



## Regional Economic Performance and the Role of Institutions

*INFER* Workshop organised by the *INFER* Working Group Growth and Business Cycles

Faculty of Business and Economics, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

Thursday, March 12, 2009, Super C, Room 1.30 (Templergraben 57)

### Welcoming address

14h00 – 14h10 **Ulrike Stierle-von Schuetz** (Co-ordinator of the *INFER* Working Group Growth and Business Cycles)

### Keynote

14h10 – 15h10 **Martin Hallet** (European Commission, DG ECFIN, Brussels, Belgium)  
Supporting reforms of business environment and economic governance

### Coffee Break

### Session

15h30 – 16h15 **Claudio Pares Bengoechea** (Toulouse School of Economics – GREMAQ, France)  
Is it reasonable to allocate power to appointed regional authorities?  
*Discussant: Dasha Zubareva*

16h15 – 17h00 **Dasha Zubareva** (Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia)  
The Causes of Corruption in Russian Regions: Divergent Paths of Development  
*Discussant: Ulrike Stierle-von Schuetz*

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### Keynote

9h30 – 10h30 **Dieter Urban** (RWTH Aachen University and CESifo, Germany)  
Divergence - Is it Geography?

### Session

10h45 – 11h30 **Wolfgang Maennig and Michaela Ölschläger** (University of Hamburg, Germany)  
Third sector, innovative milieu, and regional competitiveness

11h30 – 12h15 **Markus Breuer and Benedikt Römmelt** (Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Germany)  
The demand for football tickets depending on the number of clubs in a city –  
Empirical evidence from Germany –  
*Discussant: Claudio Pares Bengoechea*

### Lunch

### Session

13h30 – 14h15 **Karolien De Bruyne and Jan van Hove** (K.U.Leuven, Belgium)  
Explaining the Spatial Variation in House Prices: An Economic Geography  
Approach  
*Discussant: Markus Breuer*

14h15 – 15h00 **Ulrike Stierle-von Schuetz** (RWTH Aachen University, Germany)  
Fragmentation and Regional Economic Performance: A Spatial Analysis for  
German Functional Regions  
*Discussant: Jan van Hove*

### Closing Remarks and End of Workshop