



ALFRED-WEBER-INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN
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Upcoming Seminars

Monday, 12.12.2016

Departmental Seminar

17.15-18.15

AWI 00.010

Bram Driesen, University of Glasgow

(invited by Jürgen Eichberger)

"Feasible sets, comparative risk aversion and comparative uncertainty aversion in bargaining"

Tuesday, 13.12.2016

Economics and Politics Seminar

13.45-14.45

AWI 01.030

Sabine Carey, University of Mannheim

"Being prepared: Explaining the escalation of repression"

Wednesday, 14.12.2016

Internal Seminar

12.15-13.15

AWI 00.010

Min Xie

"Entrepreneurial Growth and Microcredit: Thailand's Village Fund Revisited"

Thursday, 15.12.2016

Lecture Series: The End of Globalization?

18.00-19.30

Campus Bergheim

Hörsaal

Martin Gassebner, University of Hannover

"Terrorismus im Zeitalter der Globalisierung?"

Departmental Seminar

Bram Driesen

"Feasible sets, comparative risk aversion and comparative uncertainty aversion in bargaining"

We study feasible sets of the bargaining problem under two different assumptions: the players are subjective expected utility maximizers or the players are Choquet expected utility maximizers. For the latter case, we consider the effects on bargaining solutions when players become more risk averse and when they become more uncertainty averse.

Economics and Politics Seminar

Sabine Carey

"Being prepared: Explaining the escalation of repression"

Despite a good understanding of why some countries are more repressive than others based on structural differences, we lack insights into what drives the escalation of repression. Why do governments depart from the status quo and escalate violence? We expect repression to ratchet up with threat. We argue that governments anticipate the costs of increasing repression will be particularly low where repression can be delegated to irregular forces, where information about repression and about who is implementing repression is limited and where the opposition have restricted ability to communicate with the population. Governments that close the political space for potential opponents are likely to escalate physical repression. Leaders close the political space by limiting the freedom of the media and delegate by setting up extra-institutional agents of repression. Tighter controls over the media and links with informal militias should facilitate the escalation of state-sponsored repression because they signal preparedness to escalate violence and lower the costs of escalation. Using a global dataset from 1981-2006, we show that limits to media freedom make the escalation of repression more likely and informal militias affect the escalation of violence only when media freedom is constrained. Our results also suggest that governments increase repression in response to violent threats to their rule, while non-violent opposition has no impact on the likelihood that state-sponsored repression escalates. This study contributes to an emerging field that focuses on explaining escalatory processes of political violence. The results highlight the importance of governments' preparedness for violence and the long-term consequences of failing to prevent repression in the first place.

Lecture Series: The End of Globalization?

Martin Gassebner

"Terrorismus im Zeitalter der Globalisierung"

Was genau ist Terror? Ist die zunehmende Globalisierung verantwortlich für die Verschlimmerung des Problems? Oder hat Terror in einer globalisierten Welt dramatischere Konsequenzen? Oder beides? Diesen Fragen wird im Rahmen der Ringvorlesung auf den Grund gegangen.

Internal Seminar

Min Xie

"Entrepreneurial Growth and Microcredit: Thailand's Village Fund Revisited"*

We investigate the effects of a nation-wide microcredit program in rural Thailand, the 2001 Village Fund, on microentrepreneurship and household welfare. Exploiting the program's feature that the funds available per household are inversely related to village size, we estimate program effects by comparing larger to smaller villages before and just after the program. We find that the program increased access to formal finance significantly in a pro-poor way. On the other hand, the large and immediate expansion of micro-entrepreneurship sparked by the Village Fund is led almost exclusively by wealthier households. Our findings challenge those by Kaboski and Townsend (2013, 2011), who have previously concluded that the program's main effect was only a transitory increase in consumption leveraged by the dissaving of household buffer stocks.

*with Stefan Klonner

Talks and Research Visits

Hans Diefenbacher gave a lecture on "Postwachstumsökonomik", Ringvorlesung *Heterodoxie in der VWL*, Universität Göttingen, December 7.

Sarah Langlotz presented the paper "Illicit economy and violence: The effect of opium cultivation on the geography of conflict in Afghanistan" (joint work with Kai Gehring and Stefan Kienberger) at the "1st FHM Development Workshop", University of Mannheim, December 2.

Visitors

Christian Bjørnskov stays at the AWI (room 01.013a) from December till January for giving a lecture on *Institutional Economics* during the winterterm, and for research stay with Axel Dreher.

New Working Papers

Please find the recent working papers from the AWI Discussion Paper Series No. 623-627 [here](#).

**Editorial deadline for issue 29/2016 of the newsletter:
Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 12 p.m.
newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de**

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please contact the address above.