

**NEWSLETTER 2019-12****CALENDAR:****IOS Seminar**

Nikica Mojsoska Blazevski (University American College Skopje):
*Can machista culture explain low female activity in
Mediterranean and South-Eastern Europe countries?*

Special Date and Time

Wednesday, June 12
11:30–13:00
WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

Power Lunch

Dr. Gerhard Hopp MdL (CSU)

Wednesday, June 12
12:00-13:00
RWS 101

ABSTRACTS:

IOS Seminar

Nikica Mojsoska Blazevski (University American College Skopje)

Can machista culture explain low female activity in Mediterranean and South-Eastern Europe countries?

Abstract: Female participation in the labour market is crucial for the economic and social development of a country. Indeed, many studies show that economically active females have an important role in reducing poverty by assuring welfare of the households, also showing large GDP losses due to gender gaps in activity and self-employment. In addition, female participation in the labour market is also important for women's relative position in the society and economy compared to men, as well as for their economic empowerment (Patimo et al, 2015).

The aim of this research is to investigate the determinants of the female participation in the labour market. While the paper takes into consideration the traditional literature and the common factors used in other studies, it also involves a novel approach by introducing the effect of the overall cultural context in a country on women's decision whether to supply her labour on the market. The latter is a major contribution of the paper to the current knowledge. The methodology is based on previous research by Contreras and Plaza (2010) which constructs a so-called Machista cultural context index. Moreover, the paper involves a comparative study of two groups of countries which appear to be peers in some cultural aspects, but also in the relatively low female activity. Those are the South-East Europe (SEE) and Mediterranean countries. The findings show that the cultural context, i.e. Machista, is an important determinant of the females' labour market activity which is important in designing government support and policies for promoting females' activity.

MISCELLANEOUS:

A recent interview with **Prof. Fabian Kindermann** on pensions and inequality can be found at <https://www.uni-regensburg.de/pressearchiv/pressemitteilung/986075.html>. A further interview with him can be found in the 06/2019 edition of the Wirtschaftszeitung (<https://www.die-wirtschaftszeitung.de/>).

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