



PUBLIC LECTURE

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Negotiating Strategic Voting in Experimental Group Decisions

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In multiparty elections, groups of voters with similar preferences often have an incentive to coordinate on a strategic choice if they realize that their first-best option is not attainable. In the experiments costly voting in multiparty elections is investigated. This study starts from the contention that social incentives and mechanisms that help groups of voters coordinate in multiparty elections also help induce voters to participate when voting is costly. It focuses on one particular coordination mechanism in multiparty elections – communication within and across parties – and studies the negotiation process that is documented in experimental chat protocols. This way one can not only examine which decisions are taken under what conditions but furthermore how and why these decisions were generated in the process of deliberation.

Bernhard Kittel is Professor of Social Science Methodology at the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg. He is also Academic Convenor of the ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques at the University of Ljubljana. He is mainly interested in political methodology, in particular quantitative comparative analysis, and comparative political economy, covering topics such as industrial relations, welfare states, public employment regimes, and collective decision making. Currently, he develops an experimental research program on the institutional conditions of group decisions.