



NEWSLETTER 2018-02

CALENDAR:

Departmental Seminar

Marie Lechler (LMU Munich)

Employment Shocks and Anti-EU Sentiment

Monday, January 15

16:30–18:00

VG H26

IOS Seminar

Michael Rochlitz (LMU Munich)

Independent Media and Elections: Experimental Evidence from Russia

Tuesday, January 16

13:30–15:00

WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

Real Estate Seminar

Christine Schimpfermann (Planungs- und Baureferat der Stadt Regensburg)

Stadtentwicklung und Wohnungsbau in Regensburg

Wednesday, January 17

12:00–13:30

VG 2.35

Economic and Social History Seminar

Kaveh Yazdani (Bielefeld)

Die Ursachen für den Aufstieg Westeuropas aus indischer Perspektive

Wednesday, January 17

18:00–20:15

VG 1.30

ABSTRACTS:**Departmental Seminar**

Marie Lechler

Employment Shocks and Anti-EU Sentiment

Abstract: The reason for the emergence of anti-European sentiment has long been a topic of the public debate and has gained even more attention with the rise of anti-EU parties in many European countries. Among the most frequently mentioned reasons for this euroscepticism is economic insecurity. This paper identifies regional employment changes as causal factors for forming attitudes towards the European Union and voting for eurosceptic parties in European Parliament elections. To do so, I combine industry-specific employment data for roughly 260 European NUTS II regions with individual-level Eurobarometer survey data for the past 20 years and regional voting results. I apply panel data and instrumental variable methods; for the latter I construct a novel Bartik-style instrument, which predicts employment changes on the basis of regional industry specialization and Europe-wide sector specific employment growth rates. The effect of employment changes on attitudes towards the EU is particularly strong for unemployed and low-skilled workers in regions with a high share of migrants from other European member states, which supports the narrative that 'losers of globalization' tend to be more skeptical towards economic and political integration.

IOS Seminar

Michael Rochlitz

Independent Media and Elections: Experimental Evidence from Russia

Abstract: We conducted two parallel field experiments to test how exposure to independent online media affects voting behavior during the Russian Parliamentary Election in September 2016. We randomly provided free access to independent online media among the citizens of medium size cities in the European part of Russia before the election. In the first experiment, access to the independent TV channel Dozhd was distributed randomly during the first wave of a telephone survey among the survey respondents. In a second survey round after the election, we collected data on the voting behavior of our respondents. We find that respondents who used the free subscription were more likely to cast their ballot and less likely to vote for the incumbent party both on average, and compared to respondents who intended to use the subscription but could not activate subscription codes due to technical problems. Our treatment was also associated with increased perception of electoral manipulations. In a second experiment, we established a free-trial subscription for all internet users located in 20 Russian cities and advertised this option via the Russian social network VKontakte. Similar to the first experiment, we find that free access combined with the advertisement increased the local turnout rate, and reduced the vote for the incumbent party.

Real Estate Seminar

Christine Schimpfermann

Stadtentwicklung und Wohnungsbau in Regensburg

Abstract: Der Vortrag zeigt zunächst die aktuellen und zukünftigen Herausforderungen der Regensburger Stadtentwicklung auf. Anschließend wird thematisiert, wie die Stadt Regensburg mit dem anhaltenden Bevölkerungswachstum, der hohen Wohnungsnachfrage unter Berücksichtigung der vorhandenen Flächenpotentiale umgeht.

Economic and Social History Seminar

Kaveh Yazdani

Die Ursachen für den Aufstieg Westeuropas aus indischer Perspektive

Abstract: Die große Mehrzahl der Publikationen zur wichtigen Frage nach Europas Aufstieg ist der eurozentrischen Denkrichtung zuzuordnen. In den letzten zwei Jahrzehnten jedoch wurden gewaltige Anstrengungen unternommen, den Westen und den Rest aus nicht-eurozentrischer und globaler Perspektive zu verstehen und zu analysieren. Allerdings untersucht das Gros der Publikationen die Voraussetzungen für die Industrielle Revolution Großbritanniens und stellt die Frage, warum England und nicht andere fortgeschrittene Regionen Europas und Chinas den Durchbruch schafften. Es gibt nur wenige Historiker und Sozialwissenschaftler, die sich mit dem indischen Mogul-Reich und ihren Nachfolgestaaten befassen und diese Themen aus einer überwiegend indischen Perspektive bearbeitet haben. Yazdani untersucht und analysiert in seinem Vortrag daher v.a. die sozio-ökonomischen, techno-wissenschaftlichen, militärischen, politischen und institutionellen Entwicklungen Indiens, v.a. Mysores und Gujarats.

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FAKULTÄT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN

INSTITUT FÜR
VOLKSWIRTSCHAFTSLEHRE UND
ÖKONOMETRIE

Universitätsstraße 31 ▪ 93040 Regensburg

Newsletter-Redaktion: [Martina Kraus-Pietsch](mailto:Martina.Kraus-Pietsch@ur.de)

Telefon: +49 941 943-2710

Fax: +49 941 943-2734

E-Mail: econ.news@ur.de

Internet: www-economics.ur.de

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