



## NEWSLETTER 2016-18

## CALENDAR:

**Departmental Seminar**

Sebastian Kessing (University of Siegen):  
*Optimal Taxation under Regional Inequality*

Monday, July 11  
16:30–18:00  
VG H26

**IOS Seminar**

Marat Mamedbakov (Ural Federal University, Graduate School  
of Economics and Management):  
*The influence of religion on economy*

Tuesday, July 12  
15:30–17:00  
AlFi 1.09 (Landshuter Str. 4)

**Lunch Seminar**

Konstantin Körner (HU Berlin):  
*Offshoring and the Labor Market - Estimating the  
Heterogeneous Effects of Task Trade on Wages in Germany*

Wednesday, July 13  
12:00–13:00  
VG 2.35

**IOS Seminar**

Dragos Radu (IOS):  
*Emigration and trust*

Tuesday, July 19  
13:30–15:00  
AlFi 1.09 (Landshuter Str. 4)

**IOS Seminar**

Serafima Chirkova (University of Santiago, Chile):  
*Below Replacement: Recent Trends in Chilean Fertility*

Thursday, July 21  
13:30–15:00  
AlFi 1.09 (Landshuter Str. 4)

**IOS Seminar**

Ksenija Gatskova (IOS):  
*tba*

Tuesday, July 26  
13:30–15:00  
AlFi 1.09 (Landshuter Str. 4)

**IOS Seminar**

Florian Freund (Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut,  
Braunschweig):  
*tba*

Tuesday, August 9  
13:30–15:00  
AlFi 1.09 (Landshuter Str. 4)

**ABSTRACTS:****Departmental Seminar**

Sebastian Kessing

*Optimal Taxation under Regional Inequality*

(joint work with Vilen Lipatov and J. Malte Zoubek)

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*Abstract:* Combining an intensive labor supply margin with an extensive, productivity-enhancing migration margin, we determine how regional inequality and labor mobility shape optimal redistribution. We propose the use of delayed optimal-control techniques to obtain optimal tax formulae with location-dependent productivity and two-dimensional heterogeneity. Our baseline simulations using the productivity differences between large metropolitan and other regions in the US indicate that productivity-increasing internal migration can constitute a quantitatively important constraint on redistribution. Allowing for regionally differentiated taxation with location-dependent productivity, we find that marginal tax rates in high- (low-)productivity regions should be corrected downwards (upwards) relative to a no-migration benchmark.

**IOS Seminar**

Marat Mamedbakov

*The influence of religion on economy*

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*Abstract:* Religion and religiosity are of acknowledged socio-economic importance. E.g., recent literature links terrorist attacks to the performance of Islamic economies. Despite the existing literature on the impact of religion on economic activity, there is little evidence yet on the role of particular religious denominations. This paper reviews the literature on the impact of religion on the economy and estimates an econometric model of the impact of religions (Islam and Christianity) on such economic indicators as GDP and the Human Development Index (HDI). In addition, the role of happiness and education for these indicators is studied. The results suggest that level of religiosity of people does affect economic outcomes.

**Lunch Seminar**

Konstantin Körner

*Offshoring and the Labor Market - Estimating the Heterogeneous Effects of Task Trade on Wages in Germany*

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*Abstract:* In this paper I analyze the heterogeneous effects of offshoring on wages in West Germany from 1995 – 2007. In particular I try to reveal the impact of offshoring to the Central and Eastern European Countries (CEECs), which became suddenly accessible after the fall of the Iron Curtain. I connect individual and firm level data of a rich linked employer-employee data set with versions of industry level offshoring measures and information about the tasks performed on the job. Based on the theory of task trade by Grossman and Rossi-Hansberg (2008, 2012) I investigate the wage effects of offshoring in the manufacturing and service sectors with respect to a job's 1) offshorability, i.e. the share of interactive and non-routine tasks performed on the job, 2) (dis)similar offshoring destinations, as well as 3) within and cross industry results.

My main results suggest that offshoring to the CEECs have negative overall wage effects on German wages. However, substantial heterogeneity can be found along the task dimension. While wages of jobs with a high content of routine and non-interactive tasks suffer from offshoring, workers in jobs with a high degree of interactivity and non-routineness benefit. This result holds for within and cross industry estimations. Task trade with similar countries reverse the implications of offshoring on wages for the two groups of workers. In this case jobs with many interactive and non-routine tasks tend to suffer higher wage cuts.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The next issue of RegensburgEconNews will be published at the beginning of the winter term; editorial deadline: October 12, 2016.

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**RegensburgEconNews**

Newsletter of the Institute of Economics and Econometrics, University of Regensburg

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Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2016-19:  
Wednesday, October 12 – 11 pm

**FAKULTÄT FÜR  
WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN**

INSTITUT FÜR  
VOLKSWIRTSCHAFTSLEHRE UND  
ÖKONOMETRIE

Universitätsstraße 31 ■ 93040 Regensburg

Newsletter-Redaktion: Martina Kraus-Pietsch

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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