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RG European Governance and Public Finance

At the intersection of political science and economics, the RG focuses on national and European public finance and fiscal policy including reform efforts at the national and EU level (EMU), on social policy at the micro- and macroeconomic level (economic impact of aging population, migration and reforms of pension and social security systems) and on the democratic legitimacy of governance in a national and European context (elections, participation and protest, public opinion, Euroscepticism and parliamentary legitimacy).



Selected Projects

- ▶ A Study on Future Trends and Taxation, funded by DG Taxation and Customs Union of the European Commission
- ▶ FIRSTRUN – Fiscal Rules and Strategies under Externalities and Uncertainties, funded by the EU H2020 Framework Program
- ▶ Macroeconomic Consequences of a Reform of the EU Directive on Posted Workers, funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance
- ▶ Unemployment and labour market flows in Austria, funded by the OeNB
- ▶ Post-Crisis Legitimacy of the European Union (PLATO), Action funded by the EU Horizon 2020 Framework Program
- ▶ Who gets what when and how? Budgetary Politics in the EU - funded by the OeNB
- ▶ Bashing Europe! - The Construction of Euroscepticism in Austria, funded by the OeNB
- ▶ Lost in Space - Party Ambiguity and Voter Uncertainty in Comparative Perspective, Fritz Thyssen Stiftung
- ▶ The Austrian Protest Arena in the 21st Century, funded by the FWF
- ▶ Public Attitudes to Welfare, Climate Change and Energy in the EU and Russia (PAWCER), funded by the FWF
- ▶ Attitudes on Social Policy and Welfare State in Austria: Analysis and Development of an Austrian Welfare State Survey, funded by the OeNB
- ▶ Effective Corporate Tax Rates in Austria - funded by the Federal Chamber of Labour

Members

- ▶ Dr. Katrin Auel, Head of Research Group
- ▶ Dr. Benjamin Bittschi, Senior Researcher
- ▶ Clemens Blab, Research Assistant
- ▶ Dr. Thomas Davoine, Senior Researcher
- ▶ Dr. Martin Dolezal, Fellow
- ▶ Dr. Susanne Forstner, Senior Researcher
- ▶ Daniel Gaubinger, MSc, Research Assistant
- ▶ Dr. Peter Grand, Senior Researcher
- ▶ Dr. Christian Neubauer, Junior Researcher
- ▶ Ivana Skazlic, MA, MA, Junior Researcher
- ▶ Sigrid Stemberger, Administrative Manager
- ▶ Dr. Guido Tiemann, Senior Researcher
- ▶ Tiffany Williams, MPA, Junior Researcher
- ▶ Mag. Katharina Zahradnik, Junior Fellow



Selected Publications

- ▶ Auel, Katrin (2019), Divergent preferences and legislative speeches on Brexit, *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*, published before print (with R. Umit).
- ▶ Auel, Katrin (2018), What Happens in Parliament Stays in Parliament? Newspaper Coverage of National Parliaments in EU Affairs, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 56: 3, 2018: 628-645 (with O. Eisele & L. Kinski).
- ▶ Benjamin Bittschi (2017), Remittances and public finances: Evidence from oil-price shocks, *Journal of Public Economics* 155: 122-137 (with Z. Asatryan, & P. Doerrenberg).
- ▶ Benjamin Bittschi (2019), Housing and Health, *Review of Income and Wealth* 65: 3, 495-513 (with S. Angel).
- ▶ Thomas Davoine (2016), Cross-country differences in the contribution of future migration to old-age financing', *Int Tax Public Finance* 23: 1160–1184 (with J. Berger, P. Schuster & L. Strohner).
- ▶ Martin Dolezal, Peter Grand, (2019), Sehnsucht nach dem starken Mann? Autoritäre Tendenzen in Österreich seit 1945. Wien: Böhlau. (with B. Molden & D. Schriffel)
- ▶ Peter Grand & Marcel Fink (2018), Welfare chauvinism in Austria. An empirical analysis of ESS round 8 data, *IHS Research Report*.
- ▶ Guido Tiemann (2019), The shape of utility functions and voter attitudes towards risk, *Electoral Studies* 61, published before print.

Methods and Data

The RG works mainly with quantitative data, statistical methods and macroeconomic models that are complemented by qualitative data, e.g. interviews with political actors.

▶ European Social Survey

Since 2013, the RG/Dr. Peter Grand is responsible for the ESS as the national coordinator for Austria. The survey is conducted every two years throughout Europe, with the last wave covering 20 countries. It focuses on citizens' opinions and values within the context of the substantial institutional and political changes within the nation state and the European integration project.

▶ TaxLab

TaxLab, a computable general equilibrium model developed at the IHS since 2004, is used to analyse and quantify the macroeconomic impacts of policy reforms related to the labour market, the pension system and taxes. It covers Austria and 13 other countries of the European Union, either separately or together in a multi-country version.



