

Sebastian Blesse

CV

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

06/2015–Present Researcher, ZEW – Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research, Mannheim

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

10/2013–05/2015 Research Assistant, Research Centre, Deutsche Bundesbank, Frankfurt am Main

12/2012–03/2013 Student Assistant, Chair of Public Economics, Georg-August University, Göttingen

09/2012–10/2012 Intern, Department of Macroeconomic Country Analyses, Federal Ministry of Finance, Berlin

08/2010–10/2010 Intern, Department of Urban Economics, Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH), Halle

04/2010–06/2010 Teaching Assistant, Chair of Public Economics, Otto-von-Guericke University, Magdeburg

EDUCATION

–Present Dr. rer. pol. in Economics, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University, Frankfurt am Main, Topic: “Public policy reforms and taxpayer preferences: Contributions to empirical public economics“, First adviser: Prof. Dr. Alfons Weichenrieder, Second adviser: Daniel Gutknecht

04/2011–09/2013 Master of Arts, International Economics, Georg-August University, Göttingen

01/2012–06/2012 Erasmus exchange studies, University of Antwerp, Belgium

10/2007–03/2011 Bachelor of Science, Economics, Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Reingewertz, Y., Blesse, S., Baskaran, T. and A. Brender (2016). Revenue decentralization, central oversight and the political budget cycle: Evidence from Israel, in: *European Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 42, 1-16.

Blesse, S. und T. Baskaran (2016). Do municipal mergers reduce costs? Evidence from a German reform, in: *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, Vol. 56, 54-74.

Blesse, S., Boyer, P., Heinemann, F., Janeba, E. and A. Raj (2017). Intégration européenne et politiques du marché du travail: Quel consensus entre parlementaires français et allemands?, in: *Revue d'Economie Politique*, Vol. 127 (5), 737-759.

Blesse, S., Dörrenberg, P. and A. Rauch (2019). Higher taxes on less elastic goods? Evidence from German municipalities, in: *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, Vol. 75(1), 165-186.

Blesse, Sebastian and F. Rösel (2019). Merging county administrations — Cross-national evidence of fiscal and political effects, in: *Local Government Studies*, Vol. 45 (5), 611-631.

Blesse, S., Boyer, P., Heinemann, F., Janeba, E. and A. Raj (2019). European Monetary Union reform preferences of French and German parliamentarians, in: *European Union Politics*, Vol. 20 (3), 406-424.

Blesse, S., Havlik, A. and F. Heinemann (2020). Euro Area reform preferences of Central and Eastern European economic experts, in: *Empirica, Journal of European Integration*, 1-25.

Blesse, S. and F. Heinemann (2020). Citizens' trade-offs in state merger decisions: Evidence from a randomized survey experiment, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* Vol. 180 (2020), 438-471.

REFEREED GERMAN PUBLICATIONS

Berger, M., Blesse, S., Heinemann, F. and E. Janeba (2017). Förderalismuspräferenzen in der deutschen Bevölkerung, *Perspektiven der Wirtschaftspolitik*, Vol. 18 (2), 145-158.

Blesse, S. and F. Rösel (2017). Was bringen kommunale Gebietsreformen? Kausale Evidenz zu Hoffnungen, Risiken und alternativen Instrumenten, *Perspektiven der Wirtschaftspolitik*, Vol. 18(4), 307-324.

WORKING PAPERS

Blesse, S. und A. Diegmann (2018). Police reorganization and crime: Evidence from police station closures, ZEW Discussion Paper No. 044, Mannheim. *Revise and Resubmit at Journal of Public Economics*

Blesse, S. and T. Baskaran (2018). *Administrative border changes and economic growth: Evidence from Africa*, ZEW Discussion Paper No. 27, Mannheim.

Blesse, S., Buhlmann, F. and P. Dörrenberg (2019). *Do people really want a simple tax system? Evidence on preferences towards income tax simplification*, ZEW Discussion Paper No. 58, Mannheim.

Alpino, M., Asatryan, Z., Blesse, S., and N. Wehrhöfer (2020). *Austerity and distributional policy*. ZEW Discussion Paper No. 28, Mannheim.

Blesse, S., Bordignon, M., Boyer, P. C., Carapella, P., Heinemann, F., Janeba, E. and A. Raj (2020). *The future of the European project: survey results from members of national parliaments in France, Italy and Germany*. CEPR Discussion Paper No. 15021.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Are Your Tax Problems my Opportunity to Not Pay Taxes? Evidence from a Randomized Survey Experiment

Automation, labor markets and redistributive preferences (with Philipp Dörrenberg and Melanie Arntz)

Administrative Borders, cooperation and crime (with Andre Diegmann and Mirko Titze)

Projected paternalism preferences (with Axel Ockenfels, Sandro Ambuehl, Philipp Doerrenberg, Christoph Feldhaus)

Failing at outcome transparency of competing jurisdictions: Survey experiments with the general population and legislators (with Katharina Werner, Philipp Lergetporer and Justus Nover)

The motivational demand for evidence-based policy making: Evidence from survey experiments (with Philipp Lergetporer)

Unbiased researchers or national advocates? European economists and their EMU reform preferences (with Annika Havlik and Friedrich Heinemann)

What Are the Priorities of Public Buyers? Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment with Bureaucrats in Finland, Germany, and Italy (joint with Janne Tukkiainen, Leonardo Giuffrida and Albrecht Bohne)

PRESENTATIONS

2014 RGS Doctoral Conference, Dortmund; Ifo Workshop on Regional Economics, Dresden

2015 Ifo Workshop on Regional Economics, Dresden; Doctoral Meeting, University of Oxford, Oxford

- 2016 ZEW Public Finance Conference, Mannheim; Verein für Socialpolitik, Augsburg; Young Economists Spring Meeting, Lisbon; Trondheim (invited); Inequality and Fairness of Political reforms, Mannheim (Discussant)
- 2017 Ifo Workshop on Regional Economics, Dresden; European Public Choice Society, Budapest; Teacher education Lecture – Was the Euro a mistake?, Kassel (invited)
- 2018 VATT Institute for Economic Research, Helsinki; GT économie de la fiscalité, Paris; OECD ELS Seminar, Paris (invited); Hecer Seminar at Aalto University, Helsinki; Workshop for Empirical Public Procurement, ZEW Mannheim (Discussant); Workshop in Geodata, Braunschweig; Regional Economics/Political Economy Workshop, Siegen (Discussant); International Institute of Public Finance, Tampere; European Economic Association, Cologne; Young Economists Spring Meeting, Palma de Mallorca; Workshop on municipal mergers, Helsinki (invited); Hochschule des Bundes für öffentliche Verwaltung, Mannheim; Matax Campus Meeting, Mannheim
- 2019 ZEW Public Finance Conference, Mannheim; European Public Choice Meeting, Jerusalem; ZEW Summer Workshop for Young Economists, Mannheim; Joint Walter Eucken-ZEW Workshop, Mannheim
- 2020 International Institute of Public Finance, Reykjavik; EconPol Europe Annual Conference 2020, Munich

REFEREEING SERVICE FOR JOURNALS

- present Journal of Urban Economics, International Tax and Public Finance, Finanzarchiv/Public Finance Analysis, Economic Inquiry, Regional Science and Urban Economics (2x), Public Finance Review, Public Finance and Management, Local Government Studies (2x), Publius – The Journal of Federalism, German Economic Review, Eastern European Economics, European Journal of Political Economy, Applied Economics, Papers in Regional Science, Journal of Evolutionary Economics, The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy

OTHER REFEREEING SERVICE

- 2016, 2019 ZEW Public Finance Conference
- 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 Spring Meeting of Young Economists
- 2017, 2018 Young Economic Summit – YES!

RESEARCH STAYS

- 10/2018 VATT Institute for Economic Research, Helsinki, Finland

ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCES

- 2018 ZEW Public Finance Conference, Keynotes: Agnès Bénassy-Quéré, Martin Hellwig
- 2018 Workshop in Geo-Data, Braunschweig, Keynote: Stelios Michalopoulos
- 2018 Workshop on Understanding policy preferences using experimental methods, Keynote: Stefanie Stantcheva
- 2019 ZEW Summer Workshop for Young Economists, Mannheim, Keynotes: Juan Carlos Suarez Serrato, David Agrawal, Eckhard Janeba

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2017 Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting, Participation grant
- 2018 Price for Federalism and Regional Science, Institute for Federalism, 4000€
- 2018 Travel grant, Verein für Sozialpolitik, 500€
- 2018 Travel grant from Collaborative Research Centre (SFB 884), 2000€