



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

# EconNewsletter

Editorial Contact: Michael Paetz  
tel: +49 40 42838-5561; e-mail: econ.newsletter.Wiso@uni-hamburg.de

JANUARY 18 – JANUARY 22, 2021

NEWSLETTER 2021-3

## SEMINAR CALENDAR

All seminars listed below will be held virtually this semester.

### HCHE Research Seminar

[Prof. Dr. Joachim Winter, LMU München:](#)

*Inequality in mortality in Germany*

Please register here: <https://www.hche.uni-hamburg.de/en/veranstaltungen/researchseminar.html>

Monday January 18

16:30–18:00

### Quantitative Economics

[Sebastian Gechert, IMK & University Bamberg:](#)

*Identifying and Explaining Heterogeneity of MPCs*

Please register via the following link:

<https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYvc-itqzgpHNVhBUWXWPX6bv3WwEHioDq5>

Tuesday January 19

12:15–13:30

### Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics

Dr. Jan Peter Sasse, Bundesnetzagentur:

*Flexibility for Electricity Networks: Economic and Legal Aspects*

Please confirm your participation by sending a short e-mail to [justyn.brockmeyer@ile-hamburg.de](mailto:justyn.brockmeyer@ile-hamburg.de).

After confirming your registration you will receive the access information for the seminar on Zoom.

Wednesday January 20

18:15–19:45

### Interdisciplinary Research Seminar of the GRK "Collective Decision Making"

(joint with Microeconomics Seminar)

[Roland Bénabou, Princeton University:](#)

*Eliciting Moral Preferences: Theory and Experiment*

Please send an email to [cdm.wiso@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:cdm.wiso@uni-hamburg.de) if you want to register for the seminar.

Thursday January 21

17:15–18:45

**All other seminars are cancelled until further notice.**

## ABSTRACTS

### **Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics**

Dr. Jan Peter Sasse, Bundesnetzagentur:

*Flexibility for Electricity Networks: Economic and Legal Aspects*

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*Abstract:*

The energy transition leads to a growing need for an expansion of electricity transmission and distribution networks. Energy production becomes more decentralized, the expected rise of emobility and the building-up of the required charging infrastructure may have a significant impact on the load profiles. At the same time, European legislation (Clean Energy Package - CEP) aims to put a stronger emphasis on the use of flexibility for the operation of electricity networks. However, the use of flexibility for electricity networks raises regulatory and economic challenges. For example, flexibility markets may lead to strategic behavior and Increase-Decrease Gaming; further, the integration of new load such as e-mobility must ensure an efficient use of flexibility without hampering the rise of e-mobility. The lecture aims to present and discuss some of the legal and economic challenges the lawmaker is currently facing with regard to the implementation of the CEP into national law and the establishment of a framework for an efficient use of flexibility.

### **Interdisciplinary Research Seminar of the GRK "Collective Decision Making" (joint with Microeconomics Seminar)**

Roland Bénabou, Princeton University:

*Eliciting Moral Preferences: Theory and Experiment*

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*Abstract:*

We examine to what extent a person's moral preferences can be inferred from observing their choices, for instance via experiments, and in particular, how one should interpret certain behaviors that appear deontologically motivated. Comparing the performance of the direct elicitation (DE) and multiple-price list (MPL) mechanisms, we characterize in each case how (social or self) image motives inflate the extent to which agents behave prosocially. More surprisingly, this signaling bias is shown to depend on the elicitation method, both per se and interacted with the level of visibility: it is greater under DE for low reputation concerns, and greater under MPL when they become high enough. We then test the model's predictions in an experiment in which nearly 700 subjects choose between money for themselves and implementing a 350€ donation that will, in expectation, save one human life. Interacting the elicitation method with the decision's level of visibility and salience, we find the key crossing effect predicted by the model. We also show how certain "Kantian" postures (turning down

all prices in the offered range) can easily emerge under MPL when reputation becomes important enough.

*The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, January 25, 2021.*

*Editorial deadline: Friday, January 22, 2021.*

**EconNewsletter**

Department of Economics

University of Hamburg

Von-Melle-Park 5, 20146 Hamburg

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