Latest HiCN News

Call for Papers: 15th Annual HiCN Workshop “New Methods in Empirical Conflict Research”
The call for papers is open for the 15th Annual HiCN Workshop “New Methods in Empirical Conflict Research” that will take place at the Paris School of Economics (PSE) on 17-18 October 2019. The deadline for submitting papers is 1 May 2019.

The paper by Philip Verwimp, Patricia Justino and Tilman Brück takes stock of the emergence, in the last decade, of the “microeconomics of violent conflict” as a new subfield of empirical development economics.

Job Advert: Junior researcher position (50%) at ISDC in Berlin
ISDC – International Security and Development Center is seeking a Junior Researcher (50% FTE) to support research efforts at the nexus of development and political violence. The position is ideal for advanced Master’s or doctoral students in economics or related disciplines. The deadline for applications is 15 April 2019.

Invitation to the Workshop on Home Gardens as a Coping Strategy in Crises and Humanitarian Emergencies
Tilman Brück will host the workshop titled “Home Gardens as a Coping Strategy in Crises and Humanitarian Emergencies: An International, Interdisciplinary Research Workshop” on 2-3 April 2019 in Bonn, Germany. Experts are welcome to register.

Paper “The effects of violent conflict on household resilience and food security: Evidence from the 2014 Gaza conflict” published by World Development
This paper by Tilman Brück, Marco d’Errico and Rebecca Pietrelli studies how conflict affects household resilience capacity and food security, drawing on panel data collected from households in Palestine before and after the 2014 Gaza conflict.

Paper “Redistributive Preferences and Protests in Latin America” published by the Journal of Conflict Resolution
This paper by Patricia Justino and Bruno Martorano analyses the role of individual redistributive preferences on protest participation in Latin America. The results show a strong association between individual preferences for redistribution and participation in protests motivated by the low quality of services and institutions, failures to reduce corruption and perceived lower standards of living.

This paper by Patricia Justino and Bruno Martorano makes use of a panel of 12 Latin American countries over the period between 1970 and 2010 to show that government welfare spending has led to substantial reductions in political conflict across the region. The
effect is more pronounced when associated with reductions in inequality and increasing social and institutional trust.

Paper “Learning the Hard Way: The Effect of Violent Conflict on Student Academic Achievement” published by the Journal of the European Economic Association
This paper by Tilman Brück, Michele Di Maio and Sami H. Miaari looks at the effect of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict on various education outcomes for Palestinian high school students in the West Bank during the Second Intifada (2000–2006). The results show that the conflict reduces the probability of passing the final exam, the total test score, and the probability of being admitted to university.

Paper “Food Security and Violent Conflict: Introduction to the Special Issue” published by World Development
This paper by Tilman Brück and Marco d’Errico provides a survey over key themes in the quantitative literature on the nexus of food insecurity and violent conflict. It reveals a large diversity in experiences of food security and conflict, posing a challenge for causal identification which can be resolved by spatially disaggregated, high frequency micro-level data on both food security and conflict.

Paper “Money can’t buy love but can it buy peace? Evidence from the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (PEACE II)” published by Conflict Management and Peace Science
While randomisation is often eschewed in bottom-up peacebuilding contexts in favour of more targeted programming, there is no guarantee that targeted spending gets to those who need it most. In this article, Tilman Brück and Neil T.N. Ferguson discuss the apparent failure of one such targeted rollout – that of the PEACE II programmes in Ireland.

Recent HiCN Working Papers


HiCN WP296 Violent Repression as a Commitment Problem: Urbanization, Food Shortages, and Civilian Killings under Authoritarian Regimes Ore Koren and Bumba Mukherjee (2019)


HiCN WP294 Agricultural abandonment and re-cultivation during and after the Chechen Wars in the northern Caucasus H. Yin, V. Butsic, J. Buchner, T. Kuemmerle, A. V. Prishchepov, M. Baumann, E.V. Bragina, H. Sayadyan and V.C. Radeloff (2019)

HiCN WP293 The Impact of Peace: Evidence from Nigeria T. Höning (2019)


**New HiCN Fellows**

We are pleased to announce researchers who have recently joined the Households in Conflict Network:

- **Ghassan Baliki**, ISDC – International Security and Development Center
- **Francesco Bogliacino**, National University of Colombia
- **Tillman Höning**, London School of Economics & Political Science
- **Neil Ferguson**, ISDC – International Security and Development Center
- **Roberto Nisticò**, University of Naples Federico II
- **Mounu Prem**, Universidad del Rosario
- **Wolfgang Stojetz**, ISDC – International Security and Development Center