

# Schwerpunktseminar

## The Political Effect of Media in Democracies and Autocracies

Dr Cathrin Mohr

June 2020

Media can influence political outcomes. There is a large empirical literature examining different aspects of the interactions between media and the behavior of political agents. In this seminar, we will analyze this literature to understand how media influence the behavior of citizens and politicians. There will be a special focus on understanding the differences and similarities of the role of media in autocratic and democratic states. We will cover both traditional offline media, such as radio and television, as well as modern media, i.e. the internet and social media.

### Literature

#### Biased Media

- Yuyu Chen and David Y Yang. The impact of media censorship: 1894 or brave new world? *American Economic Review*, 109(6):2294–2332, 2019
- Alan S. Gerber, Dean Karlan, and Daniel Bergan. Does the media matter? a field experiment measuring the effect of newspapers on voting behavior and political opinions. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 1(2):35–52, 2009. ISSN 19457782, 19457790. URL <http://www.jstor.org/stable/25760159>
- Maria Petrova. Newspapers and parties: How advertising revenues created an independent press. *American Political Science Review*, 105(4):790–808, 2011
- Bei Qin, David Strömberg, and Yanhui Wu. Media bias in china. *American Economic Review*, 108(9): 2442–76, September 2018. doi: 10.1257/aer.20170947

#### Media Coverage

- Michael Jetter. The inadvertent consequences of al-Qaeda news coverage. *European Economic Review*, 119:391–410, 2019
- Ruben Durante and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya. Attack when the world is not watching? us news and the israeli-palestinian conflict. *Journal of Political Economy*, 126(3):1085–1133, 2018

#### Social Media

- Ruben Enikolopov, Alexey Makarin, and Maria Petrova. Social media and protest participation: Evidence from russia. *Available at SSRN 2696236*, 2019
- Ruben Enikolopov, Maria Petrova, and Konstantin Sonin. Social media and corruption. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 10(1):150–74, 2018
- James M Snyder Jr and David Strömberg. Press coverage and political accountability. *Journal of political Economy*, 118(2):355–408, 2010

#### Television

- Charles Crabtree, David Darmofal, and Holger L Kern. A spatial analysis of the impact of west german television on protest mobilization during the east german revolution. *Journal of Peace Research*, 52(3): 269–284, 2015
- Ruben Durante, Paolo Pinotti, and Andrea Tesei. The political legacy of entertainment tv. *American Economic Review*, 109(7):2497–2530, 2019

- Ruben Enikolopov, Maria Petrova, and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya. Media and political persuasion: Evidence from russia. *American Economic Review*, 101(7):3253–85, 2011
- Stefano DellaVigna and Ethan Kaplan. The fox news effect: Media bias and voting. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122(3):1187–1234, 2007

## Radio

- Maja Adena, Ruben Enikolopov, Maria Petrova, Veronica Santarosa, and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya. Radio and the rise of the nazis in prewar germany. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130(4):1885–1939, 2015
- David Strömberg. Radio’s impact on public spending. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 119(1): 189–221, 2004

## Internet Access

- Luke Miner. The unintended consequences of internet diffusion: Evidence from malaysia. *Journal of Public Economics*, 132:66–78, 2015
- Filipe Campante, Ruben Durante, and Francesco Sobbrío. Politics 2.0: The multifaceted effect of broadband internet on political participation. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 16(4):1094–1136, 2018