

SILVAPLANA 2022

31th Workshop on Political Economy

in collaboration with the European Journal of Political Economy

Sunday July 24, 13.25 – Thursday July 28, 12.15 pm

Sporthotel, Pontresina, Switzerland

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Workshop committee

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Workshop fee

There is a workshop fee of CHF 100, to be paid on Sunday before the beginning of the first session. Please place 100 francs in the box in the conference room and take your receipt. The fee is payable by all participants including the conference organizers. The fee does not apply to accompanying persons. The proceeds are used to pay for coffee breaks and for water in the conference room, and for partial subsidization of expenses, usually for students who lack adequate travel funds.

Silvaplana rules and notes

Please consult the rules and notes before your participation in the workshop. The rules have been successful in the past in avoiding free riding and in facilitating an efficient workshop in which everyone is treated fairly.

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FRIDAY JULY 22, SATURDAY JULY 23

Breakfast 7.00 am, dinner 18.45 pm at the hotel

SUNDAY JULY 24

7.00 am - breakfast at the hotel (separate section for workshop participants)

9.00 am - 12.00 noon - optional mountain walk

13.25 Opening remarks: Arye Hillman

Session 1.1: LAW AND ECONOMICS

Chair, Carsten Hefeker

13.35 (1)

Jerg Gutmann* and Martin Rode jerg.gutmann@vwl.uni-freiburg.de

Populism and constitutional compliance - An empirical assessment

Discussion openers: Niklas Potrafke, José Tavares

14.10 (2)

François Facchini* and Elena Seghezza francois.facchini@univ-paris1.fr; seghezza@unige.it

The production of the law in France

Discussion openers: Lotte Swank, Jacek Lewkowicz

14.45 (3)

Lotte Swank* and Daniël Vullings l.m.swank@rug.nl

The political economy of the design and enforcement of law

Discussion openers: Jerg Gutmann, Vera Eichenauer

15.20 - 15.50 Coffee

Session 1.2: POLITICIZED POLICY

Chair, Toke Aidt

15.50 (4)

Jan Fidrmuc jan.fidrmuc@univ-lille.fr

Transition: Transient or permanent?

Discussion openers: Jan Falkowski, Istvan Abel

16.25 (5)

Martin Mosler martin.mosler@iwp.swiss

Political budget cycles in Swiss cantons

Discussion openers: Jan-Egbert Sturm, Nikas Potrafke

17.00 (6)

Lamar Crombach, Frank Bohn, and Jan-Egbert Sturm,* sturm@kof.ethz.ch

Why are political budget cycles larger in monetary unions?

Discussion openers: Margarida Matos, Giovanni Battista Pittaluga

END 17.35

DINNER 18.30

No evening session

MONDAY JULY 25

7.00 am – BREAKFAST

Session 2.1: MIGRATION
Chair, Elena Seghezza

8.15 am (7)

Alicia Adsera, Till Nikolka, and Panu Poutvaara* Poutvaara@ifo.de

Cognitive abilities, gender, and migration aspirations

Discussion openers: Joop Adema, Rongrong Sun

8.50 am (8)

Margarida Matos, João Pereira dos Santos and José Tavares, margarida.daem@gmail.com;
jtavares@novasbe.pt

Attitudes towards immigrants: Evidence from veterans of colonial wars in Africa

Discussion openers: David Stadelmann, Christoph Schaltegger

9.25 am (9)

Joop Adema*, Kai Gehring, Panu Poutvaara, and Charlotte Robert adema@ifo.de

Immigration narratives

Discussion openers: Jan Klingelhofer, Andrea Celico

Coffee break 10.00 am – 10.30 am

Session 2.2: CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT
Chair, Jan-Egbert Sturm

10.30 am (10)

Saheli Bose bose.saheli89@gmail.com

Culture, caste, and drinking water

Discussion openers: Alexandru Savu, Thomas Stratmann

11.05 am (11)

Patrick Leisibach and Christoph A. Schaltegger* Christoph.Schaltegger@unilu.ch

Mind your language: the role of language in future-oriented behavior

Discussion openers: Ekaterina Borisova, Ariel Karlinsky

11.40 am (12)

Ekaterina Borisova*, Regina Smyth and Alexei Zakharov ekaterina.i.borisova@gmail.com

Autocratic policy and the accumulation of pro-social norms: The Moscow Housing Renovation Program

Discussion openers: Alexandru Savu, Jacek Lewkowicz

12.15 END OF MORNING SESSION

Session 2.3: AFTERNOON SESSION

The time of this session is subject to change

Chair, Arye Hillman

17.00 pm (13)

Michael Dorsch and Vera Z. Eichenauer* eichenauer@kof.ethz.ch; DorschM@spp.ceu.edu

The price of security? A network perspective on investment screening mechanisms

Discussion openers: Toke Aidt, Saheli Bose

17.35 pm (14)

Discussion openers: Marco Frank, Christoph Schaltegger

18.30 DINNER

20.10 EVENING SESSION

Session 2.4: MEDIA

Chair, Pierre-Guillaume Méon

20.10 pm (15)

Niklas Potrafke* and Felix Rösel potrafke@ifo.de

Social media versus social cohesion: Which networks spur protests against reforms?

20.24 pm (16)

Ulrich Matter*, Roland Hodler, and Johannes Ladwig ulrich.matter@unisg.ch

Search engines, online news, and political polarization

20.38 pm (17) Ronen Gradwohl, Yuval Heller, and Arye L. Hillman* arye.hillman@biu.ac.il

Social media and democracy

20.52 pm Commentators: Laurent Simula, Tommy Krieger, Vera Eichenauer, Panu Poutvaara

TUESDAY JULY 26

7.00 am – BREAKFAST

Session 3.1: POLITICAL CHOICE

Chair, Christoph Schaltegger

8.15 am (18)

David Stadelmann*, Marco Portmann, and Reiner Eichenberger David.Stadelmann@uni-bayreuth.de

Female preferences in the electorate and political representation by female and male legislators

Discussion openers: Alois Stutzer, Margarida Matos

8.50 am (19)

Giovanni Battista Pittaluga and Elena Seghezza* pittagb@unige.it; seghezza@unige.it

When and how fighting corruption can hamper the quality of institutions and economic growth: the Italian case

Discussion openers: Daniel Schiffman, Andrea Celico

9.25 am (20)

Niklas Potrafke, Marcel Schlepper*, and Timo Wochner schlepper@ifo.de

Political leader selection and local opinion polls

Discussion openers: David Stadelmann, Abishek Choutagunta

Coffee break 10.00 – 10.30

Session 3.2 TAXATION

Chair, Niklas Potrafke

10.30 am (21)

Jan Falkowski, Kurek Przemysław, and Jacek Lewkowicz jfalkowski@wne.uw.edu.pl;

jlewkowicz@wne.uw.edu.pl

Tax announcements by politicians: not so cheap talk

Discussion openers: Martin Mosler, Saheli Bose

11.05 am (22)

Antonios Marios Koumpias, koumpias@umich.edu

Tax Evasion through product misclassification in the presence of multiple vat rates: Evidence from Greece

Discussion openers: Klaus Gründler, José Tavares

11.40 am (23)

Tommy Krieger Tommy.Krieger@zew.de

Taxing secondary residents

Discussion openers: Silvia Fedeli, Laurent Simula

12.15 END OF MORNING SESSION

18.30 DINNER

20.10 EVENING SESSION

Evening Session

Session 3.4: INFLATION

Chair, Arye Hillman

20.10 (24)

István Ábel Abel.Istvan@uni-bge.hu

Implementing monetary policy: Unjustified assumptions about inflation

20.24 (25)

Lena Dräger, Klaus Gründler*, and Niklas Potrafke gruendler@ifo.de

Political shocks and inflation expectations: evidence from the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine

20.38 (26)

Bernd Hayo and Pierre-Guillaume Méon* pgmeon@ulb.ac.be

**Does information about the inflation rate affect laypersons' trust in the European Central Bank?
Evidence from a randomized controlled trial**

Commentators: Rongrong Sun, Jan-Egbert Sturm, Carsten Hefeker

WEDNESDAY JULY 27

7.00 am – BREAKFAST

Session 4.1: VOTING AND POLITICAL REPRESENTATION

Chair, François Facchini

8.15 am (27)

Andrea Celico*, Martin Rode and Ignacio Rodriguez Carreño acelico@unav.es

Everybody is populist to some extent: Measuring parties' populist rhetoric with machine-learning tools

Discussion openers: Tommy Krieger, Jan Falkowski

8.50am (28)

Marco Frank*, David Stadelmann Marco1.Frank@uni-bayreuth.de

A close decision? Voting behavior and incentives of legislators when voting on the seat of parliament

Discussion openers: Abishek Choutagunta, Marcel Schleppe

9.25 am (29)

Alexandru Savu ams269@cam.ac.uk; alex.savu@ymail.com

Prospective voting, pork, and the political value of partisan mayors: Evidence from an unexpected technocracy

Discussion openers: Marco Frank, Marcel Schleppe

Coffee break 10.00 – 10.30 am

Session 4.2: ETHICS OF PUBLIC POLICY

Chair, Giovanni Battista Pittaluga

10.30 am (30)

Silvia Coretti, Silvia Fedeli*, and Michele Santoni silvia.fedeli@uniroma1.it

Assessing the ethics of public policies to ensure human rights compliance and prisoner rehabilitation: suicides and critical events in Italian prisons

Discussion openers: Matteo Grigoletto, Joop Adema

11.05 am (31)

Ariel Karlinsky* and Moses Shayo karlinsky@gmail.com

Revealing transparency: Mortality and information manipulation

Discussion openers: Alois Stutzer, Ekaterina Borisova

11.40 pm (32)

Kai Gehring and Matteo Grigoletto* matteo.grigoletto@wyssacademy.org

Automatic extraction of political and economic narratives: An application for climate change

Discussion openers: Vera Eichenauer, Toke Aidt

12.15 END OF MORNING SESSION

18.30 DINNER

20.10 EVENING SESSION

Evening Session

Session 4.3 SOCIAL WELFARE

Chair, Jan-Egbert Sturm

20.10 (32)

Laurent Simula* and Alain Trannoy laurent.simula@ens-lyon.fr

Confronting the optimal income tax with its testable implications

Discussion openers: Giovanni Battista Pittaluga, Ariel Karlinsky

20.45 (33)

Roger Congleton Roger.Congleton@mail.wvu.edu

Solving Social Dilemmas: Ethics, Politics and Prosperity (Summary of main themes of book)

Discussion openers: Antonios Marios Koumpias , Arye Hillman

THURSDAY JULY 28

7.00 am – BREAKFAST

Session 5.1: POLITICAL BEHAVIOR

Chair, Pierre-Guillaume Méon

8.15 am (34)

Abishek Choutagunta Abishek.Choutagunta@ile-hamburg.de

Political instability and inflation: The case of Indian states

Discussion openers: Martin Mosler, Saheli Bose

8.50 am (35)

Jan Klingelhöfer jan_klingelhofer@hotmail.com

Rent seeking and the polarization of politics

Discussion openers: Carsten Hefeker, Thomas Stratmann

9.25 am (36)

Patrick Balles, Ulrich Matter, and Alois Stutzer* alois.stutzer@unibas.ch

Television market size and political accountability in the US House of Representatives

Discussion openers: Lotte Swank, Matteo Grigoletto

Coffee break 10.00 am – 10.35 am

Session 5.2: GOVERNANCE

Chair, Carsten Hefeker

10.35 am (37)

Eli Goldstein and Daniel Schiffman* daniels@ariel.ac.il

Bread and the dilemmas of socialist paternalism

Discussion openers: Jan Klingelhofer, Jan Fidrmuc

11.10 am (39)

Olga Shanks and Thomas Stratmann* ostaradu@gmu.edu; tstratma@gmu.edu

Monitoring of bureaucracy as a public good

Discussion openers: Jerg Gutmann, Silvia Fedeli

11.45 pm (40)

Toke Aidt tsa23@cam.ac.uk

The franchise and political activism: Petitioning in the aftermath of the Great Reform Act

Discussion openers: Daniel Schiffman, Roger Congleton

12.20 Closing remarks

Jan-Egbert Sturm, editor EJPE sturm@kof.ethz.ch

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SILVAPLANA RULES

Research in progress: Papers should be research in progress. If the paper you have submitted can no longer benefit from comments because of acceptance for publication or because a request for a revision has been received, you are asked to withdraw your paper from the workshop. There is no point in workshop participants commenting on a paper for which comments cannot be useful. We wish to avoid circumstances in which the presenter answers a discussant with “well, the reviewer does not agree with you” or “what you say does not matter because the paper has been accepted for publication”. When you withdraw a paper, you can propose to the workshop organizers an alternative paper that is research in progress.

Attendance at sessions: You are asked to attend all sessions. We have a tradition that all presenters, including the first and last, have the same audience. If you cannot commit to attend all sessions, please cancel your participation. Consult the organizers if there are special circumstances.

Time flexibility: Timing of sessions can change because of the weather. Please be prepared to present your paper at short notice.

Time allocation for papers: Presenters have 14 minutes. Please ensure that the main points you want to make can be made within this time. You will probably have the opportunity to elaborate on your paper during the discussion period.

Presentation format

- Slide #1: why you chose the research question and why the question is interesting
- Slides #2: answers to the research question in prior literature
- Next slides: your contribution to the answer to the research question
- Conclusions: the message of the paper

Do not spend a lot of time on mathematical derivations or your identification procedures unless something special is involved

Presentation files: Presenters should place their files on the computer in the conference room in the morning or during the break before presentation of the paper.

Discussion openers

Discussion openers have limit of 2 minutes.

The discussion should focus on main issues. Please do not thank the presenter of the paper and there is no need to say how much you enjoyed reading the paper.

Discussion openers open the discussion from their seats and do not use slides.

Chair

The person chairing does not have to move from his or her place at the table to chair a session.

The 14 minute time limit for speakers should be strictly enforced.

If there are no further comments, do not attempt to evoke comments but move to the next paper or close the session.

If there is interesting discussion and people want to continue to comment, allow the discussion to proceed beyond the time limit for the paper – other papers may end earlier.

Computers and phones: Please do not activate personal computers or phones during presentations. There is evidence that computers and phones disturb presenters. People look at the computer or phone as if the presenter is not present. Place phones on silent. Try to check email no more than once an hour. If a reply is not instantaneously urgent, we ask that you wait for the end of the session to reply.

Clapping and other demonstrative behavior: Please do not clap after a presentation ends or hit the table. No information is conveyed by clapping or hitting the table because this is the response in general to all papers.

Seating for the workshop: When you enter the conference room, please take the first seat available around the table. If the main table is full, only then go to an outside table. This is the most efficient way to fill up the table.

NOTES

Seating for dinner: During breakfast, you will be asked to fill out a form indicating which of the evening dinner meal options you prefer. Then during dinner the hotel has asked that we group ourselves at tables according to our dinner choices. This is intended to facilitate quicker service.

Copies of the workshop program

Print and bring a copy of the workshop program to the workshop. Copies of the program will not be provided at the workshop.

Arrivals from afar

If you are coming from afar, we ask that you arrive on Friday or before, to overcome jet lag. We wish to avoid people who are jet lagged falling asleep during presentations or being dazed and losing orientation on a mountain path.

Free local travel pass

Pick up your free regional travel pass from the hotel reception when you check in at the hotel. There will a deposit required against returning the pass.

Hotel facilities

The hotel has a spa pool and sauna for which there is no charge.

Lunch

Breakfast and dinner are included in the hotel cost but not lunch. In general, it will be possible to purchase a sandwich at a stop on a mountain walk. You may prefer to take a sandwich. There is little or no time to buy lunch between the end of the last session and departure for the mountain walks.

Hiking equipment

You require a small backpack for a sandwich and water. Walking shoes are useful but ordinary sports shoes are sufficient. Normal shoes are not recommended for hikes. A hat and sunscreen are suggested. The weather is changeable, from quite hot to quite cold. In the past, sun, rain, and snow flurries have been encountered on the same walk.

Time constraints for departure for hikes

We leave from outside of the hotel at a pre-designated time after the last morning session. You will have 10 minutes to change shoes, etc. We need to catch a bus or a train and therefore cannot leave from the front of the hotel later than at the time that will be indicated. Please be outside the hotel at the designated time. Remember to bring the free travel card supplied by the hotel.

TRAVEL TO THE SPORHOTEL PONTRESINA

Trains

Trains leave Zurich airport railway station. You will need to change trains at Zurich main station, again at Chur, and then perhaps one more time at Samedan, one stop before Pontresina.

If you are arriving on Sunday, the 9.15 am departure from Zurich airport arrives in Pontresina at 12.57 pm. The workshop begins at 13.25 pm.

Trains also arrive at Pontresina from Tirano in Italy. There is a train from Milano central station to Tirano, where you change from the Italian station to the Swiss station for the Swiss train.

Pontresina railway station pick-up

The hotel van can pick you up at Pontresina railway station. Inform the hotel reception of the time at which your train arrives. If you wish to walk from the railway station, proceed across the bridge and up the hill to the main street of Pontresina to the hotel, a 10 minute or so walk.

Palm express

A bus to St Moritz, the Palm Express, leaves from Lugano - <https://www.postauto.ch/en/excursion-tips/palm-express>. Change buses in Silvaplana for the bus to Pontresina if the Pontresina bus is waiting in Silvaplana. If not, continue on the Palm Express to St Moritz and take a bus to Pontresina from there. This option does not apply if you arrive on the first day of the workshop because the bus arrives in Pontresina after the beginning of the workshop.

Car

You will not need a car during the duration of the workshop. If you bring a car, you will need to pay for parking.

Return

For return when the workshop ends, earliest train departure from Pontresina on Thursday is 13.00.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTION

Why is the workshop called 'Silvaplana'? The answer is that we began in Silvaplana and after some years moved to Pontresina. We keep 'Silvaplana' because we tend to be conservative and because perhaps we shall move back there one day.