CCCPCC and ECONtribute Workshop 2020
on International and Comparative Political Economy

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The Cologne Center for Comparative Politics (CCCP) and the Excellence Cluster ECONtribute (ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy EXC 2126) jointly hosted an international workshop on “International and Comparative Political Economy”. This two-day event brought together early career researchers and senior scholars using diverse methodological approaches to study key questions in this research area. It was funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) under Germany’s Excellence Strategy – EXC 2126/1– 390838866.

The workshop took place virtually via Zoom from November 26, 2020 to November 27, 2020. The workshop Zoom Meetings were attended by around 65 participants out of over 100 overall registered participants. In advance of the actual workshop, the keynote speakers and panellists received early access to the internal area of the workshop website, which provided the papers for download and videos for streaming. This feature was implemented to reduce the time needed to be spend in long Zoom meetings. The observing participants received access to the same material. The Zoom meetings themselves consisted of a presentation by the keynote speaker followed by a discussion and Q&A with the audience. The last part of each panel included the discussion of the panellists’ papers by the keynote speaker. The audience then had time to ask questions and discuss the papers.

On November 26 the first two panels took place virtually via Zoom. The first panel from 2 pm to 4 pm addressed the topic of “Inequality and Redistribution”. Keynote speaker and discussant was Charlotte Cavaille from the University of Michigan. She held her keynote speech on the topic “Fair Enough? Support for Redistribution in the Age of Inequality”. With Leonce Röth from the CCCP as Chair and Panelists Tommy Krieger from the ZEW Mannheim and Bastian Herre from the University of Chicago it
was a lively panel with much discussion. Both, Tommy Krieger’s paper “Elite structure and the provision of health-promoting public goods” and Bastain Herre’s paper “Ideologues and Redistribution: Evidence from Democracies and Dictatorships” were discussed in detail.

After a short break, the day continued with the second Panel on “The Political Economy of Gender” from 4.15 pm to 6.15pm. Frances Rosenbluth from Yale University gave the keynote speech on “Women in Todays World”. Under Chair Chitralekha Basu from the CCCP the panel continued on with discussions of the papers by Elifcan Celebi from the CCCP and Yesola Kewon from Utah State University. Elifcan Celebi’s paper dealt with “Gendered Influences on Gender Policymaking in Turkey” while Yesola Kweon’s paper had the title: “We See Symbols, But Not Saviors: Gender Representation and Political Attitudes of Pink-Collar Workers”. After the Q&A session, Day one of the workshop was concluded.

The workshop started on November 27 at 2 pm with Panel 3 on the Governance and Power in the Digital Economy. The keynote speech on the same topic by Anke Hassel from the Hertie School of Governance kicked the day off. With Christine Trampusch from the CCCP chairing the meeting, Timo Seidl from the European University Institute and Jimena Valdez from Cornell University each got feedback and discussion on their papers. Timo Seidl had presented on the topic: “Investing in the Digital Future. The Comparative Political Economy of Digital Investment Policies” while Jimena Valdez tackled the topic of “Variation in the Platform Economy: Uber vs. the State”.

Day two concluded after a short break with the overall fourth panel on the International Political Economy of Trade and Migration. From the University of Zurich, Stefanie Walter lead this last panel with a keynote speech on “The Backlash Against Globalization”. Sven-Oliver Proksch from the CCCP chaired the meeting and Stefanie Walter discussed the two papers by Franziska Deeg and Paula Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik. Franziska Deeg from the CCCP had presented a paper about “Globalized times ask for encompassing welfare states? A study of job insecurity and social policy preferences in Mexico” while Paula Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik from the University of Geneva had presented on “What explains Migration Provisions in Trade Agreements? Evidence from the MITA Database”. After this last discussion with the audience the two-day workshop thusly concluded.

Overall, the discussions have been very fruitful and provided helpful feedback and input especially for the early career scholars. The feedback provided by panellists as well as other participants stressed the advantages of the chosen format and the high quality of keynotes and papers.

Further information at: https://cccp.uni-koeln.de/de/workshop.