



NEWSLETTER 2023|2

## CALENDAR

**Departmental Seminar**

Roberto Weber (University of Zurich)

"On the Relative Deservingness of Capital and Labor"

**Mon, Jan 23**

16:00 - 17:30

H 26

**IOS Seminar**

Maria Cotofan (King's College London and Centre for Economic Performance, LSE)

"Does Growing Up in a Recession Increase Compassion? The Case of Attitudes Towards Immigration"

**Tue, Jan 24**

14:00 - 15:30

Zoom-Meeting

**Economic and Social History Seminar**

Arnd Kluge (Hof)

"Deutsche Vereinsgeschichte – Projektbericht"

**Wed, Jan 25**

18:00 - 20:15

VG 1.30 and  
Zoom-Meeting



## ABSTRACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

### **Departmental Seminar**

Roberto Weber (University of Zurich)

“On the Relative Deservingness of Capital and Labor”

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Joint work with F. Schneider and V. Valero

Perceptions of deservingness play a critical role in support for redistributive policies. We investigate whether different inputs into production are perceived as differentially deserving of the rewards they jointly produce and whether such perceptions influence how people believe income should be awarded to the providers of such inputs. We focus on the special case of capital and labor inputs, a topic of long-standing interest in economics. We use pre-registered experiments with representative samples of the US and the Swiss populations to study perceptions of fairness in the allocation of rewards to investment and work. Our design holds constant many factors that may influence individuals' preferences over such allocations in more natural environments. In the experiment, two participants provide separate inputs to production, either in the form of monetary investment or work effort; a different participant allocates the production rewards between the investor and the worker. We find substantial heterogeneity in perceived deservingness, but also observe a tendency to allocate a greater share to labor than to capital. Our measure of the tendency to favor one input over the other predicts attitudes and voting behavior in support of policies that differentially reward capital and labor. Overall, our findings indicate that people perceive different input factors as differentially deserving and that such fairness views directly impact policy preferences.

*Info:*

In person



## **IOS Seminar**

Maria Cotofan (King's College London and Centre for Economic Performance, LSE)

"Does Growing Up in a Recession Increase Compassion? The Case of Attitudes Towards Immigration"

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Macroeconomic conditions during young adulthood have a persistent impact on people's attitudes and preferences. The seminal paper by Giuliano and Spilimbergo (2014) shows that people who grew up in a recession are more likely to favor government redistribution and assistance to the poor. Moreover, they are more likely to believe that bad luck rather than a lack of hard work causes poverty, i.e., they seem to be more compassionate towards the poor. In this paper, we investigate how inclusive this increase in compassion is by studying how macroeconomic conditions experienced during young adulthood affect attitudes towards immigration. Using data from the General Social Survey and the World Value Survey, we find strong evidence that bad macroeconomic circumstances during young adulthood strengthen attitudes against immigration for the rest of people's lives. In addition, growing up in difficult macroeconomic times increases parochialism, i.e., people become more outgroup hostile — not just against immigrants. Our results thus suggest that the underlying motive for more government redistribution in response to a recession does not originate from a universal increase in compassion, but rather seems to be more self-interested and restricted to one's ingroup.

*Info:*

<https://ios-regensburg-de.zoom.us/j/67732742165?pwd=QnRkTWx6YjA3UEZQNGxGLzFDYlZKUT09>  
Meeting ID: 677 3274 2165  
Password: 317531

## **Economic and Social History Seminar**

Arnd Kluge (Hof)

"Deutsche Vereinsgeschichte – Projektbericht"

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Der Referent arbeitet an der ersten deutschen Vereinsgeschichte. Obwohl es weit über 600.000 Vereine in der Bundesrepublik gibt, wurde das Thema noch nicht im Ganzen wissenschaftlich aufgearbeitet. Ist es zu langweilig oder zu spießig? Der Vortrag skizziert das Projekt und zeigt, dass es zahlreiche interessante Aspekte einer deutschen Vereinsgeschichte gibt, vom Nationalismus über die Konstituierung des Bürgertums bis zur Zivilgesellschaft. Vereinsgeschichte beleuchtet zentrale Themen der Sozialgeschichte.

*Info:*

In person and via <https://uni-regensburg.zoom.us/j/99496312592>



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**Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2023|3:**

**Wednesday, Jan 25 | 11 am**

## **FAKULTÄT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN**

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