



ALFRED-WEBER-INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN
BERGHEIMER STR. 58, 69115 HEIDELBERG, TEL. 06221/54-2941
REDAKTION: FREYA SCHADT, EMAIL: NEWSLETTER@AWI.UNI-HEIDELBERG.DE

Upcoming Seminars

Monday, 14.6.2021

13.30-14.30
Virtual seminar room

Departmental Seminar

Antonio Cabrales Goitia, UCL
"Calamities, Common Interests, Shared Identity: What Shapes Altruism and Reciprocity?"

Tuesday, 15.6.2021

13.15-14.15
Virtual seminar room

VWL in der Praxis

Sebastian Weiske, Sachverständigenrat
"Corona-Krise gemeinsam bewältigen, Resilienz und Wachstum stärken" (Vortragssprache Deutsch)

Wednesday, 16.6.2021

12.15-13.15
Virtual seminar room

Internal Seminar

Aleksandar Todorovic
"Negative Interest Rates and Status Quo Bias"

Departmental Seminar

Antonio Cabrales Goitia, UCL

"Calamities, Common Interests, Shared Identity: What Shapes Altruism and Reciprocity"

We conduct a large-scale survey experiment in nine European countries to study how priming a major crisis (COVID-19), common economic interests, and a shared identity influence altruism, reciprocity and trust attitudes of EU citizens. We find that priming the COVID-19 pandemic increases altruism and reciprocity towards compatriots, citizens of other EU countries, and non-EU citizens. Priming common European values also boost altruism and reciprocity but only towards compatriots and fellow Europeans. Priming common economic interests has no tangible impact on attitudes. Trust in others is not affected by any treatment. Our results are consistent with the parochial altruism hypothesis, which asserts that because altruism arises out of inter-group conflict, humans show a tendency to favor members of their own groups.

Internal Seminar

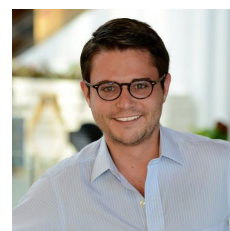
Aleksandar Todorovic

"Negative Interest Rates and Status Quo Bias"

This paper aims to experimentally test the impact of the status quo bias on individuals' savings behavior in a negative interest rate context. In this experiment, participants are attributed to the Status Quo or Neutral condition and are asked to choose a fixed-term deposit they prefer. To investigate the robustness of the status quo bias in the NIR context, I vary interest rate levels, transition costs, and procedures related to opening a fixed-term deposit.

Research Visits

[Michael Weber](#) is visiting the AWI (room 01.009) until July 2 (and repeatedly in the coming two years) in the framework of the "Expanding Internationality" project of the excellence strategy. Michael is associate professor at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He is also a faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, Research Affiliate of CEPR, a member of the Macro Finance Society, a Research Professor at Ifo Institute and a research affiliate at the CESifo Research Network. His research interests include asset pricing, macroeconomics, international finance, and household finance. He has published in leading economics and finance journals such as the American Economic Review, the Journal of Political Economy, the Review of Economic Studies, and the Journal of Financial Economics.



Michael will also be available for meetings during his stay, which can be arranged [via e-mail](#).

Virtual Talks

Andis Sofianos presented the paper titled *Intelligence Disclosure in Repeated Interactions* (with Marco Lambrecht, Eugenio Proto and Aldo Rustichini) at the 13th Maastricht Behavioral and Experimental Economics Symposium (M-BEES), June 7 and the paper titled *Reverse Bayesianism: Revising Beliefs in Light of Unforeseen Events* (with Christoph K. Becker, Tigran Melkonyan, Eugenio Proto and Stefan T. Trautmann) at the 55th Annual Canadian Economics Association Meetings, June 3.

New Publications

The paper "Subsidizing Unit Donations: Matches, Rebates, and Discounts Compared" by Johannes Diederich, Catherine Eckel (Texas A&M), Raphael Epperson (Innsbruck), Timo Goeschl, and Phil Grossman (Monash) has been conditionally accepted for publication at *Experimental Economics*.

New and Leaving Staff

John Cruzatti C., former Ph. D. student at the chair of Axel Dreher, left the AWI and has been starting a tenure track position as an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Social Sciences of the Erasmus University of Rotterdam, June 1.

Miscellaneous

Malte Faber was invited to participate in the so-called Circle of Elders. This group consists of founding members of the International Society of Ecological Economics who were asked to advise Cardinal Turkson, first Prefect of the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development at the Vatican, from an ecological economic perspective.

Editorial deadline for issue 13/2021 of the newsletter:
Wednesday, 16.6. 2021, 12 p.m.
newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de