



NEWSLETTER 2017-28

CALENDAR:

Departmental Seminar

Dorothea Kübler (WZB Berlin)

Self-confidence and unraveling in matching markets

Monday, December 11

16:30–18:00

VG H26

IOS Seminar

Benjamin Elsner (IZA Bonn)

*Immigration and Redistribution: Evidence from 8 Million**Forced Migrants*

Tuesday, December 12

13:30–15:00

WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

Economic and Social History Seminar

Leonardo Ridolfi (Pisa)

*L'histoire immobile? Six centuries of real wages in France from**Louis IX to Napoleon III: 1250-1860*

Wednesday, December 13

18:00–20:15

VG 1.30

ABSTRACTS:**Departmental Seminar**

Dorothea Kübler

Self-confidence and unraveling in matching markets

Abstract: We document experimentally how biased self-assessments affect the outcome of matching markets. In the experiments, we exogenously manipulate the self-confidence of participants regarding their relative performance by employing hard and easy real-effort tasks. We give participants the option to accept early offers before information about their performance has been revealed, or to wait for the assortative matching based on their relative performance. Early offers are more often accepted when the task is hard than when it is easy. We show that the treatment effect works through a shift in beliefs, i.e., underconfident agents are more likely to accept early offers than overconfident agents. The experiment identifies a behavioral determinant of unraveling, namely biased self-assessments, which can lead to penalties for underconfident individuals and to efficiency losses and unstable outcomes of markets.

IOS Seminar

Benjamin Elsner

Immigration and Redistribution: Evidence from 8 Million Forced Migrants

Abstract: This paper shows that immigration can have a profound and persistent impact on redistribution. We illustrate this based on the sudden arrival of 8 million forced migrants in West Germany in the aftermath of World War II. These migrants, after having lost all their assets, were much poorer than the population in West Germany, but had full voting rights from the time of arrival. Based on panel data for 400 West German cities, we show that cities responded to this inflow by raising business taxes and taxes on farmland, while leaving property and wage bill taxes unchanged. Further analysis suggests that these results can be explained by changes in local voting patterns. We further document a long-lasting impact of this mass immigration on people's preferences for redistribution today. People living today in places with high inflows in the 1940s display markedly stronger preferences for a large government.

Economic and Social History Seminar

Leonardo Ridolfi

L'histoire immobile? Six centuries of real wages in France from Louis IX to Napoleon III: 1250-1860

Abstract: A long-standing tradition in the literature concerning living standards in pre-industrial France has focused on the study of specific regions or what Philip Hoffman called "local economics". Yet, still to date, there is no consolidated understanding of the long-term development of wages and prices from a broader national perspective. This study takes a step in this direction presenting new series of real wages for male agricultural labourers and construction workers in France from 1250 to 1860. The series suggest that there were only limited long run improvements in living standards for French wage earners and even in the post-Black Death period, I find few traces of a French "golden age" of labour.

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS:

On November 28, **Stephan Huber** presented his papers "Product sophistication and spillovers from foreign direct investment" and "Location Choices of Private, Public, and Foreign Investment Projects in India: The Role of Upstream and Downstream Industries" at the 3rd Workshop on Foreign Direct Investment and Multinational Corporations in Mainz.

NEW PUBLICATIONS:

David Downs, Lingxiao Li, Steffen Sebastian and Bing Zhu: *New Evidence on Housing Wealth and Consumption Channels*, The Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics.

We gratefully acknowledge financial support of the Departmental Seminar by the Regensburger Universitätsstiftung Hans Vielberth.

**RegensburgEconNews**

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

To subscribe to / unsubscribe from this newsletter, please go to <https://www-mailman.uni-regensburg.de/mailman/listinfo/regensburgeconnews> or send an email to econ.news@ur.de

Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2017-29:
Wednesday, December 13 – 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

Internet: www-economics.ur.de

Bildnachweis: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Regensburg_08_2006.jpg