

**NEWSLETTER 2019-05****CALENDAR:****IOS Seminar**

Paola Bertoli (University of Economics in Prague):
The Political Cycle of Road Traffic Accidents

Tuesday, February 12
13:30–15:00
WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

Mario Holzner (The Vienna Institute for International Economic
Studies/Wiener Institut für Internationale
Wirtschaftsvergleiche):
Corporatism and the Labour Income Share

Tuesday, April 16
13:30–15:00
WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

ABSTRACTS:

IOS Seminar

Paola Bertoli:

The Political Cycle of Road Traffic Accidents

Abstract: Road traffic accidents often mean lost productivity and medical expenditures. We explain trends in traffic accidents as a function of the political cycle using municipal data from Italy. We show that during municipal election years, the accident rate increases by 2.2%, with a 2.5% increase in the injury rate but no effect on the fatality rate. The effects are stronger in the two quarters prior the quarter in which the election is held, when the electoral campaign is intense, and in the second quarter after the election, when the elected mayor takes office. We argue that this is the result of a decrease in ticket rates during election years, as the expenditures on traffic police increase. Our results are robustly driven by the municipal political cycle defined in different ways, and their magnitude and direction are not explained by spillover effects between municipalities. Proximity to a national police station reduces the impact of local elections on injury rates.

SAVE THE DATE:

On April 5-6, the conference "Arbeitsmarkt und Sozialsysteme im digitalen Wandel?" will take place in Tutzing.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The next issue of RegensburgEconNews will be published at the beginning of the summer term; editorial deadline: April 17, 2019.

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RegensburgEconNews

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University of Regensburg

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Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2019-06:
Wednesday, April 17 – 11 am

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