling implications.

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Astrid Dannenberg, Universität Kassel:

Competitive Pressure to Cheat: Experimental Evidence of Individuals and Groups

Abstract:

We investigate experimentally if individuals and groups cheat more when they are in competition with rivals compared to a noncompetitive environment. Our results show that individuals do not significantly change their behavior when they compete against other individuals or groups. Groups generally cheat more than individuals. Furthermore, they increase the degree of cheating in competition – but only when they compete against other groups and not when they compete against individuals.

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

Prof. Andreas Fuchs, Universität Heidelberg:

Does Aid Help Refugees Stay? Does Aid Keep Refugees Away?

Abstract:

In two widely read articles, Roberto Foa and Yascha Mounk reach the alarming conclusion that support for democracy is in a rapid generational decline. The remarkable point about this diagnosis is its emphasis on the Millennial generation's fading support for democracy and the claim that democratic support is steeply eroding in even the most mature democracies. The latter contention marks a significant turning point in the debate. Public discourse has taken a pessimistic tone since quite some time, bemoaning the apparently ubiquitous resurgence of authoritarianism outside the Western world. But the mature democracies of the West seemed to constitute an insurmountable firewall against the authoritarian offense. The novelty in Foa and Mounk's analysis is that it questions this very premise, resonating with growing concerns in the face of spreading populism. Indeed, Foa and Mounk imply that the generational erosion of democratic support is responsible for the populist turn throughout the electorates of mature democracies, especially among younger cohorts. In conclusion, Foa and Mounk suggest that democracy itself is in danger, including places where it seemed safest over many generations.

We question their alarmist claims on a number of accounts. To begin with, Foa and Mounk heavily overstate the age differences in democratic support. Second, the obvious age pattern in indicators of political disaffection has little to do with generations; it is instead a lifecycle effect: younger people showed stronger signs of disaffection already in earlier decades, but this age pattern is not linked to a uniform temporal trend towards increasing disaffection in the electorates of mature democracies. Third, and more importantly, Foa and Mounk overlook that support ratings for democracy are largely incomparable across birth cohorts. The reason is that the moral values on which people base their democratic support have turned dramatically more liberal over the generations. As a consequence, support for democracy has changed its meaning: while older generations continue to endorse illiberal notions of democracy, younger generations support an unequivocally liberal notion. Fourth, key quality aspects of democracy at the system level depend critically on the type of support that prevails. Specifically, the extent of illiberal support for democracy in a country is a first-rate indicator of severe deficiencies in democracy, including its outright absence. By contrast, the prevalence of liberal support is tightly linked to high performance levels on literally every major criterion of democracy. Without further qualifications for the values in which it is rooted, support for democracy is hiding more than it reveals. Finally, defining the right-wing populist electorate as those voter segments who combine a pronounced disaffection from representative institutions with illiberal moral values, we demonstrate that this electorate has been visibly shrinking over recent decades, at the same time as its members have become socially more distinct and ideologically more distant from an increasingly liberal mainstream in their societies.

ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Miscellaneous

- Am Donnerstag, dem 9. November, werden Elisabeth Allgoewer und Felix Schroeter (Universität Hamburg) sowie Hauke Janssen (Hamburg) einen Vortrag mit dem Titel
Das Verhältnis von Staat und Wirtschaft in der
deutschen „Nationalökonomie“ zwischen Kaiserzeit und Weimar.
halten. Der Vortrag findet im Rahmen des Doktorandenseminars „The state and the economy
in historical perspective“ statt (13.30-17.00, Raum B 537 VMP9). Gäste sind herzlich
willkommen.

The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday November 13, 2017.

Editorial deadline: Friday, November 10, 2017.

EconNewsletter

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