



NEWSLETTER 2026|5

CALENDAR

Economics and Sustainability Seminar

Dirk Krueger (University of Pennsylvania)

"Population Aging and the Market for Higher Education:
Implications for Education Finance Reform"

IOS Seminar

Andreas Fuchs (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)

"The Effect of Foreign Aid on Migration: Global Evidence from
World Bank Projects "

Lunch Seminar

Salavat Abylkalikov (IOS Regensburg)

"How Putin's War Against Ukraine is Exacerbating Russia's
Demographic Crisis"

Economic and Social History Seminar

Arnd Kluge (Hof)

"Auf der Suche nach dem gesellschaftlichen Zusammenhalt –
Der Beitrag von Organisationen aus der Sicht des Historikers"

Mon, Feb 2

14:15 - 15:30

H 26

Tue, Feb 3

13:30 - 15:00

109 and zoom

Wed, Feb 4

12:00 - 13:00

H 26

Wed, Feb 4

18:00 - 20:15

PT 1.0.6



ABSTRACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Economics and Sustainability Seminar

Dirk Krueger (University of Pennsylvania)

"Population Aging and the Market for Higher Education: Implications for Education Finance Reform"

We construct a general equilibrium life cycle model of the college market with heterogeneous colleges, student college quality and major choice, and subsequent labor market outcomes of workers in different occupations. The cross-sectional distribution of college quality and college specialization is an equilibrium outcome and is shaped by the demographic structure of the economy, by public education spending and college loan policies, as well as by the endogenous relative wages that college graduates with different majors command in the labor market. We use the model to evaluate the aggregate and distributional consequences of the "demographic cliff" that will reduce the number of high-school graduates in the next decades, and against the backdrop of technological change (e.g., the emergence of AI) in the labor market. We then discuss the ability of recently proposed public education finance reforms by the recent administrations to shape these consequences.

Info:

in person



IOS Seminar

Andreas Fuchs (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)

"The Effect of Foreign Aid on Migration: Global Evidence from World Bank Projects "

In response to surging immigration pressure in Europe and the United States, Western policy-makers advocate foreign aid as a means to fight the 'root causes' of irregular migration. This article provides the first global evidence of the effects of aid on migration preferences, migration flows, potential underlying mechanisms, both in the short and longer term. We combine newly geocoded data on World Bank aid project allocation at the subnational level over the period 2008–2019 with exceptionally rich survey data from a sample of almost one million individuals across the entire developing world and data on migration and asylum seeker flows to high-income countries. Employing two distinct causal estimation strategies, we show that in the short term (after the announcement of a World Bank project and within two years after project disbursement), foreign aid improves individual expectations about the future and trust in national institutions in aid-receiving regions, which translate into reduced individual migration preferences and asylum-seeker flows. In the longer term (between three and five years after disbursement), foreign aid fosters improvements in individual welfare through poverty reduction and income increases, resulting in larger regular migration to high-income countries. Our findings show that aid can cause a short-lived reduction in migration aspirations, except in fragile Sub-Saharan African contexts where aid appears ineffective. In contrast, foreign aid enhances individual capabilities over the longer term, contributing to greater regular migration, consistent with the 'mobility transition' theory.

Info:

Zoom-Meeting:

<https://ios-regensburg-de.zoom.us/j/61021148362pwd=cONn1NhSoaug22zb1KG217MbPE29iE.1>

Meeting ID: 610 2114 8362

Passcode: 053339



Lunch Seminar

Salavat Abylkalikov (IOS Regensburg)

“How Putin’s War Against Ukraine is Exacerbating Russia’s Demographic Crisis”

Russia’s demographic dynamics are determined by cyclical fluctuations. These processes originate from distortions in the first half of the twentieth century (including the effects of wars and famines). Such waves directly influence the contemporary reproductive potential of the country. Current geopolitical shifts may significantly accelerate accumulated negative trends. This presentation examines the mechanisms by which the international crisis influences long-term demographic trajectories. The probability of the population following lower-variant projections appears high. The population composition is characterised by a contraction of young cohorts. Projections indicate a reduction in the group aged 20 to 40 of approximately one-third by the year 2032. This specific cohort provides the majority of the labour supply and fertility. The old-age dependency ratio is expected to increase substantially. The indicator may rise by 60 % by the year 2045 (compared to 2012 data). Such dynamics will create excessive pressure on healthcare and social security systems. Migration flows no longer fully compensate for natural population decrease. Reduced attractiveness for immigrants contributes to the intensification of depopulation. Increased emigration also limits the capacity to correct the age structure through external resources. These factors lead to a long-term reduction in the total number of residents. In other words: the current crisis establishes conditions for a sustained population decline. Observed processes appear self-reinforcing.

Info:

in person



Economic and Social History Seminar

Arnd Kluge (Hof)

“Auf der Suche nach dem gesellschaftlichen Zusammenhalt – Der Beitrag von Organisationen aus der Sicht des Historikers”

Im Vortrag wird am Beispiel von Zünften, Genossenschaften und Vereinen der Frage nachgegangen, welchen Beitrag Organisationen zur gesellschaftlichen Integration geleistet haben und zu leisten in der Lage sind. Ohne „gesellschaftliche Integration“ abschließend zu definieren, wird davon ausgegangen, dass diese in einem engen Zusammenhang steht mit der Begegnung von Menschen unterschiedlicher sozialer Gruppen und deren Möglichkeiten zum wirtschaftlichen und gesellschaftlichen Aufstieg. Die Ergebnisse der Forschungen sind ernüchternd. Organisationen sind nützliche Vehikel sozialer Bewegungen, spiegeln aber in der Regel lediglich die Trends, die in der Gesellschaft vorhanden sind. Wo Organisationen ein Eigenleben entwickelt haben, war es meist trennend. Der Staat wirkt bis zur Gegenwart kräftig dabei mit, Organisationen in seinem Sinne zu steuern. Die großen Hoffnungen, die in die „Zivilgesellschaft“ und ihren Demokratie- und Fortschrittsglauben gesetzt wurden, haben sich nicht erfüllt.

Info:

in person



CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next issue of **RegensburgEconNews** will be published at the beginning of the summer term (editorial deadline: April 8, 2026).

RegensburgEconNews

Newsletter of the Institute of Economics and Econometrics

To change your Newsletter subscription, please visit:

<https://go.ur.de/RegensburgEconNews>

or send an email to econ.news@ur.de

Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2026|6:

Wednesday, April 8 | 11 am

FAKULTÄT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN

INSTITUT FÜR
VOLKSWIRTSCHAFTSLEHRE UND
ÖKONOMETRIE

Universitätsstraße 31 | 93040 Regensburg

Newsletter-Redaktion:

Email: econ.news@ur.de

Website: <https://go.ur.de/econ-news>

Bildnachweis: per Email an Redaktion wenden