

V WORKSHOP ON FISCAL FEDERALISM: The Political Economy of Decentralization

Barcelona, June 13-14, 2013

Decentralization of the delivery of public services has been an important part of public sector reform in many countries. The arguments typically used by governments, international agencies and donors have been mostly of economic and technical nature. The political economy approach can complement this diagnosis and advice work by predicting the effect of decentralization reforms in real political and institutional settings, highlighting the practical pitfalls of particular reform designs implemented, and helping understand the motives that drive politicians to transfer responsibilities and resources to lower levels of government.

The aim of this workshop is to bring together original research papers that cast some light on this topic. Both theoretical and empirical papers are welcome. A tentative list of topics of interest is given below, although papers dealing with any aspect of fiscal federalism, decentralization or the political economy of local governments are welcome.

Keynote speakers

Frederico Finan
(University of California - Berkeley)

Gerard Padró-i-Miquel
(London School of Economics)

Eckhard Janeba
(University of Mannheim)

Topics of interest

- Evaluation of decentralization reforms
- Political drivers of decentralization reforms
- Accountability, local elections, & external audits
- Corruption, clientelism, & capture in local government
- Disparities in social capital & voter information
- Decentralization and political parties
- Lobbying in centralized vs. decentralized settings
- Tax competition: mobility vs. ideology & political influence
- Political economy of the allocation of transfers
- Effects of transfers on local budgets and outcomes
- Decentralized tax administration and tax compliance
- Political economy of local fiscal adjustment

Submission and registration

Manuscripts must be submitted by email (ieb.workshop@ub.edu) in PDF format. Attendance is free for presenters and it will include accommodation, coffee breaks and lunches. There is a registration fee for non-presenters; further information on the workshop will be available at the webpage of the workshop, which could be accessed through the IEB website: www.ieb.ub.edu.

Deadlines

- Deadline for submission of papers: April 2, 2013
- Registration: April 8 to June 7, 2013
- Deadline for acceptance of papers: April 19, 2013

Scientific Committee

- Frederico Finan (University of California - Berkeley)
- Eckhart Janeba (University of Mannheim)
- Alejandro Esteller-Moré (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Daniel Montolio (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Amedeo Piolatto (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Gerard Padró-i-Miquel (London School of Economics)
- Stephan Litschig (University Pompeu Fabra)
- Dirk Foremny (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Albert Solé-Ollé (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Pilar Sorribas-Navarro (University of Barcelona & IEB)

Organizing Committee

- Albert Solé-Ollé (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Dirk Foremny (University of Barcelona & IEB)