



## NEWSLETTER 2019-22

### CALENDAR:

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#### **IOS Seminar**

Dmytro Khutkyy (Center for Advanced Internet Studies, Bochum):  
*Digital Democracy in Belarus, Moldova, and Ukraine: Forms and Effects on Policy-Making*

Tuesday, October 29  
13:30–15:30  
WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

#### **Lunch Seminar**

Julian Heid (LMU Munich):  
*Party System Fragmentation in German Constituencies from 1949 to 2017*

Wednesday, October 30  
12:00–13:30  
VG 2.35

#### **Economic and Social History Seminar**

Ulf Christian Ewert (München):  
*Kaffeekonsum in Deutschland im 18. und 19. Jahrhundert - eine quantitative Analyse*

Wednesday, October 30  
18:15–20:30  
VG 1.30

### ABSTRACTS:

#### **IOS Seminar**

Dmytro Khutkyy:

*Digital Democracy in Belarus, Moldova, and Ukraine: Forms and Effects on Policy-Making*

**Abstract:** In recent years, numerous e-participation opportunities for enhancing e-democracy have emerged. Yet their scope and impact vary across countries. To identify the most effective forms of digital democracy, this inquiry reviews the performance of observed e-democracy initiatives in Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova, based on expert interviews, content analysis of online cases, and related self-reported statistics. The studied countries demonstrate a wide spectrum of e-democracy forms, tools, their usage rates, and influences on policy making. Belarus has the fewest e-participation opportunities and practices, Moldova has more tools but little e-participation, while Ukraine has a more functional version of digital democracy in terms of numbers of available e-participation formats, instruments, their usage rates, and impact on public policy.

**Lunch Seminar**

Julian Heid:

*Party System Fragmentation in German Constituencies from 1949 to 2017*

**Abstract:** Party system fragmentation (PSF) represents a challenge to core democratic institutions. In this paper, we examine the impact of socio-economic, institutional, and demographic factors on PSF in a proportional representation voting mechanism. In particular, we use the universe of federal election outcomes across 299 German constituencies to explain the level of PSF in 2017 and the changes of PSF from 2013 to 2017. Among others, we find economic factors such as GDP per capita and home ownership to be negatively related with the level and the increase of PSF. Moreover, the share of migrants in constituencies explains significant parts of the recent increase of PSF in Germany.

**Economic and Social History Seminar**

Ulf Christian Ewert:

*Kaffeekonsum in Deutschland im 18. und 19. Jahrhundert - eine quantitative Analyse*

**Abstract:** Kaffee als Konsumgut verbreitete sich in Deutschland zwar bereits im 18. Jahrhundert, der wesentliche Anstieg des Pro-Kopf-Konsums nahm jedoch erst nach den Napoleonischen Kriegen seinen Anfang und beschleunigte sich dann noch einmal erheblich in der zweiten Hälfte des 19. Jahrhunderts. Welchen Beitrag zu dieser Entwicklung leistete der fallende reale Preis für Kaffee, und wie hoch war der mit dem zunehmenden Kaffeekonsum verbundene Wohlfahrtsgewinn der Konsumenten? Vorgestellt werden Datengrundlage und Schätzmethode sowie erste Ergebnisse zur Einordnung der ökonomischen Eigenschaften des Gutes Kaffee.

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**RegensburgEconNews**

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**FAKULTÄT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN**

INSTITUT FÜR  
VOLKSWIRTSCHAFTSLEHRE UND  
ÖKONOMETRIE

Universitätsstraße 31 • 93040 Regensburg

**Newsletter-Redaktion:**

Telefon: +49 941 943-2710

Fax: +49 941 943-2734

E-Mail: [econ.news@ur.de](mailto:econ.news@ur.de)

Internet: [www-economics.ur.de](http://www-economics.ur.de)

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