Doctoral Seminar
The Political Economy of European Integration: The New Euro Regime
Prof. Martin Höpner
Thursdays, 9.30-11.00
Location: Max-Planck-Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung, Seminar Room 1

Subject

This course will explore how the political-economic heterogeneity of the European Union shaped the euro, its crisis, and the emergence of the post-crisis euro regime. We will read and discuss current research literature. Core areas will be: The comparative political economy perspective; institutional and ideational crisis explanations; austerity; transnational wage coordination; the nature of the new euro regime; democracy and legitimacy; the populist countermovement. We will assume that all participants have some basic knowledge of the political system of the EU. Further special knowledge is not required for participation. Participants from different disciplines such as political science, sociology, and economics are welcome.

Suggested Preparatory Readings


Language

Oral presentations and written materials are in English, but occasional use of German language is possible and recommended when it deserves clarity. We will decide on the details in our planning session, depending on the language skills of the participants. If all participants turn out to speak German, we switch the language accordingly.

Participation and Grading

Discussion of the readings will make up the core of the seminar sessions. To get credit, you are expected to:

1. Do all assigned readings.
2. Fill in a reading report (one page) for all sessions.
3. Act as rapporteur twice. We will discuss the details in the planning session.
Reading Reports

For each session, please fill in the following standardized note sheet on the assigned reading and send it around the course participants not later than by Tuesday evening (the Tuesday before the respective session).

Name of student:  
Name of author of assigned reading:

1. Write 5-8 sentences: What is the main finding of the author? (Note that it is not sufficient to reformulate the abstract. Abstracts are mostly on the research question and the methods, not on the findings.)

2. Write another 5-8 sentences: Please reflect on what you have learnt. Does the author provide general insights on the political economy of European (monetary) integration? To which controversy is the author speaking? Is there a practical relevance? Who precisely should be surprised by the author’s finding?

3. Which are the key concepts of the assigned reading? List around three and provide a brief definition of each.

4. List two or three aspects which you found to be particularly fascinating and which you would like to discus in class.

COURSE PLAN

10 October 2019  
Introduction: Course Organization

Part I: Foundations

24 October 2019  
The Heterogeneity of the EU and the Eurozone: Varieties of Capitalism

Mandatory Reading:

Suggested Readings:
The Heterogeneity of the EU and the Eurozone: Growth Regimes

Mandatory Reading:

Suggested Readings:

The Euro

Mandatory Reading:

Suggested Readings:

Part II: The Causes of the Euro Crisis

An Institutional Explanation

Mandatory Readings:

Suggested Readings:

21 November 2019

**An Ideational Explanation**

Mandatory Readings:

Suggested Readings:

**Part III: Countermeasures – Towards a Better Equipped Eurozone?**

28 November 2019

**Does Austerity Work? Lessens from Eastern Europe**

Mandatory Reading:
Stefanie Walter, 2016: Crisis Politics in Europe: Why Austerity is Easier to Implement in Some Countries than in Others. In: *Comparative Political Studies* 49, 7, 841-873.

Suggested Readings:

5 December 2019

**Wage Coordination in the Eurozone?**

Mandatory Reading:
Suggested Readings:

12 December 2019
Has the Euro Regime Become more Intergovernmental or more Supranational?

Mandatory Reading:

Suggested Readings:

Part IV: Legitimacy and the Populist Countermovement

19 December 2019
Does the Euro Regime Overstretch its Legitimacy?

Mandatory Reading:

Suggested Readings:

Christmas Break
9 January 2020

**How the Euro Crisis Affects the Trust in Institutions**

Mandatory Reading:

Suggested Readings:

Session 12 [Date of this session needs to be selected by the group]

**Varieties of Populism in the European Union**

Mandatory Reading
Philip Manow, 2019: The Political Economy of Populism. (*Unpublished manuscript – Will be distributed as soon as it is available!*)

Suggested Readings: