



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

# EconNewsletter

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

JANUARY 10 – JANUARY 14, 2022

NEWSLETTER 2022-2

## SEMINAR CALENDAR

### Quantitative Economics

[Anna Kerkhof, ifo-Institut:](#)

Tuesday January 11

*Gender Stereotypes in Online Discussion Forums*

12:15–13:30

This lecture will be held in a digital format. For participation via Zoom please register via the following link:

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

### Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics

[Emiliano Catan, NYU School of Law:](#)

Wednesday January 12

*Corporate Governance and Firm Value*

18:15–19:45

This lecture will be held in a digital format. For participation via Zoom please register via the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/qV0YuG17yv>

### PhD Seminar

[Lorenzo Romero, Hamburg University:](#)

Thursday January 13

*The Spatial Distribution of Green Innovation in Germany*

12:15–13:15

This lecture will be held in a digital format. For participation via Zoom please register via the following link:

<https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5wuduCopj0rEtQiSUrX5AtRZeNYUgI5XO-m>

## ABSTRACTS

### **Quantitative Economics**

Anna Kerkhof, ifo-Institut:

*Gender Stereotypes in Online Discussion Forums*

---

*Abstract:*

Gender stereotypes are an important hurdle on the way to gender equality, but it is difficult to quantify the problem, as stereotypical beliefs are often subconscious or not openly expressed. User-generated content (UGC) opens up novel opportunities to overcome such challenges, as the anonymity of users in online discussion forums may eliminate social pressure. In this paper, we use a unique dataset of six million anonymous comments from a major German discussion forum to study the prevalence of gender stereotypes in UGC, and how gender stereotypes are affected by the #MeToo-movement. Using an innovative combination of modern machine learning techniques, we show that men are much more often discussed in the context of work or money than women, and that women are much more often discussed in the context of family, home, and physical appearance than men. The impact of the #MeToo-movement is substantial but constricted: while women are less likely to be mentioned in the context of domestic topics (family and home) after the movement, gender stereotypes in other domains persist.

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

Emiliano Catan, NYU School of Law:

*Corporate Governance and Firm Value*

---

*Abstract:*

For decades, scholars have turned to empirical evidence to resolve theoretical debates about the impact of corporate governance on firm value. Initially, the most common empirical technique to evaluate corporate governance was the short-term event study. More recently, short-term event studies have been supplemented, if not replaced, by three techniques – longer-term event studies, calendar time portfolio regressions, and Q (and other accounting-based ratio) regressions – that examine the effect of corporate governance changes over a longer term. We argue that one should apply a fair amount of skepticism in evaluating empirical studies that purport to discern the effect of corporate governance on firm value. Q regressions are theoretically unfounded and can often lead to biased results. Results derived from standard Q regressions thus shed no light on corporate governance controversies. While event studies and calendar time portfolio regressions are greatly superior to Q regressions, these methodologies have their own shortcomings, which need to be kept in mind in interpreting their results.

**PhD Seminar**

Lorenzo Romero, Hamburg University:

*The Spatial Distribution of Green Innovation in Germany*

---

*Abstract:*

In our fight against climate change, green innovation plays a fundamental role in the capacity of societies to minimize pollution and use of resources. Its distribution has been studied across countries, as well as their drivers and the effects of national policies on it. Unfortunately, not much is known about within-country location of green innovation, and whether regional policies can also affect it. In this study, I investigate whether there are green innovation hubs in Germany and compare them to other innovation hubs known to exist in the country. Later, I look into potential drivers for the spatial distribution of green innovation and their policy relevance.

*The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, January 17, 2022.*

*Editorial deadline: Friday, January 14, 2022.*

**EconNewsletter**

Department of Economics

University of Hamburg

Von-Melle-Park 5, 20146 Hamburg

To un/subscribe from/to this newsletter, please

send an e-mail to [econ.newsletter.Wiso@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:econ.newsletter.Wiso@uni-hamburg.de)