

EQUALITY • SOCIAL ORGANIZATION • PERFORMANCE

ESOP

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



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THE YEAR 2015

ESOPs research is met with substantial interest. The number of media appearances and participations in public debates continue to be high. The political and economic debate in Norway 2015 was marked by two important issues: the slowing of the oil sector and the inflow of refugees through Europe. Both issues interact with core components of the Nordic model: They test the resilience of the welfare state. They test the ability of the labor market institutions to absorb new-comers into the labor market. They also affect the political priorities and challenge the political balance. For all these issues ESOPs research related to labor market, inequality, unemployment, macro economics and political economy, and the interaction between them, showed its relevance.

2015 has been a productive year. This clearly shows in the publications with a substantial number appearing in the highest tier of economics journals. The published articles span many themes including development economics, political economy, welfare state arrangements, labor market and income distribution. Most of the articles addressed the interplay between the economic dimensions and the other parts of society. The articles thereby well illustrate the common theme but also the wide scope of ESOP's research.

Our research fellows continue to complete their projects according to plan. In 2015 four men and one woman defended their theses. Two of our research fellows did receive prizes. Katinka Holtsmark received Distinguished CESifo Affiliate Award while Esther Ann Bøler received Best Paper Award at the 14 Annual Postgraduate Conference on Globalization and Economic Policy.

ESOP continues to secure research funding. One of our researchers, Bård Harstad, received an ERC Consolidator Grant. The research centers on economic and political aspects of resource extraction environment and global agreements. ESOPs research themes has also inspired the UiOs research initiatives. ESOP is part of one three groups that participate in the new initiative UiO:Norden.

On the event side there were at least two highlights. Together with Joseph Stiglitz ESOP arranged the conference "The Welfare State and the Fight Against Inequality" at Columbia University, focusing on welfare models -- *Western Europe vs US, new developments in Latin America, special features of the Scandinavian models. In December we hosted "European Development Network Conference". This conference gathered a number of the most prominent scholars in development economics. The conference also contained an open policy debate discussing poverty measures.



Prof. Kalle Moene
Centre director



Prof. Halvor Mehlum
Deputy director



Gyro Anna Holen
Head of administration

RESEARCH AREAS

We structure our research around six subareas:



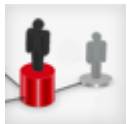
The Welfare State



Social Organization



Development and Globalization



Income and Social Mobility



Institutions and Society Models



Foundational issues

With a flexible interpretation these areas cover most of the research at ESOP.

The Welfare State



It is ESOP's ambition to explore the sustainability of generous welfare states. What determines their performance and their economic and political feasibility?

Welfare states provide valuable safety nets, insurance, and redistribution, but these policies also affect people's incentive to work, save, and invest. The political support for the welfare state depends, among other things, on the distribution of income. Gender also plays an important role as women are

strong supporters of the welfare state. The willingness to pay taxes may in turn depend on what the welfare state provides and to whom it provides it. These interdependencies must be accounted for.

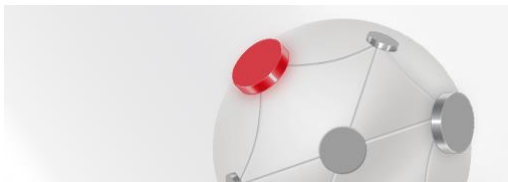
Social Organization



It is ESOP's ambition to explore the interaction between markets, social equality and worker security. Do market forces erode social reforms? Do social reforms erode market efficiency?

There is a strong interdependence between how the economy is organized, how the workplace is organized, and what culture of trust and cooperation that prevails in a society. Egalitarian societies usually have less hierarchical firms. This work organization in return reinforces the mechanisms that sustain egalitarian features. Small social differences in society and at the workplace may also produce less social conflict, more cohesion, and hence more smoothly functioning societies with more cooperation. The importance of feed-back mechanisms and consistency is often emphasized in Economics, but the framework is usually limited to the market mechanism. The interconnections between the economic, social, and political forces should be captured within similar frameworks.

Development and Globalization



It is ESOP's ambition to understand the viability of egalitarian market economies. What are the impacts of global competition for the distribution of income and prosperity?

Questions concerning the viability of egalitarian societies are relevant for all countries, rich or poor, egalitarian or inegalitarian. In all countries there are linkages between equality, social organization, and economic performance. These linkages are as important for the survival of the European welfare states as for the feasibility of an equitable society in general. Can Nordic-style welfare arrangements be introduced in all types of societies? Or are they only feasible in consensual, homogeneous and affluent societies with an extraordinary commitment to equality? Do the Nordic lessons have any relevance for countries that are conflict-ridden, heterogeneous, and poor? We study the feasibility of implementing welfare state arrangements in poor countries and to what extent the Scandinavian model can be understood as a development strategy. Can there be a welfare state for the poor? Welfare state arrangements are most needed where they are least developed. Welfare state arrangements in extremely poor countries could perhaps play an essential role for economic growth, social fairness, and gender equality.

Income and Social Mobility



It is ESOP's ambition to understand the linkages between economic performance, distribution, and social disparities. What are the costs and benefits of more equality?

Over the last 30 years, social equality and worker security have persisted in the Nordic countries and economic growth has been at par with the US. In the US, rising inequality has gone hand in hand with social cleavages and lower welfare. In contrast, most of Europe has experienced only a modest rise in inequality, but a sharp rise in unemployment. The Nordic countries, however, have in the same period combined social equality with good macroeconomic performance and full employment. To study the role of inequality, we must first derive what economic theory predicts for these societies. We can then confront the theoretical hypotheses with the observed patterns and draw valid conclusions.

Institutions and Society Models



It is ESOP's ambition to understand the interaction between policies, institutions, and long term development. What set of policies and institutions may generate an egalitarian development path within a consistent arrangement?

Institutional complementarities and social spillovers are important to understand modern societies and the Nordic experience. Certain policies, institutions and behaviours fit together and strengthen each other. In the long run, the outcomes may look as if societal arrangements come in certain social and economic organization packages. What are the mechanisms behind this clustering around certain institutional equilibria? Is there a universal relationship between equality and economic performance, or do equality and prosperity go together only under some institutional arrangements?

Foundational Issues



The last category of our research consists of an overarching category that spans all the others. Typically it covers theoretical and empirical method developments, clarifications of concepts and terms, and overviews.

A QUICK TOUR OF SOME PROJECTS

Below we present some of ESOP's projects related to each category. The projects listed represent examples of the on-going research. The list does not cover projects that were adequately covered in previous years' reports. Some of the projects have just been started and have not yet resulted in published research while others are closer to completion and are also found in the list of Publications or Working Papers later in this report.

Disclaimer: *We define an ESOP project as a research project where at least one author is part of ESOP's research team. Some of the projects below have funding from other sources than the Department or the Research Council's ESOP research grant.*

The Welfare State

A core element in the welfare state is public schooling. One of the most important topics in the economics of education is the effect of school resources on pupil outcomes. It is an important topic because changing school resources is one of the key policy measures available to governments. Quantifying the causal effect of school resources is typically not easy. As policy measures regarding the amount of money given to schools are generally implemented nationwide, there is little variation in school resources between schools; it is often correlated with school and pupil characteristics.

The paper "The effect of additional funds for low-ability pupils" studies the impact of school resources on pupil achievement by investigating the effect of a policy measure in the Netherlands (Learning Support) that gives additional funds to secondary schools for each low-ability pupil that is enrolled in the school. The results of this paper provide evidence that giving schools additional resources for low ability pupils can significantly improve pupil achievement. The estimates show that the additional money for learning support increases the probability that a pupil passes the exam at the end of secondary education. The findings in this paper show that giving schools more resources indeed has a positive impact on pupil outcomes.

Social Organization

The interaction between welfare arrangements and the households' internal decisions is a core theme in the social organization of society. It is ESOP's ambition to explore this interaction between the markets, the welfare arrangements and the household's decisions. Paternity leave is one important welfare arrangement. It is often discussed as a policy measure to encourage greater gender equality, both in the family and in the labour market. Politicians and policymakers in Northern Europe are strong believers that paternity leave strengthens women's position in the labour market, reduces the gender wage gap, and promotes bonding between children and fathers.

The article "Causal effects of paternity leave on children and parents" investigates how the paternity leave reform introduced in Norway in 1992 affected the household members. It finds that children's school performance improves due to paternity leave. This effect seems to be concentrated in families in which the father has at least as high education as the mother. The reason might be that as paternal

care becomes more important relative to maternal care, the effect will depend on the quality of both the paternal care and the maternal care it displaces. The analysis gives no support to the policymakers' contention that the paternal quota reform would counter the working hours and earnings differential between men and women. Finally, the paper finds no evidence that paternity leave affects fertility and marital stability.

Not only do the welfare arrangements affect the households' decisions. The household decision may also affect welfare provisions. The article "Gender bias in public long-term care?" asks the question of whether admission to public care is affected by the perceived ability of the household to provide informal care. The reasoning is as follows: Daughters of elderly women are more likely to provide informal care than sons. If care managers take this into account and view informal care as a substitute for formal care, they will statistically discriminate against the old women with daughters. Using a survey experiment among professional needs assessors for long-term care services in Norway, the article documents that if a woman with a daughter had a son instead, she would receive 34 percent more formal care. By the same token, daughters do *not* provide more care for fathers and the study finds no effect for men in the experiment.

Development and Globalization

Global environmental issues are tightly linked to resource management in rich and poor countries. Last year Bård Harstad secured ERC consolidator grant for the project "The economics and politics of conservation". The goal of the project is to investigate in depth how to best use conservation as an environmental policy tool. The project aims at integrating the theory of emissions and pollution with an understanding of extraction of exhaustible resources. The project will apply this framework to analyse negotiations, agreements, and contracts on extraction levels, and how such policies can interact, complement or substitute for agreements focusing on consumption/emissions. It will also be important to develop and apply the tools of political economics to investigate which agreement one may expect to be feasible.

As with other ESOP research, the core idea of the project is to investigate the interplay between politics and economics. It shows how this interaction is crucial for the understanding of global environmental issues.

Income and Social Mobility

Wage differences between the genders are still substantial. One reason is the so called "glass ceiling" whereby the career of women is slowed. The paper "Exposure to female colleagues breaks the glass ceiling" explores how the gender balance at a work place may play a role for the under-representation of women at higher levels of the corporate ladder. In Europe, women account for less than 12 percent of board directors. Despite being considered a country with a high degree of gender equality, the glass ceiling is clearly evident also in Norway. A common argument in favour of female quotas is that exposure to female colleagues and leaders is necessary to change biased perceptions. To increase our understanding of the role biased perceptions and discrimination play for the glass ceiling, the researchers ran a vignette experiment on recruits in the Norwegian Armed Forces. At the end of 8 weeks of boot camp, the male soldiers are asked to evaluate a candidate for a squad leader position. The soldiers were either asked to evaluate a male or a female candidate, which was decided by random

draw. Except for the gender specific name, the male and the female candidate had identical qualifications. The article documents that the female candidates generally are ranked lower than the male candidates. Adding positive information (physical strength and leadership experience) to the candidates' resumes improves the evaluations of the candidates, but it does not reduce gender discrimination. However, living and working together with a female recruit in a squad has a strong causal impact on the male soldiers' perception of female leadership. Those who shared room with female soldiers in their squad do not discriminate when they evaluate the squad leader candidate. Hence, there is a striking prejudice against women as leaders. But equally strikingly this prejudice disappears after a short period of working side by side with women.

Institutions and Society Models

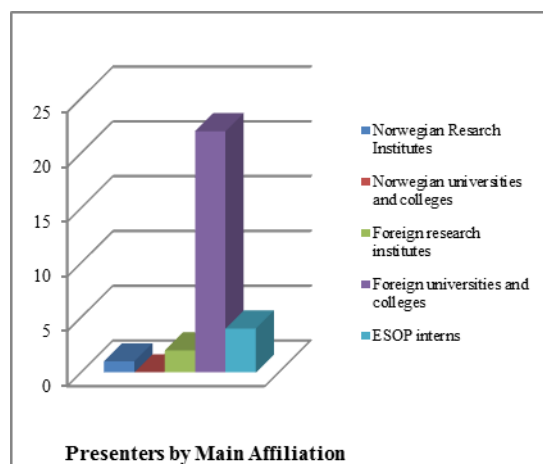
In order to understand social and economic transformation gradual economic transition processes are important but equally important are drastic political regime changes. One question is why semi-democracies seem to be less durable than both autocracies and democracies regimes. This question is addressed in the article "Institutional characteristics and regime survival". The article starts from the observation that it need not be the mixing of democratic and autocratic characteristics that in and of itself destabilize regimes, as three highly plausible alternative explanations of this correlation remain unaccounted for: (a) semi-democracies emerge under conditions of political instability and social turmoil; (b) other regime characteristics explain duration; and (c) extant democracy measures do not register all regime changes. The article tests for these explanations, but find strikingly robust evidence that semi-democracies are indeed inherently less durable than both democracies and autocracies. "Semi-democracies are particularly unstable political regimes" should thus be considered a rare stylized fact of comparative politics. The analysis yields several other interesting results. For instance, autocracies and semi-democracies are equally likely to experience "liberalizing" regime changes more specifically, and once accounting for differences in degree of democracy, there is no robust evidence of differences in duration between military and single-party regimes.

Foundational Issues

Federal systems have scope for variations in policies. This can be a good thing if the entities are inspired by each other's successes. The spread of policies in this way - known as policy diffusion- has been documented as a strength of federal systems. The article "Experimentation in federal systems" revisits this argument and study theoretically the dynamics of policy experimentation in federal systems. The districts are assumed to choose both whether to experiment and what policies to experiment with. The prospect of informational spillovers implies that in the best outcome would be for the districts experiment in a way that others also could benefit from and that policies eventually would converge. Strikingly, when authority is decentralized the strategic interaction equilibrium predicts the opposite. When districts act strategically they use their policy choice to discourage other districts from free-riding on them, thereby inefficiently minimizing informational spillovers. The article suggests a solution: This is a dynamic form of federalism in which the central government harmonizes policy choices only after the districts have experimented. This progressive concentration of power induces a policy tournament that can increase the incentive to experiment and encourage policy convergence.

ESOP Research seminars

Since the beginning, the weekly ESOP Research seminar has been an important part of ESOP's activities. It is an informal, high-quality series of seminars on the range of topics covered by ESOP's research agenda. In 2015, we hosted a total of 29 ESOP seminars with lecturers representing 25 different institutions from Norway and abroad. The lecturers present some of their research and usually discuss an upcoming paper. The seminars are well attended, averaging about 30 visitors per seminar.



ESOP Research seminars 2015



Dilip Abreu



Philippe Aghion



Ananth Seshadri



Anna Raute



Ana Rute Cardoso



Attila Lindner



Beata Javorcik



Björn Öckert



Ronny Freier



Gerard Padro i Miquel



Giacomo De Luca



Gilat Levy



Halvor Mehlum



Jeffrey Ely



Jon H. Fiva



Karna Basu

19. Jan: Gerard Padro i Miquel (LSE)

"The Value of democracy: Evidence from Road Building in Kenya"

26. Feb: Beata Javorcik (U. of Oxford and U. of Oslo)

"Grin and Bear It: Producer-Financed Exports from an Emerging Market"

2. Mar: Anna Raute (U. of Mannheim)

"Do financial incentives affect fertility - Evidence from a reform in maternity leave benefits"

16. Mar: Henry Farber (Princeton U.)

"Why You Can't Find a Taxi in the Rain and Other Labor Supply Lessons from Cab Drivers"

20. Apr: Ana Rute Cardoso (The Spanish National Research Council)

"What lies behind the returns to schooling? The role of firm level heterogeneity"

27. Apr: Torsten Persson (Stockholm University)

"Norms Enforcements, and Tax Evasion"

4. May: Giacomo De Luca (Univ. of York)

"Mafia in the ballot box"

11. May: Oleg Itskhoki (Princeton Univ.)

"International Shocks and Domestic Prices: How Large Are Strategic Complementarities?"

18. May: Ananth Seshadri (U. of Wisconsin-Madison)

"On the Origin and Causes of Economic Growth"

1. June: Peter Norman (U. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

"On Bayesian Persuasion with Multiple Senders"

9. June: Gilat Levy (LSE)

"Segregation in Education and Labour Market Discrimination: The Role of Peer Beliefs"

15. June: Petra Persson (Stanford Univ.)

"Competition and the Consequences of Grade Inflation"

22. June: Jeffry Ely (Northwestern U.)

"Beeps"

24. Aug: Philippe Aghion (Paris School of Economics and LSE)

"Innovation and Top Income Inequality"

31. Aug: Jon H. Fiva (BI and U. of Oslo)

"Political Dynasties in Party-Centered Environments"

07. Sept: Dilip Abreu (Princeton U.)

"Bargaining with One-Sided Asymmetric Information and Nonstationary Behavioural Types"

14. Sept: Karna Basu (City Univ. of York)

"A Biased Correction of Exponential Growth Bias"

15. Sept: William Thomson (U. of Rochester)

"For claims problems, another compromise between the proportional and constrained equal awards rule"

21. Sept: Kyle Meng (U. of California)

"Global Trade and Risk Sharing in a Spatially Correlated Climate"

05. Oct: Björn Öckert (Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy)

"Born to Lead? The effect of birth order on non-cognitive skills"

12. Oct: Halvor Mehlum (U. of Oslo)

"Competition in Spacetime. A Theory of Sales"

19. Oct: Attila Lindner (Univ. College London)

"Who Pays for the Minimum Wage?"

26. Oct: Rohini Somanathan (Delhi School of Economics)

"The mixture as before? Student response's to the changing content of school meals in India"

02. Nov: Knut Røed (Frischsenteret)

"Pension Reform and Labor Supply"

09. Nov: Torben K. Mideksa (U. of Oslo)

"Conservation Contracts and Political Regimes"

23. Nov: Mirko Wiederholt (Goethe Univ. of Frankfurt)

"Empirical Properties of Inflation Expectations and the Zero Lower Bound"

30. Nov: Victor Rios-Rull (U. of Pennsylvania)

"Business Cycles and Household Formation: The Micro versus the Macro Labor Elasticity"

07. Dec: Ronny Freier (Freie Universität Berlin)

"Regression Discontinuity Designs Based on Population Thresholds"

14. Dec: Per Krusell (Stockholm Univ.)

"Labor Supply in the Past, Present and Future: A Balanced-Growth Perspective"



Per Krusell



Kyle Meng



Henry Farber



Oleg Itskhoki



Peter Norman



Petra Persson



Knut Rød



Rohini Somanathan



Victor Rios-Rull



William Thomson



Torben K. Mideksa



Torsten Persson



Mirko Wiederholt

Public lectures

23 March 2015: ESOP Public Lecture for students by Debraj Ray.



Professor Debraj Ray, New York University and affiliated researcher at ESOP, gave a lecture on Development Economics. Ray is one of the most accomplished theorists in development economics today, and his book "Development Economics" is used in ECON1910, Poverty and Distribution in Developing Countries.

2 December 2015: ESOP Public Lecture: International Poverty Measurement: Current State and Options for the Future



The purpose of this policy meeting was to discuss the current state and future options for international poverty measure.

Francisco Ferreira, World Bank, held a lecture "Measuring Global Poverty: Past, Present and Future". There were also a panel discussion: "International Poverty Measurement: The way forward". The discussion was chaired by Francois Bourguignon, Paris School of Economics, and the panellists were Francisco Ferreira, Stephan Clasen, University of Göttingen, Milorad Kovacevic, United Nations Development Programme, and Kalle Moene, University of Oslo.

Master thesis scholarships

ESOP gives every year scholarships to students who are writing their master thesis on topics with relevance for one or more of ESOP's research areas. There also two scholarships for students writing their master thesis on Gender and Economics.

ESOP Student Scholarship 2015 beneficiaries were Andreas Steinvall Myhre, Trond Christian Vigtel, Wu You, and Øysten Rembar.

ESOP'S STAFF AND RESEARCH ACTIVITY IN NUMBERS

Staff in numbers

Staff	2015	
	Person years	Number of people
Professors, associate professors and researchers	10,5	53
Postdoctoral fellows	7,3	9
Research fellows	14,4	15
Administrative staff	1,5	2
Research assistants	1,4	12
Guest researchers	0,1	1
Total	35,2	92

Research stays abroad

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of stays longer than one week	8	8	13	15	8	5	13	2	13
Number of people	8	7	10	14	7	5	9	2	9

Workshops and conferences

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of workshops organised by ESOP	1	3	4	8	4	5	4	4	6

Research activity in numbers

This table represents ESOP's research activity in numbers, according to the categories chosen by The Research Council of Norway. The Research Council made a categorical change in 2011. We have put our publications in the new categories all the way back to 2007.

The figures are based on what the ESOP researchers have reported themselves.

Publications										
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Articles published in scientific, refereed journals	50	38	38	68	59	67	76	105	69	570
Book chapters	7	11	14	7	16	8	13	11	9	96
Books (including PhD thesis)	2	0	3	2	5	5	3	2	3	25

Presentations										
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Lectures and presentations for academics, scholars, politicians etc.	179	217	251	277	303	271	247	440	343	2528

Public oriented dissemination activity										
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Public-oriented dissemination activity (popular science articles, typically op-ed articles, etc.)	38	68	71	68	91	72	80	94	90	672
News publication in the media related to ESOP and our researchers	266	1 038	1 163	1 306	1 819	2 212	2644	3131	1771	15 350

EXTENDED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS 2015

Disclaimer: For all these publications at least one author is part of ESOP's research team. This (these) author(s) are in bold face. Some of the papers below are based on projects with funding or partially funding from other sources than the Department or ESOP's research grant from the Research Council of Norway.

Publications 2015

Aaberge, Rolf and Magne Mogstad (2015). Inequality in Current and Lifetime Income, *Social Choice and Welfare*, 44(2), 217-230.

Abstract:

To gauge inequality in living standards, the distribution of lifetime income is likely to be more relevant than the distribution of current income. Yet, empirical studies of income inequality are typically based on observations of income for one or a few years. In this paper, we exploit a unique data set with nearly career-long income histories to assess the role of so-called life-cycle bias in empirical analysis of income inequality that uses current income variables as proxies for lifetime income. We find evidence of substantial life-cycle bias in estimates of inequality based on current income. One implication is that cross-sectional estimates of income inequality are likely to be sensitive to the age composition of the sample. A decomposition of the life-cycle bias into income mobility and heterogeneous profiles reveal the importance of two explanations that have been put forth to explain the disagreement between current and lifetime inequality.

Acemoglu, Daron, Gino Gancia and Fabrizio Zilibotti (2015). Offshoring and Directed Technical Change. *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 7(3), pp.84-122.

Abstract:

We study the implications of offshoring on innovation, technology, and wage inequality in a Ricardian model with directed technical change. Profit maximization determines both the extent of offshoring and the direction of technological progress. A fall in the offshoring cost induces technical change with an ambiguous factor bias. When the initial cost of offshoring is high, an increase in offshoring opportunities causes a fall in the real wages of unskilled workers in industrial countries, skill-biased technical change and rising skill premia. When the offshoring cost is sufficiently low, instead, offshoring induces technical change biased in favor of the unskilled workers.

Akerman, Anders, Ingvil Gaarder and Magne Mogstad (2015). The Skill Complementarity of Broadband Internet, *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 130 (4): 1781-1824.

Abstract:

Does adoption of broadband internet in firms enhance labor productivity and increase wages? Is this technological change skill biased or factor neutral? We combine several Norwegian data sets to answer these questions. A public program with limited funding rolled out broadband access points and provides plausibly exogenous variation in the availability and adoption of broadband internet in firms. Our results suggest that broadband internet improves (worsens) the labor market outcomes and productivity of skilled (unskilled) workers. We explore several possible explanations for the skill complementarity of broadband internet. We find suggestive evidence that broadband adoption in firms complements skilled workers in executing nonroutine abstract tasks, and substitutes for unskilled workers in performing routine tasks. Taken together, our findings have important implications for the ongoing

policy debate over government investment in broadband infrastructure to encourage productivity and wage growth.

Almås, Ingild; Cappelen, Alexander Wright; Haaland, Ingar Kyrkjebø; Tungodden, Bertil (2015). Rettferdig ulikhet. *Magma – Econas Tidsskrift for økonomi og ledelse*; Volum 18.(6) s.38-43.

Abstract:

Hvilke ulikheter oppfattes som rettferdige? Vi presenterer resultatet fra en surveyundersøkelse med et nasjonalt representativt utvalg av den norske befolkningen. Hovedfunnet er at nordmenn synes ulikheter kan være både rettferdige og urettferdige avhengig av hvilke forhold ulikhetene skyldes: Mens nordmenn er kritiske til ulikheter som skyldes flaks, er de i stor grad villige til å akseptere ulikheter som skyldes talent eller arbeidsinnsats. Vi finner også at oppfatninger om hvilke ulikheter som er rettferdige, er sterkt korrelert med oppfatninger om hvorvidt myndighetene bør ha som mål å utjevne inntektsforskjeller.

Barros, Pedro P. Steffen Hoernig.and Tore Nilssen (2015). Transversal Agency and Crowding Out, *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*; Volume 171 (4), pages 589-608.

Abstract:

A country's competition agency is transversal in the sense of being active in the whole economy. We study the interaction between the competition agency and sectoral regulators and establish a scope for sectoral regulators to crowd out each other's efforts: More effort on monitoring anticompetitive behavior by one sectoral regulator causes others to do less. We also find that when government agencies interact under consensus the competition agency spends more effort on the industry with the more consumer-biased sectoral regulator, while the opposite is true under independent decisions.

Barth, Erling og Karl Ove Moene (2015). Likhetsmultiplikatoren: Lønn og politikk i velferdsstaten. *Samfunnsøkonomen* 5/2015 s 58-59.

Bernheim, Douglas, Debraj Ray and Sevin Yeltekin (2015). Poverty and Self-Control, *Econometrica* 83, 1877– 1911.

Abstract:

We argue that poverty can perpetuate itself by undermining the capacity for self-control. In line with a distinguished psychological literature, we consider modes of self-control that involve the self-imposed use of contingent punishments and rewards. We study settings in which consumers with quasi-hyperbolic preferences confront an otherwise standard intertemporal allocation problem with credit constraints. Our main result demonstrates that low initial assets can limit self-control, trapping people in poverty, while individuals with high initial assets can accumulate indefinitely. Thus, even temporary policies that *initiate* accumulation among the poor may be effective. We examine implications concerning the effect of access to credit on saving, the demand for commitment devices, the design of financial accounts to promote accumulation, and the variation of the marginal propensity to consume across income from different sources. We also explore the nature of optimal self-control, demonstrating that it has a simple and behaviorally plausible structure that is immune to self-renegotiation.

Berge, Lars Ivar Oppedal; Bjorvatn, Kjetil; Pires, Armando; Tungodden, Bertil (2015). Competitive in the lab, successful in the field? *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, Volum 118. s. 303-317.

Abstract:

A number of lab experiments in recent years have analyzed people's willingness to compete. But to what extent is competitive behavior in the lab associated with field choices and outcomes? We address this question in a setting of entrepreneurship, where we combine lab evidence on competitiveness with field evidence on investment, employment, profit, and sales. We find strong evidence that competitiveness in the lab is positively associated with competitive choices in the field (investment and employment) and weaker, but suggestive, evidence of a positive link to successful field outcomes (profit and sales). Other non-cognitive skills measured in the lab, including risk- and time preferences and confidence, and cognitive skills are less consistently associated with the field variables. Our findings suggest that the willingness to compete in the lab identifies an important entrepreneurial trait that shapes the entrepreneur's field choices and to some extent also field outcomes.

Berge, Lars Ivar Oppedal; Bjorvatn, Kjetil; **Tungodden, Bertil** (2015). Human and Financial Capital for Microenterprise Development: Evidence from a Field and Lab Experiment. *Management science*, Volum 61.(4) s. 707-722.

Abstract:

Microenterprises constitute an important source of employment, and developing such enterprises is a key policy concern in most countries. But what is the most efficient tool for microenterprise development? We study this question in a developing country context (Tanzania), where microenterprises are the source of employment for more than half of the labor force, and we report from a field experiment that jointly investigated the importance of a human capital intervention (business training) and a financial capital intervention (business grant). Using data from three survey rounds, a lab experiment, and administrative records of the microfinance institution, we present evidence on business performance, management practices, happiness, business knowledge, and noncognitive abilities. Our study demonstrates strong effects of the combination of the two interventions on male entrepreneurs, while the effects on female entrepreneurs are much more muted. The results suggest that long-term finance is an important constraint for microfinance entrepreneurs, but that business training is essential to transform financial capital into productive investments. Our study also points to the need for more comprehensive measures to promote the businesses of female entrepreneurs.

Bhattacharya, Sourav, Joyee Deb and **Tapas Kundu** (2015). Mobility and Conflict *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*, 7(1): 281-319.

Abstract:

We study the role of intergroup mobility in the emergence of conflict. Two groups compete for the right to allocate society's resources. We allow for costly intergroup mobility. The winning group offers an allocation, which the opposition can accept or reject, and wage conflict. Agents can also switch group membership. Expropriating a large share of resources increases political strength by attracting opposition members, but implies a higher threat of conflict. Our main finding is that the possibility of intergroup mobility affects the likelihood of conflict in a nonmonotonic way. Open conflict can arise at intermediate costs of mobility.

Bijak, Jakub; Alberts, Isabel; Alho, Juha; Bryant, John; Buettner, Thomas; Falkingham, Jane; Forster, Jonathan; Gerland, Patrick; King, Thomas; Onorante, Luca; **Keilman, Nico**; O'Hagan, Anthony; Owens, Darragh; Raftery, Adrian E.; Ševčíková, Hana; Smith, Peter. (2015) Letter to the Editor: Probabilistic Population Forecasts for Informed Decision Making. *Journal of Official Statistics*, Volume 31.(4) s. 537-544.

Abstract:

Demographic forecasts are inherently uncertain. Nevertheless, an appropriate description of this uncertainty is a key underpinning of informed decision making. In recent decades various methods have been developed to describe the uncertainty of future populations and their structures, but the uptake of

such tools amongst the practitioners of official population statistics has been lagging behind. In this letter we revisit the arguments for the practical uses of uncertainty assessments in official population forecasts, and address their implications for decision making. We discuss essential challenges, both for the forecasters and forecast users, and make recommendations for the official statistics community.

Bjorvatn, Kjetil; **Tungodden, Bertil** (2015). Disabled by stereotype? Experimental evidence from Uganda. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, Volume 118. s. 268-280.

Abstract:

More than one billion people in the world have some kind of disability. Apart from the obvious physical challenges facing disabled people, there may also be psychological barriers that make it difficult for them to integrate in society and prosper. These challenges may be particularly difficult in developing countries, where disabled individuals are often marginalized. The present paper presents experimental evidence on the effect of social identity on disabled secondary school students in urban and rural Uganda. In the rural setting, we find a negative effect of social identity on confidence, but, somewhat surprisingly, in the urban setting we find a positive effect on confidence. This evidence suggests that social identities are shaped by the local environment and are not necessarily in line with commonly held stereotypes, a finding that could have important implications for the design of policies aimed at improving the lives of the disabled. We find only limited evidence of social identity affecting performance or preferences.

Blundell, Richard, Michael Graber and **Magne Mogstad** (2015). Labor Income Dynamics and the Insurance from Taxes, Transfers and the Family, *Journal of Public Economics*, 127: 58-73.

Abstract:

What do labor income dynamics look like over the life-cycle? What is the relative importance of persistent shocks, transitory shocks and heterogeneous profiles? To what extent do taxes, transfers and the family attenuate these various factors in the evolution of life-cycle inequality? In this paper, we use rich Norwegian population panel data to answer these important questions. We let individuals with different education levels have a separate income process; and within each skill group, we allow for non-stationarity in age and time, heterogeneous experience profiles, and shocks of varying persistence. We find that the income processes differ systematically by age, skill level and their interaction. To accurately describe labor income dynamics over the life-cycle, it is necessary to allow for heterogeneity by education levels and account for non-stationarity in age and time. Our findings suggest that the redistributive nature of the Norwegian tax–transfer system plays a key role in attenuating the magnitude and persistence of income shocks, especially among the low skilled. By comparison, spouse's income matters less for the dynamics of inequality over the life-cycle.

Borge, Lars-Erik, Pernille Parmer and **Ragnar Torvik** (2015). A local resource curse? *Journal of Public Economics*, volume 131, pp. 101-114.

Abstract:

Utilizing an output based efficiency measure we investigate whether higher public revenues harm efficiency in the production of local public goods. Much variation in revenues among Norwegian local governments can be explained by revenues collected from hydropower production. This revenue variation, combined with good data availability, can be used to address a main concern in the resource curse literature; that public sector revenue, and in particular the revenue from natural resources, is endogenous. We obtain an exogenous measure of local revenue by instrumenting the variation in hydropower revenue, and thus total revenue, by topology, average precipitation and meters of river in steep terrain. We find support for what we term the Paradox of Plenty hypothesis—that higher local government revenue reduces the efficiency in production of public goods. We do not find support for

what we term the Rentier State hypothesis—that revenue derived from natural resources should harm efficiency more than revenue derived from other sources such as taxation.

Bratsberg, Bernt, and Knut Røed (2015), The Nordic Welfare Model in an Open European Labor Market, *Nordic Economic Policy Review*, 2/2015: 19-42.

Abstract:

Is it possible to sustain an ambitious and redistributive Nordic welfare state in a Europe with open borders? Drawing on longitudinal administrative records spanning four decades, we first present discouraging historical evidence showing that labor migrants from low-income source countries tend to have unstable employment careers with marked overrepresentation in welfare programs. This pattern extends to post-accession labor migrants from Eastern Europe, who quickly experience high rates of unemployment. The article discusses possible avenues for making the welfare state “migration robust.” We argue that there are alternatives to reclosing borders and/or cutting down welfare state ambitions, and recommend policies based on strengthening of activity requirements in social insurance programs, raising minimum job standards, and substitution of work-oriented services for cash-based family allowances.

Bratsberg, Bernt, and Mari Brekke Holden (2015), Effekter av allmenngjøring i byggebransjen, *Samfunnsøkonomen*, 129(2): 68-80.

Brehm, John and **Scott Gates** (2015). Bureaucratic Politics rising from, Not Defined by, a Principal-Agency Dyad, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 25 (1): 27-42.

Abstract:

We contrast two archetypal modes of research in principal-agency theory and in public administration: an aggregated mode which regards the agency as a unified whole, and a disaggregated mode attending to individuals. We argue for the virtues of the latter approach in that mechanisms are clear, verifiable, and specific. The aggregated approach may also be clear, at the cost of submerging internal conflicts while yielding powerful understandings of the cumulative performance of the agency. The challenge to those of us who advocate the individual, behavioral approach is to identify how to accumulate dyadic performance into larger structures of agency itself.

Brekke, Kjell Arne and Tore Nilssen (2015). Media Competition Enhances New-Product Entry: On the Market for Fake Observations, *Information Economics and Policy*; Volume 31, pages 59-66.

Abstract:

We show how increased competition in a media market may have implications for the competition between firms that are advertising in that medium. We apply a simple model of a product market with network externalities where firms buy advertising space in a media market and find that entry in the product market of a new and superior product is more likely, the more competitive the media market is. The paper is the first combining a study of media markets with a behavioral foundation of how advertising affects the demand for the advertised products.

Bråten, Ragnhild Haugli; **Brekke, Kjell Arne** and Røgeberg, Ole (2015). Buying the right to do wrong – An experimental test of moral objections to trading emission permits. *Resource and Energy Economics*. ISSN 0928-7655. 42, s 110- 124.
doi:10.1016/j.reseneeco.2015.07.002

Abstract:

Moral objections to quota trade are common in public discussion. The underlying moral reasoning is often hard to extract from the public's rhetoric, and economists often claim that the objections are due to misunderstandings. In this paper we test experimentally one possible objection to trading emission rights: that selling pollution rights is objectionable because it involves trade in the right to do something wrong. The experiment is phrased in a neutral language to avoid invoking subjects' prior attitudes to trading pollution permits. In the experiment, subjects earn money from using stickers that inflict losses on others. After the initial rounds, the use of stickers is limited and the rights to use stickers are tradable. We observe no reluctance to trade these rights compared to a control treatment with identical incentives but no externalities. In a final stage, subjects vote on whether stickers should be tradable or not. Subjects in both treatments are almost unanimous in the support to trade. A majority of third party subjects asked to judge the experimental procedures, however, indicated that the market made the use of stickers seem more moral. A post experiment survey showed that our subject pool had a negative attitude to real life trade of emission quota. The experiment finds no indication that this attitude is due to a concern over tradable quotas legitimizing morally objectionable actions.

Bøler, Esther Ann Nisja, Moxnes, Andreas and Ulltveit-Moe, Karen Helene (2015). R&D, International Sourcing, and the Joint Impact on Firm Performance, *The American Economic Review*, 105(12): 3704-39.

Abstract:

This paper studies the impact of an R&D cost shock on R&D investments, imported inputs, and their joint impact on firm performance. We introduce imported inputs into a model of R&D and endogenous productivity, and show that R&D and international sourcing are complementary activities. Exploiting the introduction of an R&D tax credit in Norway in 2002, we find that cheaper R&D stimulated not only R&D investments but also imports of intermediates, quantitatively consistent with the model. An implication of our work is that improved access to imported inputs promotes R&D investments and, ultimately, technological change.

Callander, Steve and **Bård Harstad** (2015). Experimentation in Federal Systems, *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 130 (2): 951-1002.

Abstract:

We develop a model of policy experimentation in federal systems in which heterogeneous districts choose both whether to experiment and the policies to experiment with. The prospect of informational spillovers implies that in the first best the districts converge in their policy choice. Strikingly, when authority is decentralized, the equilibrium predicts the opposite. The districts use their policy choice to discourage other districts from free-riding on them, thereby inefficiently minimizing informational spillovers. To address this failure, we introduce a dynamic form of federalism in which the central government harmonizes policy choices only after the districts have experimented. This progressive concentration of power induces a policy tournament that can increase the incentive to experiment and encourage policy convergence. We compare outcomes under the different systems and derive the optimal levels of district heterogeneity.

Cappelen, Alexander Wright; Nygaard, Knut; Sørensen, Erik Øiolf; Tungodden, Bertil (2015). Social preferences in the lab: A comparison of students and a representative population. *The Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, Volum 117.(4) s.1306-1326.

Abstract:

We report from a lab experiment conducted with a sample of participants that is nationally representative for the adult population in Norway and two student samples (economics students and non-economics students). The participants make choices both in a dictator game (a non-strategic environment) and in a generalized trust game (a strategic environment). We find that the representative sample differs fundamentally from the student samples, both in the relative importance assigned to

different moral motives (efficiency, equity, and reciprocity) and in the level of selfish behavior. It is also interesting to note that the gender effects observed in the student samples do not correspond to the gender effects observed in representative sample. Finally, whereas economics students behave less pro-socially than non-economics students, the two student groups are similar in the relative importance they assign to different moral motives.

Christiansen, S. G., & Skirbekk, V. (2015). Is divorce green? Energy use and marital dissolution. *Population and Environment*, 37(2), 111-130.

Abstract:

Earlier studies argue that a greater prevalence of divorce increases energy use since divorce increases the number of smaller households that tend to be less energy efficient due to economics of scale. However, divorced individuals also have, on net, considerably lower fertility than individuals who are continuously married. In the current study, we employ a dynamic household projection model that incorporates the effects of divorce on fertility, thereby allowing us to consider both short (40-year horizon) and long-term (exceeding 40 years) effects of divorce on energy consumption. We find that, whereas increased divorce rates lead to higher residential energy use in the short run, divorce is likely to imply lower domestic energy use in the longer term.

Cools, Sara, Fiva, Jon H. and Kirkebøen, Lars J. (2015). Causal effects of Paternity Leave on Children and Parents. *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, 117 (3): 801-828.

Abstract:

Reserving a share of the parental leave period for fathers is considered necessary in order to induce fathers to take leave, and to increase men's participation in child-rearing. We investigate how a parental leave reform directed towards fathers affected leave-taking, and, in turn, children's and parents' long-term outcomes. A paternal leave quota greatly increases the share of men taking paternity leave. We find evidence that children's school performance improves as a result, particularly in families where the father has higher education than the mother. We find no evidence that paternity leave counters the traditional allocation of parents' labor supply.

Cools, Sara, S. Markussen and M. Strøm (2015). Menns og kvinners sykefravær: Hvilken rolle spiller antall barn? *Søkelys på arbeidslivet*, 32 (4).

Abstract:

Sick leave among women increases dramatically at childbearing age and remains higher than among men long after the children have grown up, which suggests a causal relationship between childbearing and the long-term health of women, possibly through a change in total workload, cf. the «double burden» hypothesis. Using Norwegian registry data, we compare the number of children in families with the sex mix of the first two children and estimate the effect of family size on various measures of health. We find no adverse effects on health of family size, except for a short-term rise in pregnancy related sickness absence. In the long run (20–30 years), however, there are indications that health is affected favorably.

Cowell, Frank A.; Fleurbaey, Marc; Tungodden, Bertil (2015). The tyranny puzzle in social preferences: an empirical investigation. *Social Choice and Welfare*. 45 (4): 765-792.

Abstract:

When forming their preferences about the distribution of income, rational people may be caught between two opposite forms of “tyranny.” Giving absolute priority to the worst-off imposes a sort of tyranny on the rest of the population, but giving less than absolute priority imposes a reverse form of tyranny where the worst-off may be sacrificed for the sake of *small* benefits to *many* well-off individuals. We formally show that this intriguing dilemma is more severe than previously recognised,

and we examine how people negotiate such conflicts with a questionnaire-experimental study. Our study shows that both tyrannies are rejected by a majority of the participants, which makes it problematic for them to define consistent distributive preferences on the distribution.

Gates, Scott and Sukanya Podder (2015). Social Media, Recruitment, Allegiance and the Islamic State, *Perspectives on Terrorism* 9(4): 107-116.

Abstract:

Islamic State relies heavily on the recruitment of foreign fighters. We examine this recruitment from an organizational perspective. We analyze how the process of recruitment of foreigners shapes the adverse selection problem affecting the dissident groups that they join. We also examine the different mechanisms used to maintain the allegiance and compliance of foreigners as opposed to indigenous recruits. More broadly, we analyze how the recruitment of foreign fighters affects the organization. Foreign fighters and local recruits exhibit significant differences in recruitment patterns and motivations for joining IS. This could create problems for the organization. Evidence of such strife, however, is not discernible. Given the information at hand, IS appears to be effectively managing the mix of foreign and local recruits.

Havnes, Terje and Magne Mogstad (2015). Is Universal Child Care Leveling the Playing Field? *Journal of Public Economics*, 127: 100-114.

Abstract:

We assess the case for universal child care programs in the context of a Norwegian reform which led to a large-scale expansion of subsidized child care. We use non-linear difference-in-differences methods to estimate the quantile treatment effects of the reform. We find that the effects of the child care expansion were positive in the lower and middle parts of the earnings distribution of exposed children as adults, and negative in the uppermost part. We complement this analysis with local linear regressions of the child care effects by family income. We find that most of the gains in earnings associated with the universal child care program relate to children of low income parents, whereas upper-class children actually experience a loss in earnings. In line with the differential effects by family income, we estimate that the universal child care program substantially increased intergenerational income mobility. To interpret the estimated heterogeneity in child care effects, we examine the mediating role of educational attainment and cognitive test scores, and show that our estimates are consistent with a simple model where parents make a tradeoff between current family consumption and investment in children. Taken together, our findings could have important implications for the policy debate over universal child care programs, suggesting that the benefits of providing subsidized child care to middle and upper-class children are unlikely to exceed the costs. Our study also points to the importance of universal child care programs in explaining differences in earnings inequality and income mobility across countries and over time.

Heise, Lori and **Andreas Kotsadam (2015).** Cross-national and multilevel correlates of partner violence: an analysis of data from population-based surveys. *The Lancet Global Health* 3(6):e332-e340.

Iachan, Felipe and **Plamen Nenov (2015).** Information Quality and Crises in Regime-Change Games. *Journal of Economic Theory*, 158B, pp. 739-768.

Abstract:

When crises potentially originate from coordination failures, does a deterioration in the quality of the information available to market participants contribute towards instability? We address this question in a general global game of regime change with a unique equilibrium and illustrate the implications in a debt rollover application. We show that a reduction in the quality of information increases the

likelihood of regime change, thus reducing stability, when the net payoff in the case of a successful attack is more sensitive to the fundamentals than the net payoff in the case of status quo survival. We also discuss welfare implications.

Ilboudo, Patrick Christian Gueswende; Greco, Giulia; Sundby, Johanne and **Torsvik, Gaute** (2015). Costs and consequences of abortions to women and their households: a cross-sectional study in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. *Health Policy and Planning*. ISSN 0268-1080. 30(4), s 500- 507. Doi: 10.1093/heapol/czu025

Abstract:

Little is known about the costs and consequences of abortions to women and their households. Our aim was to study both costs and consequences of induced and spontaneous abortions and complications. We carried out a cross-sectional study between February and September 2012 in Ouagadougou, the capital city of Burkina Faso. Quantitative data of 305 women whose pregnancy ended with either an induced or a spontaneous abortion were prospectively collected on sociodemographic, asset ownership, medical and health expenditures including pre-referral costs following the patient's perspective. Descriptive analysis and regression analysis of costs were performed. We found that women with induced abortion were often single or never married, younger, more educated and had earlier pregnancies than women with spontaneous abortion. They also tended to be more often under parents' guardianship compared with women with spontaneous abortion. Women with induced abortion paid much more money to obtain abortion and treatment of the resulting complications compared with women with spontaneous abortion: US\$89 (44 252 CFA ie franc of the African Financial Community) vs US\$56 (27 668 CFA). The results also suggested that payments associated with induced abortion were catastrophic as they consumed 15% of the gross domestic product per capita. Additionally, 11–16% of total households appeared to have resorted to coping strategies in order to face costs. Both induced and spontaneous abortions may incur high expenses with short-term economic repercussions on households' poverty. Actions are needed in order to reduce the financial burden of abortion costs and promote an effective use of contraceptives.

Isaac, Tanuy and **Paolo Piacquadio** (2015) Equity and efficiency in an overlapping generation model, *Social Choice and Welfare* 44 (3): 549-565.

Abstract:

The paper addresses *intergenerational* and *intragenerational* equity in an overlapping generation economy. We aim at defining an egalitarian distribution of a constant stream of resources, relying on ordinal non-comparable information on individual preferences. We establish the impossibility of efficiently distributing resources while treating equally agents with same preferences that belong to possibly different generations. We thus propose an egalitarian criterion based on the equal-split guarantee: this requires all agents to find their assigned consumption bundle at least as desirable as the equal division of resources.

Kalil, Ariel and **Rege, Mari** (2015). We Are Family: Fathers' Time with Children and the Risk of Parental Relationship Dissolution. *Social Forces* 2015 ;Volume 94 (2): 833-862.

Abstract:

Resident fathers have increased the time they spend in active childrearing in recent decades. This paper examines how fathers' time in childrearing is associated with relationship dissolution. We use longitudinal survey and time-diary data on young children from the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC; $n = 5,604$). We investigate mothers' and fathers' parenting time, alone and with each other, in a wide variety of activities. Controlling for a rich set of demographic characteristics and the quality of the parental relationship, we find that the sole correlate of parental relationship dissolution is shared time spent in family meals. This correlation holds only for shared family mealtime in which families are not simultaneously watching television. Further analysis suggests that high-quality shared

family mealtimes may lower the risk of relationship dissolution by enhancing mothers' perceptions of marital quality and relationship happiness and reducing maternal depressive symptoms.

Kim, Woosang and Scott Gates. (2015). Power Transition theory and the Rise of China. *International Area Studies Review*. 18(3): 219 – 226.

Abstract:

Does the rise of China inexorably anticipate the onset of global instability or even a great power war? Today, routine comparisons are made between a rising China with that of Germany over 100 years ago. Organski, in his original explication of power transition theory, however, was far more cautious. Despite predicting the remarkable rise of China nearly 60 years ago in his book (1958), *World Politics*, Organski was circumspect in predicting a great power war involving China and the United States. This article examines the development of power transition theory by a variety of scholars since Organski. We draw on these developments of power transition theory to analyze the implications of the rise of China. We also introduce the other articles that compose this Special Issue of *International Area Studies Review* on power transition theory and the rise of China.

Knutsen, Carl Henrik (2015). Reinvestigating the Reciprocal Relationship between Democracy and Income Inequality. *Review of Economics and Institutions* 6(2): Article 1.

Abstract:

Few social science relationships have spawned as much interest -- or as many elaborate theoretical models and arguments -- as that between democracy and income inequality. However, the empirical literature has generally employed statistical models based on problematic assumptions, and has produced quite mixed results. Hence, this paper makes an important empirical contribution by applying models that, for instance, account for endogeneity biases and control for country--specific effects. Despite being correlated, there is very little evidence of any effect of income inequality on level of democracy once employing appropriate model specifications. Furthermore, there is no robust evidence that inequality systematically affects either democratization prospects or democratic stability. In contrast, there is evidence that democracy reduces income inequality when inequality is proxied by share of income going to wages. However, also this effect is sensitive to the choice of inequality measure. Democracy does, for instance, not reduce inequalities in disposable household incomes.

Knutsen, Carl Henrik (2015). Why democracies outgrow autocracies in the long run: Civil liberties, information flows and technological change. *Kyklos* 68(3): 357-384.

Abstract:

This paper argues that democracy enhances technological change, the most important determinant of long-term economic growth. It first presents an argument on how and why dictators restrict civil liberties and diffusion of information to survive in office, even if this reduces their personal consumption. The argument predicts that autocracies have slower technological change than democracies, which in turn impairs GDP per capita growth rates. These and other implications from the argument are tested empirically, and so are implications from alternative explanations on the association between democracy and technological change. Drawing on an extensive global dataset, with some time series going back to the early 19th century, the paper reports robust evidence that democracy increases not only technology-induced growth but also net economic growth rates. Notably, the results hold when accounting for the endogeneity of democracy, country-fixed effects, and sample-selection bias.

Knutsen, Carl Henrik and Håvard M. Nygård (2015). Institutional characteristics and regime survival: Why are semi-democracies less durable than autocracies and democracies? *American Journal of Political Science* 59(3): 656-670.

Abstract:

Previous studies report that semi-democratic regimes are less durable than both democracies and autocracies. Still, mixing democratic and autocratic characteristics need not destabilize regimes, as three highly plausible alternative explanations of this correlation remain unaccounted for: (a) semi-democracies emerge under conditions of political instability and social turmoil; (b) other regime characteristics explain duration; and (c) extant democracy measures do not register all regime changes. We elaborate on and test for these explanations, but find strikingly robust evidence that semi-democracies are inherently less durable than both democracies and autocracies. “Semi-democracies are particularly unstable political regimes” should thus be considered a rare stylized fact of comparative politics. The analysis yields several other interesting results. For instance, autocracies and semi-democracies are equally likely to experience “liberalizing” regime changes more specifically, and once accounting for differences in degree of democracy, there is no robust evidence of differences in duration between military and single-party regimes.

Knutsen, Carl Henrik and Tore Wig (2015). Government Turnover and the Effects of Regime Type: How Requiring Alternation in Power Biases against the Estimated Economic Benefits of Democracy. *Comparative Political Studies* 48(7): 882-914.

Abstract:

Incumbents voluntarily leaving office after losing elections is a hallmark of democracy. Hence, the most prominent binary democracy measure (Democracy–Dictatorship/Alvarez–Cheibub–Limongi–Przeworski [DD/ACLP]) requires observed alternation in power to score regimes democratic. Such “alternation rules” may, however, lead to underestimating democracy’s effect on economic growth. As strong economic performance reduces the probability of incumbents losing democratic elections, young democracies with high growth may falsely be coded dictatorships; their popular governments have yet to lose an election. We identify the expected bias using different tests, for example, when following Przeworski et al.’s advice to re-estimate relationships after re-coding multi-party regimes without alternation as democratic, or when employing differences in information about alternation from different time points to contrast original DD estimates with our “real-time” DD estimates. We present resembling arguments on how alternation rules may bias democracy’s estimated relationships with civil war onsets and coups, but find fewer empirical indications of biases here.

Kostøl, Andreas Ravndal and **Magne Mogstad** (2015). Earnings, Disposable Income, and Consumption of Allowed and Rejected Disability Insurance Applicants, *American Economic Review*, 105(5): 137-141.

Abstract:

Two key questions in thinking about the size and growth of the disability insurance program are to what extent it discourages work, and how valuable the insurance is to individuals and families. These questions motivate our paper. We begin by describing the earnings, disposable income, and consumption of awarded and rejected DI applicants, before and after the disability onset and the allowance decision. Next, we discuss how these descriptive results can be interpreted through the lens of alternative empirical approaches. Our analysis uses a Norwegian population panel data set with detailed information about every individual and household.

Markussen S, Røed K. (2015) Social Insurance Networks, *Journal of Human Resources*, Vol 50(4), 1081-1113, (R)

Abstract:

Based on administrative panel data from Norway, we examine how social insurance claims spread among neighbors and former schoolmates. We use a fixed effects methodology that accounts for endogenous group formation, contextual interactions generated by predetermined social factors, and time-constant as well as time-varying confounders. We report evidence that social insurance claims are contagious. There are significant local peer effects both in the overall use of social insurance and in the

propensity to use one particular social insurance program rather than another. The magnitudes of the estimated peer effects rise consistently with measures of geographical and relational closeness.

Markussen, S; Røed K. (2015). Daylight and Absenteeism – Evidence from Norway. *Economics and Human Biology*, Vol 16, 73-80, (R)

Abstract:

Based on administrative register data from Norway, we examine the impact of hours of daylight on sick-leave absences among workers. Our preferred estimates imply that an additional hour of daylight increases the daily entry rate to absenteeism by 0.5 percent and the corresponding recovery rate by 0.8 percent, *ceteris paribus*. The overall relationship between absenteeism and daylight hours is negative. Absenteeism is also sensitive to weather conditions. Heavy snowfall raises the incidence of absence during the winter, while warm weather reduces the probability of returning to work during the summer.

Modalsli, Jørgen H. (2015). Inequality in the very long run: inferring inequality from data on social groups. *Journal of Economic Inequality* 13(2), doi: 10.1007/s10888-014-9279-6

Abstract:

This paper presents a new method for calculating Gini coefficients from tabulations of the mean income of social classes. Income distribution data from before the Industrial Revolution usually come in the form of such tabulations, called social tables. Inequality indices generated from social tables are frequently calculated without adjusting for within-group income dispersion, leading to a systematic downward bias in the reporting of pre-industrial inequality. The correction method presented in this paper is applied to an existing collection of twenty-five social tables, from Rome in AD 1 to India in 1947. The corrections, using a variety of assumptions on within-group dispersion, lead to substantial increases in the Gini coefficients.

Modalsli, Jørgen H. (2015). Estimating occupational mobility with covariates. *Economics letters* 133: 77-80.

Abstract:

The Altham statistic is often used to calculate intergenerational associations in occupations in studies of historical social mobility. This paper presents a method to incorporate individual covariates into such estimates of social mobility, and to construct corresponding confidence intervals. The method is applied to an intergenerational sample of Norwegian data, showing that estimates of intergenerational mobility are robust to the inclusion of controls for father's and son's age.

Molander, Anders & Torsvik, Gaute (2015). Getting People into Work: What (if Anything) Can Justify Mandatory Activation of Welfare Recipients? *Journal of Applied Philosophy*. ISSN 0264-3758. 32(4), s 373- 392.

Abstract:

So-called activation policies aiming at bringing jobless people into work have been a central component of welfare reforms across OECD countries during the last decades. Such policies combine restrictive and enabling programs, but their characteristic feature is that enabling programs are also mandatory, and non-compliers are sanctioned. There are four main arguments that can be used to defend mandatory activation of benefit recipients. We label them efficiency, sustainability, paternalism, and justice. Each argument is analysed in turn. First we clarify which standards it invokes, thereafter we evaluate each argument according to its own standards and introduce competing normative concerns that have to be taken into account.

Mollerstrom, Johanna, Bjørn-Atle Reme, and **Erik Ø. Sørensen** (2015). Luck, Choice and Responsibility - An experimental study of fairness views. *Journal of Public Economics*, 131: 33-40.

Abstract:

We conduct laboratory experiments where third-party spectators have the opportunity to redistribute resources between two agents, thereby eliminating inequality and offsetting the consequences of controllable and uncontrollable luck. Some spectators go to the limits and equalize either all or no inequalities, but many follow an interior allocation rule. These interior allocators regard an agent's choices as more important than the cause of her low income and do not always compensate bad uncontrollable luck. Instead, they condition such compensation on the agent's decision regarding controllable luck exposure, even though the two types of luck are independent. This allocation rule is previously unaccounted for by the fairness views in the literature. Moreover, its policy implications are fundamentally different in that it extends individual responsibility for choices made to also apply to areas that were not affected by these choices.

Nenov, Plamen (2015) Regional Reallocation and Housing Markets in a Model of Frictional Migration, *Review of Economic Dynamics*, 18:4, pp. 863-880.

Abstract:

Migration frictions are important for understanding key features of gross migration and housing markets. This paper studies a multi-region equilibrium model with frictional migration. Idiosyncratic preference shocks, a mobility cost, and imperfectly directed migration lead to slow worker reallocation in response to changes in local conditions. This leads to a dependence of local house prices on the history of labor market shocks. The model accounts for the comovements of unemployment and rental and house prices with gross migration observed in a panel of U.S. cities. Structural estimation reveals a high mobility cost for unemployed workers and a low probability of directed migration. Both of these imply that regional reallocation has a limited importance for the aggregate labor market and that the effects of housing markets on reallocation are small.

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Abstract:

Petroleum administration can be regarded as a principal-agent problem. The government allocates exploration and production rights to petroleum companies on behalf of the population. The government is the principal and the companies are agents. With the aim of capturing revenue for the state, the government devises a petroleum tax system which takes account of the investment decisions made by the companies, while acknowledging for the fact that the companies may report strategically to the government. An important issue is how tax deductions are to be treated in investment analysis. A discrepancy arises here between assumptions made in some areas of tax theory and the actual investment analyses conducted by the companies. Tax theory has given rise to discussion and controversial tax proposals for the petroleum sector in Norway, Denmark and Australia. It led, for example, to reductions in tax-related depreciation for the Norwegian petroleum industry in May 2013. The article reviews this tax debate and analyses the implications of basing tax design on counter-factual investment behaviour.

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Abstract:

Harsanyi (1974) criticized the von Neumann–Morgenstern (vNM) stable set for its presumption that coalitions are myopic about their prospects. He proposed a new dominance relation incorporating farsightedness, but retained another feature of the stable set: that a coalition S can impose any imputation as long as its restriction to S is feasible for it. This implicitly gives an objecting coalition complete power to arrange the payoffs of players elsewhere, which is clearly unsatisfactory. While this assumption is largely innocuous for myopic dominance, it is of crucial significance for its farsighted counterpart. Our modification of the Harsanyi set respects “coalitional sovereignty.” The resulting farsighted stable set is very different from both the Harsanyi and the vNM sets. We provide a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a farsighted stable set containing just a single-payoff allocation. This condition roughly establishes an equivalence between core allocations and the union of allocations over all single-payoff farsighted stable sets. We then conduct a comprehensive analysis of the existence and structure of farsighted stable sets in simple games. This last exercise throws light on both single-payoff and multi-payoff stable sets, and suggests that they do not coexist.

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Cools, Sara; Andreas Kotsadam “Resources and domestic violence in Sub-Saharan Africa”.

Cools, Sara; Rannveig Kaldager “The effect of childhood family size on fertility in adulthood. New evidence from IV estimation.”

Dapi, Bjorn “Do minimum wages crowd out temporary migrants? Evidence from the Norwegian cleaning industry.”

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Fiva, Jon H.; O. Folke and R. Sørensen. "The Power of Parties: Evidence From Close Municipal Elections in Norway"

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Fiva, Jon H.; G. W. Cox and D. M. Smith. "The Contraction Effect: How Proportional Representation Affects Mobilization and Turnout"

Fiva, Jon H.; D. M. Smith. "Electoral Coordination, the Personal Vote, and Voter Mobilization in Two-Round Elections"

Fiva, Jon H.; D. M. Smith "Political Dynasties in Party-Centered Environments"

Fiva, Jon H.; D. M. Smith. "Norwegian Storting Elections, 1906-2013: A New Data Set"

Halse, Askill Harkjerr "More for everyone: The impact of local interests on spending on infrastructure"

Halse, Askill Harkjerr "Barriers to gender equality in politics: Evidence from open list elections in Norway"

Holden, Steinar; Gisle James Natvik and Adrien Vigier "Equilibrium rating of sovereign debt". Revised May 2015.

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Knutsen, Carl Henrik; Fernando Bizarro, John Gerring, Allen Hicken, Michael Bernhard, Svend-Erik Skaaning, Michael Coppedge and Staffan Lindberg. "Party Strength and Economic Growth"

Knutsen, Carl Henrik; John Gerring, Jan Teorell, Svend-Erik Skaaning, Matthew Maguire, Michael Coppedge and Staffan Lindberg. "Economic Development and Democracy: An Electoral Connection"

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Knutsen, Carl Henrik; Sirianne Dahlum. “Do Democracies Provide Better Education? Revisiting the Democracy--Human Capital Link”.

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Mehlum, H.; K. Moene and G. Østenstad. “Add and Rule”, Unpublished working paper

Mideksa, Torben “Climate Policy and leadership: is there a case for unilateral action?” (in progress)

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Mideksa, Torben; Steffen Kallbekken. The Environmental Effectiveness of Carbon Taxes: Empirical Evidence from the Norwegian Carbon Tax (in progress)

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Mogstad, Magne; A. Akerman and **E. Leuven** “The Internet's Impact on the Trade Behavior of Firms”

Mogstad, Magne M. Bhuller, G. Dahl, and K. Loken. "Incarceration, Recidivism, and Employment"

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Piacquadio, Paolo G. “A Fairness Approach to Utilitarianism.”

Schöne, P, von Simson, K, and **M. Strøm** “Girls helping girls – The impact of female peers on grades and educational choices”

Storesletten, Kjetil; Heathcote and Violante. “Optimal Tax Progressivity: An Analytical Framework” (formerly titled “Redistributive Taxation in a Partial Insurance Economy”)

Vandewalle, Lore; Vincent Somville. “Saving by Default: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Rural India”

Vandewalle, Lore; Rahul Mehrotra, Vincent Somville “Increasing Trust in the Bank to Enhance Savings: Experimental Evidence from India.”

Wang, Yikai; Marcus Hagedorn and Hans Holter “The Optimum Quantity of Capital and Debt”

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Andreas Steinvall Myhre (2015) “Potential Earnings and Labor Supply of Disability Insurance Recipients: An Investigation of Norwegian Disability Insurance Applicants”

Trond Christian Vigtel (2015) “The heterogeneous costs of job displacement: The case of firm closures in Norway”

Wu You (2015) “The distributional effects of rational (housing) bubbles”

Øystein Rembar (2015) “Economic Effects of Labor Migration: A Romanian Case Study”

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First half of year:

Håkon Rysst Heilmann

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Second half of year:

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Dana Darja Øye

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Recipients of the ESOP Student Scholarship 2015

Pauliina Brynildsen

Axel Nerdrum

Recipients of the Gender & Economics Scholarship 2015

Ester Rønsen

ESOP network

Daron Acemoglu, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Jean-Marie Baland, University of Namur (FUNDP)

Sam Bowles, Santa Fe Institute (SFI) and University of Sienna (UNISI)

Rob Davies, Zimbabwe

Miriam Golden, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Emily Haisley, Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)

Jonathan Heathcote, The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Ethan Kaplan, Stockholm University (SU)

James Konow, Loyola Marymount University (LMU)

George Loewenstein, Carnegie Mellon

Ellen McGrattan, Research Dept., Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Ted Miguel, UC Berkeley
Eva Nagypal, Northwestern
Trond Petersen, UC Berkeley
James A. Robinson, Harvard University
Dominic Rohner, University of York
Maria Saez-Marti, Zurich University
Virginia Sanchez Marcos, Universidad de Cantabria
Andres Solimano, CEPAL, Chile
Giovanni Violante, New York University
Elisabeth Wood, Yale University
Amir Yaron, Wharton

ACCOUNTS AND REVISED BUDGET

Funding In NOK 1000	Accounts 2007-2012	Accounts 2013	Accounts 2014	Accounts 2015	Budget 2016	Total
Own funding (UiO)	48 336		11758	15962	13254	96426
RCN – CoE funding	50 938	11 530	11395	11 459	11 347	95693
International funding	1 648	5 738	2011	2265	9841	21512
Other public	1 867	1 579	3354	5041	8740	19938
Other private		10				15
Total funding	102 789	13 871	28518	34727	43182	233584

Expenditures In NOK 1000	Accounts 2007-2012	Accounts 2013	Accounts 2014	Accounts 2015	Budget 2016	Total
Personnel, housing	89 820	23 811	26160	29502	31905	193006
<i>(Salaries and personnel costs)</i>	<i>(73 755)</i>	<i>(17 547)</i>	<i>(19822)</i>	<i>(22126)</i>	<i>(23928)</i>	<i>(157178)</i>
<i>(Premises, overhead)</i>	<i>(16 065)</i>	<i>(6 264)</i>	<i>(6338)</i>	<i>(7376)</i>	<i>(7977)</i>	<i>(44020)</i>
Procurements of R&D services	4 062	568	3 804	4222	5634	18290
Equipment	854	218	16	5		1093
Other running costs	7 736	969	1 345	1800	5417	17267
Total costs	102 472	25 566	31325	35529	42956	229656

Comments to the account and budget

ESOP has a healthy economy, and we are able to finance all our research activity. Most of the funding we get from UiO's own funding and the RCNs CoE funding, but we are also expanding our activities through other national and international projects. In 2015 ESOP got external funding for three additional projects, which will all be a part of the CoE. The ERC Consolidator Grant project CONSERVATION will contribute with 1,57 mill Euro, HetMacro (FRIHUMSAM, RCN) will contribute 8,9 mill NOK, and the UiO:Norden project NoWeDe with 3 mill NOK. All three projects will start up in 2016, and will, together with the other projects, enable the research at ESOP to continue after the end of ESOP as a CoE. Furthermore, ESOP was named one of the five research communities at the University of Oslo most likely to become world leading, and will receive around 27 mill NOK over a period of five years to recruit internationally leading scholars.

For the years 2007-2009 the funding from UiO (own funding) where not a part of the accounting. In the table above 16,402 million NOK from these years are not a part of the official accounting, but it is reported to the Research Council as "funding not shown in the Centre's accounting". Therefor we have included this funding expenditures in the table above. From 2010 UiO changed the system and included all own funding into ESOP's accounting.

RESOURCES – PERSONNEL 2015

Scientific positions

People	52	Man-year:			10,5
Name	Sex	Academic degree	Place of work/employer	Months worked at the centre	
<i>Aaberge, Rolf</i>	M	Adj. Prof.	ESOP/SSB	2,4	
<i>Almås, Ingvild</i>	F	Researcher	ESOP/NHH	2,4	
<i>Asheim, Geir</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Barth, Erling</i>	M	Adj. Prof.	ESOP/ISF	4,8	
<i>Bratsberg, Bernt</i>	M	Adj. Prof.	ESOP/Frisch	1,2	
<i>Brekke, Kjell Arne</i>	M	Assoc. Prof	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Brinch, Christian N.</i>	M	Researcher	ESOP/SSB	1,2	
<i>Cappelen, Alexander</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/NHH	1,2	
<i>Cools, Sara</i>	F	Researcher	ESOP/BI	1	
<i>Fernandez, Raquel</i>	F	Professor	ESOP/NYU	2,4	
<i>Ferrara, Eliana la</i>	F	Adj. Prof.	ESOP/BOCCONI	2,4	
<i>Finseraas, Henning</i>	M	Researcher	ESOP/ISF	1,2	
<i>Fiva, Jon Hernes</i>	M	Researcher	ESOP/BI	2,4	
<i>Haan, Monique de</i>	F	Assoc. Prof	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Harstad, Bård</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	3	
<i>Havnes, Tarjei</i>	M	Assoc. Prof	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Hoel, Michael</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Holden, Steinar</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Høyland, Bjørn</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ISV	2,4	
<i>Javorcik, Beata S.</i>	F	Adj. Prof.	ØI/UoOxf.	2,4	
<i>Keilman, Nico</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	1	
<i>Knutsen, Carl Henrik</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ISV	2,4	
<i>Kravdal, Øystein</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	1,2	
<i>Kundu, Tapas</i>	M	Assoc. Prof	ESOP/UiT	0,6	
<i>Leuven, Edwin</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	6	
<i>Lind, Jo Thori</i>	M	Assoc. Prof	ESOP	12	
<i>Markussen, Simen</i>	M	Researcher	ESOP/Frisch	1,2	
<i>Mehlum, Halvor</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	9	
<i>Modalsli, Jørgen H.</i>	M	Researcher	ESOP/SSB	0,6	
<i>Moen, Espen</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/BI	1,2	
<i>Moene, Karl-Ove</i>	M	Professor	ESOP	12	
<i>Mogstad, Magne</i>	M	Researcher	ESOP/UCL	2,4	
<i>Nilssen, Tore</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Nyborg, Karine</i>	F	Professor	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Ognedal, Tone</i>	F	Assoc. Prof	ESOP/ØI	2,4	
<i>Raaum, Oddbjørn</i>	M	Adj. Prof.	ESOP/Frisch	1	
<i>Ray, Debraj</i>	M	Aff. Res.	ESOP/NYU	1,2	
<i>Rege, Mari</i>	F	Adj. Prof.	ESOP/UiS	1,2	

<i>Reiersen, Jon</i>	M	Aff. Res.	ESOP/HiV	1,2
<i>Riis, Christian</i>	M	Adj. Prof.	ESOP/BI	1
<i>Rosén, Åsa</i>	F	Researcher	ESOP/SOFI	0,6
<i>Rødseth, Asbjørn</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	2,4
<i>Røed, Knut</i>	M	Adj. Prof.	ESOP/Frisch	1,2
<i>Salvanes, Kjell Gunnar</i>	M	Aff. Res.	ESOP/NHH	0,6
<i>Schøne, Pål</i>	M	Aff. Res.	ESOP/ISF	0,6
<i>Storesletten, Kjetil</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/ØI	2,4
<i>Sørensen, Erik</i>	M	Researcher	ESOP/NHH	2,4
<i>Torsvik, Gaute</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/UiB	2,4
<i>Torvik, Ragnar</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/NTNU	1,2
<i>Tungodden, Bertil</i>	M	Professor	ESOP/NHH	1,2
<i>Ulltveit-Moe, Karen H.</i>	F	Professor	ESOP/ØI	2,4
<i>Vandewalle, Lore</i>	F	Researcher	ESOP	1,2

Research fellows

People		17	Man-year		14,4
Name	Sex	Academic degree	Place of work/employer	Months worked at the centre	
<i>Alpino, Matteo</i>	M	MSc Econ	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Andresen, Martin E.</i>	M	Ma. of Econ	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Bøler, Esther Ann N.</i>	F	M. Phil. Econ	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Ellingsen, Nicolai</i>	M	Ma. in Econ	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Flatø, Martin</i>	M	M. Phil. Econ	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Halse, Askill Harkjerr</i>	M	Ma. in Econ	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Hammersmark, Eivind Olsen</i>	M	Ma. in Econ	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Holtmark, Katinka</i>	F	Ma. in Econ	ESOP/ØI	4	
<i>Kjelsrud, Anders Grøn</i>	M	M. Phil. Econ	ESOP/ØI	8	
<i>Kruse, Herman</i>	M	Ma. in Econ	ESOP/ØI	4,5	
<i>Mideksa, Torben</i>	M	MPA int.dev.	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Morset, Trygve L.</i>	M	Ma. in Econ	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Sandsør, Astrid Marie J.</i>	F	M. Phil. Econ	ESOP/ØI	9	
<i>Skjelbred, Siv-Elisabeth</i>	F	Ma. Business	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Solberg-Johansen, K.</i>	F	M. Phil. Econ	ESOP/ØI	10	
<i>Østenstad, Gry T.</i>	F	M. Phil. Econ	ESOP/ØI	8	
<i>You, Wu</i>	M	Ma. in Econ	ESOP/ØI	4,5	
<i>Wen, Yudi</i>	F	Ma. in Econ	ESOP/ØI	4,5	

Postdoctoral fellows

People		9	Man-year:		7,3
Name	Sex	Academic degree	Place of work/employer	Months worked at the centre	
<i>Bizzotto, Jacopo</i>	M	PhD in Econ	ESOP	12	
<i>Holtmark, Katinka</i>	F	PhD in Econ	ESOP	2	
<i>Kotsadam, Andreas</i>	M	PhD in Econ	ESOP	9	
<i>Mitra, Anirban</i>	M	PhD in Econ	ESOP	12	
<i>Piacquadio, Paolo G.</i>	M	PhD in Econ	ESOP	12	
<i>Russo, Alessia</i>	F	PhD in Econ	ESOP	12	
<i>Thorleifsson, Cathrine Moe</i>	F	PhD in soc.ant.	SAI	12	
<i>Wang, Yikai</i>	M	PhD in Econ	ESOP	12	
<i>Wang, Yicheng</i>	M	PhD in Econ	ESOP	4	

Administration

People		2	Man-year:		1,5
Name	Sex	Academic degree	Place of work/employer	Months worked at the centre	
<i>Holen, Gyro Anna</i>	F	Ma. in soc.ant.	ESOP/ØI	12	
<i>Petersen, Stina</i>	F	Ma. in comp.pol.	ESOP/ØI	6	

Research assistants

People		10	Man-year:		1,4
Name	Sex	Position	Place of work/employer	Months worked at the centre	
<i>Hegna, Torje</i>	M	Research ass.	ESOP	1	
<i>Hovdenes, Anders</i>	M	Research ass.	ESOP	1,2	
<i>Myklatun, Kristian Harald</i>	M	Research ass.	ESOP	2,5	
<i>Ruen, Ingvild</i>	F	Research ass.	ESOP	1	
<i>Rysst, Håkon</i>	M	Research ass.	ESOP	3,25	
<i>Urdsøn, Erlend Nordvang</i>	M	Research ass.	ESOP	1	
<i>Wen, Yudi</i>	F	Research ass.	ESOP	2,1	
<i>Wiborg, Vegard</i>	M	Research ass.	ESOP	2,1	
<i>You, Wu</i>	M	Research ass.	ESOP/ØI	1,5	
<i>Øye, Dana Darja</i>	F	Research ass.	ESOP/ØI	1,2	

Guest researchers

People: 2			Man-year: 0,1		
Name	Sex	Academic degree	Guest period	Place of work/ employer	Months worked at the centre
<i>Gates, Scott</i>	M	PhD in pol.sci.		PRIO	1,2
<i>Boese, Vanessa</i>	F	Ma. in Econ		Humboldt University	0,5

Positions displayed in Man-year

Personnel/positions	Man-year 2007	Man-year 2008	Man-year 2009	Man-year 2010	Man-year 2011	Man-year 2012	Man-year 2013	Man-year 2014	Man-year 2015
Professors, researchers, etc.	3,6	6,3	6,7	9,1	9,1	8,6	10,7	10,4	10,5
Research fellows/Ph.D. students	5,5	7,8	9,9	12,4	10,6	11,8	14,7	12,8	14,4
Postdocs	1,3	2,9	3,1	3,6	3,9	2	2	3,3	7,3
Technical/adm. positions	1,1	2	1,5	1,5	1	1	1,2	1,4	1,5
Research Assistants						1,6	1,5	1,6	1,4
Total personnel, man-year	11,5	19,1	21,2	26,6	24,6	25	30,1	29,5	35,1
Guest researchers				1,5	0,1	5,2	1,5	0,4	0,1

Comments regarding the activities at the centre in 2015

Researchers marked in grey get funding from institutions other than the ESOP or the Department of Economics at the University (ØI). We work with some of these researchers on various projects, and some of these projects are funded by ESOP. Others collaborate with ESOP, and do research on ESOP-related subjects, without being directly funded by us. We cover their expenses in connection with relevant research and research trips.

Oslo, 1 April 2016