13th Silvaplana Workshop
in Political Economy
July 23-26, 2004
Hotel Julier Palace, Silvaplana

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Each paper has 40 minutes. The presenter should take 30 minutes, with 10 minutes for discussion. The discussion can be interspersed with the presentation, although the presenter should be given reasonable latitude (which is determined by the chairperson) to present his or her paper. There are no formal assigned discussants.

The presenter has 5 uninterrupted minutes at the beginning to explain the main point of the paper, why this is an interesting issue for research, and what others have previously said about the topic (although there can be questions of clarification, subject to interpretation by the chairperson).

A projector will be provided that projects from the computer screen. You need only bring a file with your presentation.

The traditional nutcake prize (the obligation to buy sufficient nutcake for all participants at the end of the conference on Monday) be awarded to the presenter of the paper that is most removed, on a liberal criterion, from political economy. The nutcake committee (Peter Bernholz, Arye Hillman, and Heinrich Ursprung) reserves the right not to award the prize.

Participation in the workshop entails participation in the entire workshop. Participation in the afternoon activities is part of the workshop. Bring shoes suitable for hiking, a hat, and a water bottle.

Directions: Train to St Moritz, bus to Silvaplana. The village has one bus stop. You will easily find the hotel. If you are coming by train, you might want to consider buying a Swiss rail pass. The pass is also valid for mountain cable cars that we will be using.
Program

FRIDAY JULY 23

Check-in to the hotel. Options if you arrive early: the glacier or Nietzsche’s house.

S 1: Chair Robert Dur

16.00 pm

Sturm, Daniel, University of Munich, *How elections matter: theory and evidence from environmental policy* (with John List, University of Maryland)

16.40 pm

Frank, Raphael, Bar-Ilan University, *Measuring economic freedom with macroeconomic economic data: a neural network approach* (with Hillel Rapoport, Bar-Ilan University)

17.20-17.30 pm BREAK

17.30

Blumkin, Tomer, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, *Framing the rabbit to snare the votes: the case for political framing* (with Ehud Menirav, Tel-Aviv University)

18.10 pm

Schulte, Elisabeth, University of Mannheim, *Information aggregation in a democracy*

19.10 pm DINNER at the hotel

S 2: Chair Peter Bernholz

20.15 pm

Dur, Robert, Erasmus University, *Politicians’ motivation, political culture, and electoral competition* (with Klaas J. Beniers)
SATURDAY JULY 24

7.30 am BREAKFAST

S 3: Chair Heinrich Ursprung

8.30 am
Grossmann, Wolker, Socioeconomic Institute, University of Zurich, Ideological polarization, information frictions, and policy stickiness (with Tomer Blumkin, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

9.10 am
Dario Maimone Ansaldo Patti, Università di Messina and University of Essex, Economic backwardness in political perspective: an empirical investigation (with Leo Leonida, Università di Cosenza and University of York and Navarra, Pietro, Università di Messina and CPNSS, London School of Economics)

9.50 am

10.30 COFFEE

S 4: Chair Philipp Harms

10.50 am
Nastassine, Stanislav, University of Konstanz, Citizen-candidate mobility and endogenous local policy (with Oliver Lorz)

11.30 am
Wiermann, Christian, University of Konstanz, Labor heterogeneity and trade liberalization: a political economy approach

12.10 pm
Heyndels, Bruno, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Coalition type and public debt: an empirical analysis for Flemish municipalities (with Ashworth and Geys)

12.50 pm LUNCH (organize a sandwich beforehand or buy a sandwich)

13.10 pm MEET OUTSIDE HOTEL

19.00 pm DINNER

S 5: Chair Carsten Hefeker

20.30 pm: Bernholtz, Peter, University of Basel, Systems competition: different kinds, interactions among them and consequences
SUNDAY JULY 25

7.30 am BREAKFAST

S 6: Chair Miriam Krausz

8.30 am
  Roelfsema, Hein, Erasmus University, Centralization and lobbying

9.10 am
  Bar-El, Ronen, Bar-Ilan University, Migration and voting on intertemporal transfers

9.50 am
  Winschel, Evguenia, University of Mannheim and Tel-Aviv University, Endogenous default policy in political games

10.30 am COFFEE

S 7: Chair Bruno Heydels

10.50 am
  Kreisler, Kobi, Bar-Ilan University, Context-based choice (with Shmuel Nitzan)

11.30 am
  Samia, Tavares, Rochester Institute of Technology, Setting the common tariff: does the EU act as a country or a group of countries?

12.10 pm
  Schnellenbach, Jan, Philipps-University Marburg, Department of Public Finance, Am Plan 2, DE-35037 Marburg/Lahn, Germany, Learning from decentralized policy: the demand side

12.50 LUNCH (pre-organize a sandwich for lunch; the sandwich shop is closed on Sunday)

13.10 MEET OUTSIDE THE HOTEL

16.45 DINNER

S 8: Chair Heinrich Ursprung

20.15 pm
  Grüner, Hans-Peter, University of Mannheim, Speed and quality of collective decision making: incentives for information provision (with Elisabeth Schulte)

20.55 pm
  Hefeker, Carsten, HWWA-Hamburg Institute of International Economics, Exchange regimes, debt crises and electoral uncertainty
MONDAY JULY 26

7.30 am BREAKFAST

S 9: Chair Hans-Peter Grüner

8.30 am
Pham, Thi Kim Cuong, Status-seeking and endogenous environmental and economic policies
Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg (with Phu Nguyen Van)

9.10 am
Krausz, Miriam, Bar-Ilan University, Public safety and moral dilemmas in the defense against terror (with Raphael Frank and Arye Hillman)

9.50 am
Rauber, Michael, University of Konstanz, Foreign aid and developing countries’ creditworthiness (with Philipp Harms, Study Center Gerzensee and University of Konstanz)

10.30 COFFEE

S 10: Chair Arye Hillman

10.40 am
Puglisi, Riccardo, London School of Economics, Being the New York Times: the political behavior of a newspaper

11.20 am
Weitzman, Yariv, Bar-Ilan University, Does corruption cause low income or does low income cause corruption?

12.00 noon
Zink, Stefan, Big tradeoff resolved: Social mobility, distortions, and endogenous redistribution (with Philipp Harms, Study Center Gerzensee and University of Konstanz).

12.40 pm Nutcake decision

13.00 pm Nutcake and lunch

Other participants: Frech, Tim, University of Konstanz