



26th October 2021

RESEARCH SEMINAR ECONOMIC HISTORY, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT*

We invite all researchers and students to discuss! The upcoming presentation takes place **Thursday 4th November 2021**:

Speaker:

[Dr. Matthias Mertens \(Halle Institute for Economic Research, IWH\)](#)

Title:

[European firm concentration and aggregate productivity](#)

This article derives a European Herfindahl-Hirschman concentration index from 15 micro-aggregated country datasets. In the last decade, European concentration rose due to a reallocation of economic activity towards large and concentrated industries. Over the same period, productivity gains from reallocation accounted for 50% of European productivity growth and markups stayed constant. Using country-industry variation, we show that changes in concentration are positively associated with changes in productivity and allocative efficiency. This holds across most sectors and countries and supports the notion that rising concentration in Europe reflects a more efficient market environment rather than weak competition and rising market power.

Date: 04.11.2021

Time: 15:30 (3:30 p.m.)

Place: online (Internet browser: Firefox or Chrome recommended)

Please contact Dr. Albers for link and password.

Contact for questions: Dr. Hakon Albers (hakon.albers@wiwi.uni-halle.de)

* https://iw.wiwi.uni-halle.de/research_seminar/. In cooperation with Prof. Fertig, Prof. Grieben, and Prof. Kopsidis.