



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

# EconNewsletter

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

JANUARY 19 – JANUARY 23, 2026

NEWSLETTER 2026-3

## SEMINAR CALENDAR

### HCHE Research Seminar

[Heiner Schumacher, University of Innsbruck:](#)

*Platform Design and Market Power*

Monday January 19  
16:00-17:15  
Esplanade 36, R. 4011/13

### Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics

[Maria Paula Bertran, University of Sao Paulo:](#)

*Legal Innovation in the Era of Big Data: Global Insights from Brazil's  
Digital Judiciary and Financial Litigation*

Wednesday January 21  
18:15–19:45  
R. 223 (ILE)  
Alsterterrasse 1

This seminar is held in a hybrid format. To register for online participation via Zoom, please send an E-Mail by 11:30 AM at the latest on the day of the lecture to [lectures-ile@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:lectures-ile@uni-hamburg.de).

### Microeconomics

[Carmen Arguedas, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid:](#)

*TBA*

Thursday January 22  
17:15–18:45  
R. 0079 (VMP 5)

## ABSTRACTS

### **HCHE Research Seminar**

Heiner Schumacher, University of Innsbruck:

*Platform Design and Market Power*

---

*Abstract:*

We examine how the design of an online retail platform - the complexity of price comparisons or the existence of a buy box - affects the market power of sellers competing on this platform. To this end, we conduct an online experiment in which we vary platform design and seller prices for a homogeneous product. To capture consumer behavior, we estimate a structural model that separates consumer attention and choice stages. We then derive equilibrium prices by simulating seller behavior in a pricing game where consumers' behavior is given by the structural parameters. This method also allows us to study the impact of platform ranking algorithms, data-driven price discrimination, and shopping bots on seller market power and consumer surplus.

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

Maria Paula Bertran, University of Sao Paulo:

*Legal Innovation in the Era of Big Data: Global Insights from Brazil's Digital Judiciary and Financial Litigation*

---

*Abstract:*

Brazil stands out as a unique environment for public legal data, with virtually every lawsuit making its way online. Our research group has pioneered methods to collect, organize, and visually represent process flows, decision outcomes, lawsuit values, and other essential information across a range of legal subjects. At the ILE Conference, I am honored to unveil our flagship dataset focused on mass litigation involving banks and fintechs, which is a key sector in Brazil's legal landscape. Through data-driven analysis, we were able to create the Brazilian National Litigation Index Report for the Financial Sector, offering pragmatic tools for regulators to monitor and guide industry actors. Additionally, longitudinal data assessment revealed insightful patterns in compensation decisions, highlighting a decade's trend of behavioral anchoring without adjustments for inflation. The conference will address these and related topics, fostering insights that may help tackle shared legal challenges across diverse jurisdictions.

*The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, January 26, 2026.*

*Editorial deadline: Friday, January 23, 2026.*

**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)