



NEWSLETTER 2018-19

CALENDAR:

Departmental Seminar

Xenia Matschke (University of Trier):
*Location Choices of Private, Public, and Foreign Investment
Projects in India*

Monday, July 09
16:30–18:00
H26

IOS Seminar

Natalia Danzer (Ifo Institute):
*The Behavioral and Psychological Consequences of a Nuclear
Catastrophe. The Case of Chernobyl*

Tuesday, July 10
13:30–15:00
WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str.4)

Economic and Social History Seminar

Sebastian Pößniker (Regensburg):
*Data-Mining in den Rechnungsbüchern der Reichsstadt
Regensburg: Zur Vorstellung eines Promotionsvorhabens*

Wednesday, July 11
18:00–20:15
VG 1.30

ABSTRACTS:**Departmental Seminar**

Xenia Matschke

Location Choices of Private, Public, and Foreign Investment Projects in India

Abstract: Using firm level data, we analyze the determinants of decisions to implement an investment project in India by accounting for the spatial structure of industrial concentration in the regions (states and union territories) and controlling for the type of ownership.

IOS Seminar

Natalia Danzer

The Behavioral and Psychological Consequences of a Nuclear Catastrophe. The Case of Chernobyl

Abstract: In modern economics, preferences are the unmoved movers of economic and social behavior. They are taken as given such that all social phenomena need to be explained by changes in beliefs or constraints. The assumption of given preferences constitutes however merely a convenient assumption that is not supported by evidence. Here, we examine the impact of radiation fallout after the nuclear catastrophe on the preferences and beliefs of the Ukrainian population. As the geographical distribution of radiation is essentially randomly determined by local and regional weather conditions, the radiation fallout after the catastrophe in Chernobyl constitutes a natural experiment. We find that people who were subjects to higher radiation after the catastrophe display stronger risk aversion and a higher discounting of future returns. They save less, are much less inclined to support democratic political institutions and market economies, and they engage less in political and civic activities. Because we exclude the people in the vicinity of Chernobyl from our sample, the radiation fallout "consumed" by our sample population is very low – comparable to the exposure of an average individual during one year in a non-contaminated environment. It is therefore highly unlikely that the direct health consequences of radiation fall out affect people's economic and political preferences. It rather seems that the impact is purely psychologically mediated and due to the pervasive uncertainty or fear stemming from the imagined future consequences associated with physically unnoticeable and unseizable radiation fall-out.

Economic and Social History Seminar

Sebastian Pößniker

Data-Mining in den Rechnungsbüchern der Reichsstadt Regensburg: Zur Vorstellung eines Promotionsvorhabens

Abstract: Um das noch lückenhafte Bild der historischen Preis- und Lebensstandardentwicklung in Süddeutschland, der regionalen Einkommensdisparitäten und ihrer zeitlichen Entwicklung zu ergänzen, will sich das Dissertationsvorhaben primär mit der Überlieferung des Regensburger St. Katharinenspiitals, des reichsstädtischen Almosenamts und ggf. des Damenstifts Obermünster im Zeitraum von 1356 bis 1803 beschäftigen. Was die drei Institutionen verbindet, ist eine ausgesprochen reichhaltige Quellenüberlieferung, die es ermöglicht, den Forschungsstand um Reallöhne derselben Stadt zu erweitern, die verschiedenen Aspekte des umfassenden Themenkomplexes mit unterschiedlichen Fragestellungen unter den Stichworten „Konjunktur“ und „Vulnerabilität“ anzugehen und dabei auch die Institutionen selbst (Alltag, Ernährung, Personal, Wirtschaft) zu erforschen. Die quantitative Erhebung selbst stellt nur eine zwar unentbehrliche, aber noch grobe Ausgangsbasis für das Promotionsvorhaben dar, dessen derzeitiger Arbeitsstand vorgestellt wird.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The next regular issue of RegensburgEconNews will be published at the beginning of the winter term; editorial deadline: **October 10, 2018**.

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**RegensburgEconNews**

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Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2018-20:
Wednesday, October 10 – 11 am

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