

## Personnel



### Duong Trinh

Duong Trinh joined the Department of Economics as a new Postdoctoral Researcher in Econometrics in October 2025. She completed her master's degree and Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Glasgow, United Kingdom. Her Ph.D. thesis utilizes Bayesian statistics and machine learning techniques to address inherent econometric challenges in microeconomic settings. By embracing recent methodological advancements, her research aims to overcome the limitations of conventional approaches, particularly in handling high-dimensional data, endogeneity, heterogeneity, and several forms of spillovers. Ultimately, the proposed methods facilitate more flexible and robust analyses of micro-level data, contributing to a deeper understanding of individual and group differences in economic behavior, as well as causal effects. This, in turn, can lead to more informed and effective policy decisions.

At the University of Graz, Duong works under the supervision of Professor Hans Manner, furthering her passion for research and teaching in the field of Econometrics and Empirical Economics. Her current interests encompass causal inference methods and models involving networks and spatial data, with applications tailored to Development Economics, Innovation, and Public Policy. She is enthusiastic for the academic journey ahead and eager to collaborate and contribute to the ongoing activities in the Department.

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### Imprint:

Department of Economics  
University of Graz

### Address:

UniversitaetsstraÙe 15/E4-F4  
8010 Graz, Austria

economics@uni-graz.at  
fachbereich-  
volkswirtschaftslehre.uni-  
graz.at/en/



### Karoline Stiegler

In early July Ms. Karoline Stiegler joined our secretariate's team. After having completed her studies in English and Italian at the Department of Translation Studies, she worked mainly in the field of international customer service and order processing.

## Awards and Nominations



### Yu Chen Memorial Publication Prize

Steven Kivinen is the winner of the Yu Chen Memorial Publication Prize 2023. He was honoured for his paper titled "On the manipulability of equitable voting rules", Games and Economic Behavior, 141, 286-302.

## Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei



Em.o.Univ.-Prof. Dr. Heinz-Dieter Kurz has been elected Foreign Member of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (National Academy of Sciences of Italy) in the Class of Class of Humanities and Social Sciences. The Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (in English, “Academy of the lynxes,” lynxes in the sense of sharp-eyed), was the first private institution for the promotion of the natural sciences in Europe. It was founded in 1603 in Rome. Its most famous member was Galileo Galilei, who joined in April 1611.

## Events



### 20th anniversary Graz Schumpeter Centre & Nobel Prize winners

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the GSC, Michael Peneder (Deputy Director of WIFO) and Andreas Resch (WU Vienna) gave keynote speeches on the role of venture finance in Schumpeter’s development theory and his practical experience as a venture capitalist. Richard Sturn, who stepped down as director of the centre on 30 September 2025, presented a brief review of Schumpeter’s eventful but productive time at the University of Graz, as well as the activities of the GSC over the past 20 years, which were honoured by Dean Univ.-Prof. DDr. Georg Schneider in his opening speech. As the new director, Maik T. Schneider presented an outlook on the future of the GSC.

This year’s Nobel Prize winners in economics, Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion and Peter Howitt, also have connections to the GSC. Aghion and Mokyr were speakers at the Graz Schumpeter Lectures. Aghion and Howitt also deal with the theory of ‘creative destruction through innovation’, a term coined by Joseph A. Schumpeter. Current research at the Graz Schumpeter Centre ties in precisely here. Maik Schneider, for example, is investigating how economic policy should respond to technological transformations. In general, this year’s Nobel Prize and the research at the Graz Schumpeter Centre show how relevant Schumpeter’s ideas still are today.



### EAERE Summer School in Resource and Environmental Economics

From June 7 to 12, 2025, the EAERE Summer School in Resource and Environmental Economics, organized by the Institute of Economics (Birgit Bednar-Friedl and Michael Finus) and the Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change (Birgit Bednar-Friedl, Stefan Borsky and Michael Finus) took place in Seggau for the fifth time in a row. Michael Finus was the local organizer in 2025. This year’s EAERE Summer School focused on the drivers and obstacles for success in the design of international

environmental agreements. The international 6-member faculty of the Summer School was made up of renowned researchers in this field.

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## Graz Schumpeter Winter School 2025: Modelling Opinion Dynamics and Social Change

The Schumpeter Centre is hosting the 8th Graz Schumpeter Winter School from December 1-5, 2025, held this year in conjunction with a COLIBRI Focus Workshop, on “Modelling Opinion Dynamics and Social Change”. We will welcome seven distinguished keynote speakers (Isabel Almudí, Francisco Fatas-Villafranca, Rainer Hegselmann, Théo Konc, Jana Lasser, Jan Lorenz, Christian Proaño and Thomas Schmickl) who will share their insights with

39 international registered participants, more than twice the number of the previous editions. Eighteen participants have been selected to contribute talks covering a wide array of topics including theoretical opinion dynamics models, digital twins of social media platforms, and co-evolutionary processes of economic and socio-political change (e.g. to limit climate change). A copy of the full program can be found on the website.

## Approval of New Third-Party-Funded Research Projects

### Polarization and Mobilization under Uncertainty

**Funding Agency:** FWF

**Researchers involved:** The project proposal was written by Christoph Kuzmics (PI) and Valeriia Chukaeva

**Abstract:** This project investigates the interplay between policy polarization and voter turnout in U.S. presidential elections, focusing on the role of uncertainty in election outcomes. Using a novel, analytically tractable model, we integrate insights from political economy, voting behavior, and game theory to explore how exogenous uncertainty influences both policy divergence and voter mobilization. The model incorporates primaries, ethical voting behavior, and strategic turnout decisions, allowing for comprehensive comparative statics and structural estimation using historical election data. By bridging theoretical and empirical approaches, the research aims to provide a unified explanation of observed patterns in polarization, turnout, and election outcomes.

**Total project volume:** € 266.239,00

**Project duration:** 2025-2028

## Visiting scholars

- **Assoc.-Prof. Takashi Seo**, Associate Professor at Kanazawa University, Japan
- **Andrea di Benedetto**, PhD Student at Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- **Dr. Paolo Zeppini**, Assistant Professor at the University of Bath, UK and Université Côte d’Azur, France
- **Dr. Francesco Furini**, Research fellow at the University of Hamburg, Germany
- **Prof. Sanatiago Rubio**, Professor at the University of Valencia, Spain
- **Dr. Filip Bugarčić**, Research Associate at University of Kragujevac, Serbia

## Announcements and further news

### Maik Schneider new Senate member

Maik Schneider was elected as a member of the Senate for the term beginning October 1, 2025.

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## New Standing Committee on Political Economy Founded within the Verein für Socialpolitik

Professor Maik T. Schneider (University of Graz) and Professor Anja Prummer (Freie Universität Berlin) founded the Standing Committee on Political Economy within the German Economic Association, the Verein für Socialpolitik (VfS). The committee brings together a group of 51 excellent researchers in Political Economy. Among these professors are Christoph Kuzmics and Christian Klamler from the Economics Department at the University of Graz. The goal of the Standing Committee on Political Economy is to represent and promote this vibrant and growing field of research in the German-speaking countries. The committee's goals include: 1. Developing and discussing new research topics in the field of Political Economy. 2. Promoting scientific exchange and continuing education for members on emerging aspects of the discipline. 3. Supporting and mentoring early-career researchers, thereby contributing to their professional development. 4. Encouraging excellence and innovation in teaching, as well as outreach and public engagement on political-economic issues. The first meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Economy will take place in Berlin on 26–27 March 2026. Further information about the committee and its members is available on the official website <https://sites.google.com/view/politicaeconvfs/home>

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## Media Mentions

### Michael Finus

- 03.12.2025 ORF Steiermark heute: „Geo-Engineering als Mittel gegen Erderwärmung"
- 05.8.2025 NDR: „Glaube nicht an ein Abkommen", Audio-Interview zur UN-Plastikkonferenz

### Maik Schneider

- 22.10.2025: Kronenzeitung: „8.2 billion in debt – what does that mean for the people of Styria?"
- 07.10.2025: Ö1 Podcast: „Word of the week' on the topic of efficiency"
- 19.06.2025: ZIB-Magazin: "Job loss due to AI"

## Publications

### Published or Forthcoming Refereed Research Articles since Newsletter 2024-2

- Alejandro Caparrós, E. Blanco, M. Finus (2025), Institution formation in weakest-link games, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, **233**, 106943. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2025.106943>
- Aronsson, T., K. Jenderny, G. Lanot (2024), A Maximum Likelihood Bunching Estimator of the Elasticity of Taxable Income, *Journal of Applied Econometrics* **39**, 200 – 216.
- Aronsson, T., S. Blomquist (2024), Uncertain Length of Life, Retirement Age, and Pension Design, *FinanzArchiv/European Journal of Public Finance* **80**, 111 – 128.
- Aronsson, T., T. Sjögren, S. Yadav (2024), A Note on Optimal Taxation under Status Consumption and Preferences for Equality, *Oxford Economic Papers*, forthcoming. <https://DOI.org/10.1628/fa-2023-0013> <https://doi.org/10.1002/jae.3015>

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- Aronsson, T., O. Johansson-Stenman, R. Wendner (2025), Optimal Redistributive Charity, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics* **127**, 3 – 45.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/sjoe.12573>
- Cavailles, J., M. Grube, C. Kuzmics (2025), Symbiont Dynamics and Coral Regulation under Changing Temperatures, *Coral Reefs*, forthcoming.  
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- Cavailles, J., C. Kuzmics, M. Grube (2025), Heterogeneous Responsiveness to Environmental Stimuli, *Behavioral Ecology*, **36** (4), araf023.  
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- Chukaeva, V., J. de Frutos Cachorro, J. Marin-Solano (2024), Groundwater extraction for irrigation purposes: The case of asymmetric players, *Water Economics and Policy*, **10**, 2450004.  
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- Darmann, A., D. Eckert, C. Klamler, C. (2025), Rank information and inequality in social welfare functions, *Theory and Decision*, **98**, forthcoming.  
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- Elboghhdady, N.N., M. Finus (2024), Enforcing Climate Agreements: The Role of Escalating Border Carbon Adjustments, *Strategic Behavior and the Environment* **10**, 79 – 128.  
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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeem.2024.103045>
- Gössler, G., V. Hofer, H. Manner und W. Gössler (2025), Kappa-Cover: A Novel Asymmetric Comparison of Distributions, *Communications in Statistics - Simulation and Computation*, **54**, forthcoming.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03610918.2025.2562334>
- Greinecker, M., C. Kuzmics (2025), Limit Orders and Knightian Uncertainty, *International Economic Review*, forthcoming.  
<http://doi.org/10.1111/iere.70015>
- Kivinen, S. (2025), Robust Group Manipulation with Indifferences, *Games and Economic Behavior*, **153**, 554 – 568 .  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geb.2025.08.001>
- Klamler, C. (2025), Simplex Subtraction to Estimate Unanimity Violations in Sequential Majority Voting, *Mathematical Social Sciences*, **138**, 102462.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mathsocsci.2025.102462>
- Koten, J.W., H. Manner, C. Pernet, A. Schüppen, D. Szücs, G. Wood, J.P.A. Ioannidis (2024), When most fMRI connectivity cannot be detected: Insights from time course reliability, *PLOS ONE*, **19**(12), e0299753.  
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- Lackner, T., L. Fierro, P. Mellacher (2025), Opinion dynamics meet agent-based climate economics: An integrated analysis of carbon taxation, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* **229**, 106816.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2024.106816>
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- Spiegel, S.S. (2025), Price Indices for Austrian Municipalities - Hedonic Models Based on Microlevel Data, *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*, **71**, forthcoming.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11146-025-10032-9>

- Sturn, R. (2025), Adam Smith's Pluralism and the Limits of Science, *Homo Oeconomicus*, **41**, 3 – 27.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s41412-024-00145-6>

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