Call for Papers

Workshop

The Politics of Education Policy: An International Perspective

On May 5-6, 2016, the Program on Education Policy and Governance (PEPG) at Harvard University and the Ifo Institute for Economic Research at the University of Munich will jointly host a workshop at Harvard on “The Politics of Education Policy: An International Perspective.”

Education policies and outcomes are unavoidably shaped by the political process and therefore by such factors as public opinion and the activities of interest groups. To better understand the political economy of education, we aim to bring together researchers from across countries to provide an international perspective on policy making in this important domain. To what extent are political actors responsive to the opinions of voters and of interest groups in different countries? Does public opinion depend on the extent to which the public is informed about important underlying facts? What other political forces are at work? What are the impacts on policy? We invite submissions on public opinion, the politics of education policy, the economics of education, and related areas that shed light on the workshop topic. We are particularly interested in papers that either explore the role of information in the formation of public opinion and/or identify connections between politics and policy.

The workshop will be organized by Philipp Lergetporer (Ifo Institute), Paul E. Peterson (Harvard University), Martin R. West (Harvard University), and Ludger Woessmann (Ifo Institute and University of Munich), who will also present work based on new opinion surveys conducted in Germany and the United States. The workshop follows on from a first workshop held 2015 in Munich.

A keynote lecture will be delivered by Robert Y. Shapiro (Columbia University).

The deadline for submission of papers or 2-3 page abstracts is 15 November 2015. For submission, please visit www.cesifo.de, go to the “Conferences and Events” page, click on the conference name and then on the “Submit Paper” link below the conference description. Only online submissions will be accepted. Should you have any difficulties with the online submission procedure, please contact office@cesifo.de for assistance.

The organizers will provide accommodation and reimburse economy travel costs for participants with accepted papers. The workshop is part of the project “The Political Economy of Education Policy: Insights from a Public Opinion Survey” generously funded by the Leibniz Association under its competitive procedure and of the initiative “Building Understanding of Education Policies that can Drive Improved Student Outcomes” funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and is co-sponsored by the Program on Education Policy and Governance, Taubman Center on State and Local Government, Harvard Kennedy School. Further questions regarding the scientific content of the conference should be addressed to the conference organizers. For logistical and administrative question, please contact PEPG Associate Director Antonio Wendland (pepg_administrator@hks.harvard.edu).