

WTI Brown Bag Seminar



Title

China and the World Bank \ Contrasting Development Approaches and Their Impact on Conflict and State Stability in Africa

Speaker

Dr. Kai Gehring

When

Monday
24 June, 2019
12.30-13.30

Where

Anna Nussbaum Auditorium
World Trade Institute
Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern

For PhD students: This lecture in political science is eligible as part of the PhD seminar series.

Abstract

We use georeferenced aid and conflict data to contrast the causal effect of Chinese aid in Africa with aid projects by the World Bank. Both donors do not contribute to lethal conflict, where projects in the transport and financial sector even reduce violence. One important mechanism is a reduction in lethal government violence against civilians. Further analyses using lower level violence and Afrobarometer surveys reveal important differences. The World Bank achieves higher stability and its projects also strengthen democracy. For China, higher stability is associated with more government repression and changing norms towards higher acceptance of authoritarianism.

Biography of the speaker

Dr. Kai Gehring is a senior researcher in economics at the University of Zurich, funded by a 4-year "Ambizione Grant" of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). Dr. Gehring is also an affiliate member of CESifo, an associate member of the European Development Network (EUDN), the Research Group on Development Economics in the German Economic Association and the Research Training Group "Globalization and Development" (GlaD).