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**Fakultät Wirtschaftswissenschaften**

Lehrstuhl für Volkswirtschaftslehre, insbesondere Finanzwissenschaft

## **Bachelorseminar**

“The Political Economy of the Euro Area/Greek Crisis”

**WiSe 2016/2017 – SoSe 2017**

The course consists of an introductory lecture during the winter term 2016/17 and a (two-day) seminar in June 2017 where students have to present a term paper.

**Modules:** Bachelorseminar

BA-WW-BS

BA-IB-ID2/BA-IB-S/BA-IB-EF

**Instructor:** Prof. Thomas Moutos

(Athens University of Economics and Business)

### *Introductory Lectures*

**Date and Location:** 19.10.2016, 14:50-18:10, POT 251/H  
20.10.2016, 14.50-18:10, HSZ 304/Z

### **Topics:**

- Accounting for debt developments across countries
- Alternative Interpretations of the Causes of the Debt Crisis
- The Relationship between Private, Public, and Foreign Financial Balances and the Unintended Consequences of the Stability and Growth Pact
- The Political Economy of the Bailouts and Debt Reduction Strategies

### **Readings:**

Ardagna, S. and Caselli, F. (2014), “The Political Economy of the Greek Debt Crisis: A Tale of Two Bailouts”, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 6(4): 291-323.

Blustein, P. (2015), *The IMF, The Euro Zone, and the First Rescue of Greece*, GIGI Papers, No. 61, April.

Blyth, M. (2013), *Austerity: The History of a Dangerous Idea*, Oxford University Press.

- De Grauwe, P. (2012). "The governance of a fragile eurozone", *Australian Economic Review*, 45(3), 255–268.
- EEAG (2011), *The EEAG Report on the European Economy, "Greece"*, CESifo, Munich 2011, 97–125.
- EEAG (2011), *The EEAG Report on the European Economy, "Spain"*, CESifo, Munich 2011, 127–145.
- Eichengreen, B. and U. Panizza (2016). "A surplus of ambition: can Europe rely on large primary surpluses to solve its debt problem?", *Economic Policy*, vol. 31(85), 5–49
- Honohan, P. (2010), *What Went Wrong in Ireland*, <http://www.tcd.ie/Economics/staff/phonohan/What%20went%20wrong.pdf>
- Iversen T, and D. Soskice (2010). "Real Exchange Rates and Competitiveness: The Political Economy of Skill Formation, Wage Compression, and Electoral Systems". *American Political Science Review*, 104(3), 601-623.
- Katsimi, M. and T. Moutos (2010). "EMU and the Greek crisis: The political-economy perspective", *European Journal of Political Economy*, 26(4), 568-576.
- Moutos, T. and C. Tsitsikas (2010). "Whither Public Interest: The Case of Greece's Public Finances", *FinanzArchiv: Public Finance Analysis*, 66(2), 170-206.
- Moutos, T. and L. Pechlivanos (2015). "The Democratization of Rent Seeking in Greece," "The Democratization of Rent Seeking in Modern Greece", in R.D. Congleton and A.L. Hillman (eds.), *Companion to the Political Economy of Rent Seeking*, Edward Elgar.
- Moutos, T. and L. Pechlivanos (2015). "Rent-Seeking in a Time of Austerity: Greece," *CESifo DICE Report*, vol. 13(3), 38-43.
- Reis, R. (2013). "The Portuguese Slump and Crash and the Euro Crisis", *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, vol. 46(1), 143-210.
- Reis, R. (2015). "Looking for a success: The euro crisis adjustment programs", *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, [http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Projects/BPEA/Fall-2015\\_embargoed/ConferenceDraft\\_Reis\\_EuroCrisis.pdf?la=en](http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Projects/BPEA/Fall-2015_embargoed/ConferenceDraft_Reis_EuroCrisis.pdf?la=en)
- Shambaugh, J. C. (2012), "The Euro's Three Crises" *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, 44(1), 157-231.
- Sinn, H.-W. (2014). *The Euro Trap: On Bursting Bubbles, Budgets, and Beliefs*, (especially chapters 2 and 4), Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Thimann, C. (2015). "The Microeconomic Dimensions of the Eurozone Crisis and Why European Politics Cannot Solve Them", *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 29(3), 141-164.
- Wyplosz, C. (2014). "The Eurozone crisis: A near-perfect case of Mismanagement", *Economia Marche - Journal of Applied Economics* Vol. XXXIII, No. 1, 1-13.

## **Seminar**

Enrollment for a term paper: 20. October 2016  
(at the end of the introductory lectures)

Submission deadline: 14. April 2017

Presentation of term papers: est. 21.-23. June 2017 (ifo Institute Dresden)

### ***Seminar Topics:***

#### ***Alternative Views on How the Eurozone Crisis was Generated***

##### **1. The “Reduced Competitiveness” View**

EEAG (2014), *The EEAG Report on the European Economy*, “Austerity: Hurting but Helping,” CESifo, 75–90.  
Sinn, H.-W. (2014). *The Euro Trap*, Oxford University Press (chapter 4).

##### **2. The Structural Views**

Thimann, C. (2015). “The Microeconomic Dimensions of the Eurozone Crisis and Why European Politics Cannot Solve Them”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 29(3), 141-164.

Iversen, T. and D. Soskice (2015). “A structural-institutional explanation of the Eurozone crisis” available at [http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~iversen/PDFfiles/Iversen&Soskice\\_euro2015.pdf](http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~iversen/PDFfiles/Iversen&Soskice_euro2015.pdf)

##### **3. The “Lack of Centralization” View**

De Grauwe, P. (2012). “The governance of a fragile eurozone.” *Australian Economic Review*, 45(3), 255–268.

Mody, A. (2015). *Living (Dangerously) Without a Fiscal Union*, Bruegel Working Paper, 2015/03.

##### **4. The “Mismanagement View”**

Sinn, H.-W. (2014). *The Euro Trap*, Oxford University Press (chapter 8).

Wyplosz, C. (2014). “The Eurozone crisis: A near-perfect case of Mismanagement”, *Economia Marche - Journal of Applied Economics* Vol. XXXIII, No. 1, 1-13.

##### **5. Analysis of the 2012 Greek Debt Restructuring**

Zettelmeyer, Z., C. Trebesch , and M. Gulati (2013). “The Greek debt restructuring: an autopsy”, *Economic Policy*, vol. 28(75), 513-563.

## *Analysis of Different Trajectories to the Debt Crisis*

### **6. Greece**

- Moutos, T. and C. Tsitsikas (2010). "Whither Public Interest: The Case of Greek Public Finances", *FinanzArchiv/Public Finance Analysis* 66, 170–206.  
EEAG (2011). *The EEAG Report on the European Economy, "Greece"*, CESifo, 97–125.

### **7. Ireland**

- OECD (2011). *OECD Economic Surveys: Ireland 2011*, OECD  
Whelan, K. (2014). "Ireland's Economic Crisis: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly", *Journal of Macroeconomics*, vol. 39, 424-440.

## *Analysis of the Economic Adjustment Programmes*

### **8. Greece**

- OECD (2016). *OECD Economic Surveys: Greece 2016*, OECD.  
IMF (2014). *Greece: Fifth Review*, Country Report No. 14/151  
Moutos, T. (2016). *MoU's and Traded Sector Development in Greece* (own electronic copy available for the students).

### **9. Ireland**

- OECD (2015). *OECD Economic Surveys: Ireland 2015*, OECD  
IMF (2013). *Ireland: Twelfth Review*, Country Report No. 13/366.

### **10. Portugal**

- IMF (2014). *Portugal: Tenth Review*, Country Report No. 14/56.  
Reis, R. (2015). *Looking for a success in the euro crisis adjustment programs: the case of Portugal*, Paper presented at the Fall 2015 meetings of the Brookings Papers on Economic Activity.

## *Primary Budget Surpluses*

### **11. Are the Primary Budget Surpluses Required of the Crisis Countries Feasible?**

- Barry Eichengreen and Ugo Panizza, 2016. "A surplus of ambition: can Europe rely on large primary surpluses to solve its debt problem?", *Economic Policy*, vol. 31(85), 5-49.

## *Political Economy of Lending and Banking*

### **12. The IMF, Unsustainable Debt, and the Political Economy of Lending**

Schadler, S. (2013). *Unsustainable Debt and the Political Economy of Lending: Constraining the IMF's Role in Sovereign Debt Crises*, CIGI Papers, No. 19, October.  
Blustein, P. (2015). *The IMF, The Euro Zone, and the First Rescue of Greece*, GIGI Papers, No. 61, April.

### **13. The Political Economy of Banking and Financial Policies during Crises**

O'Keeffe, M. and A. Terzi (2015). *The Political Economy of Banking and Financial Crisis Policy*, Bruegel WP 2015/06.

### **14. Political Credit Cycles**

Fernandez-Villaverde, J., L. Garicano, and T. Santos (2013). "Political Credit Cycles: The Case of Eurozone", *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 3, 145-166.

**For further details, please contact**

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