

CALL FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

## PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMICS 2018

### FISCAL OPENNESS: TRANSPARENCY, PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN FISCAL POLICIES

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26 OCTOBER 2018 || ZAGREB, CROATIA

#### SUBJECT

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The Institute of Public Finance (IPF), Zagreb; International Budget Partnership (IBP), Washington; and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) are organizing a research and policy conference to be called **Public Sector Economics 2018 – Fiscal Openness: Transparency, Participation and Accountability in Fiscal Policies**. We invite submissions of theoretical, empirical and policy papers on these and related topics, including stances and trends in fiscal transparency and public participation in fiscal policies, measurement, determinants, and effects. Submissions can address these and related issues at cross-country, national and sub-national levels of government, in advanced as well as in emerging market economies.

#### RATIONALE

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Openness is recognized as an important feature of a good fiscal policy. By enhancing governments' accountability, citizens' trust, and reducing opportunities for corruption, greater fiscal openness may contribute to more efficient collection and distribution of public resources.

Researchers around the world and international organizations such as the International Monetary Fund, the OECD, the World Bank, the International Budget Partnership, the Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency and the Open Government Partnership are showing growing interest in fiscal openness. Although expanding, the field of inquiry is still new, and many basic questions remain open. Which aspects of fiscal openness should be targeted? Where does demand for fiscal openness come from? Why are some governments more fiscally open than others? What impact does greater fiscal openness actually have? What is the role of technology, in particular of the internet and social media, in generating the demand for more and better fiscal information? How can we harness technology to provide such information? How can countries without extensive experience in this area benefit from those that have seen positive effects of greater fiscal openness?

The IPF has been involved in research on fiscal openness, particularly with respect to budget transparency and public participation at national and sub-national levels. Currently the IPF is coordinating a project *Understanding, monitoring and analysing local government budget transparency: Case study of Croatia and Slovenia – Open Local Budget Index (OLBI)*, funded by the Croatian Science Foundation (IP-09-2014).

#### CONFERENCE OUTLINE

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*Keynote speeches* on current state and trends in fiscal openness and *sessions* on various fiscal openness aspects like:

- fiscal/budget transparency
- public participation in fiscal/budget processes
- government accountability in fiscal/budget processes
- national- and subnational-level approaches

- measurement
- determinants
- impact
- role of international organizations and movements
- role of technology
- the best practices and how to transfer them.

## PAPER SUBMISSION

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**Submissions of extended abstracts** (around 500 words) or finished papers by **15 May 2018**, to [PSE2018@ijf.hr](mailto:PSE2018@ijf.hr). Submissions must be in English and should include keywords as well as authors' full name(s) and affiliation(s) and contact details of the author in charge of correspondence.

**Acceptance for presentation** will be communicated no later than **31 May 2018**.

**Completed papers** are due by **15 October 2018**.

**There is no conference fee.** For more information, please visit the conference website at [www.ijf.hr/PSE2018](http://www.ijf.hr/PSE2018).

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

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James Alt, *Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University*

Francisco Bastida, *University of Murcia, Spain; American University of Armenia, Armenia*

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Francisco Bastida, *University of Murcia, Spain; American University of Armenia, Armenia*

Bernardino Benito, *University of Murcia, Spain*

Mihaela Bronić, *Institute of Public Finance*

Juan Pablo Guerrero, *Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency*

Paolo de Renzio, *International Budget Partnership*

Joachim Wehner, *London School of Economics and Political Science*

Ronnie Downes, *OECD*

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Mihaela Bronić, *Institute of Public Finance*

Marina Nekić, *Institute of Public Finance*

Katarina Ott, *Institute of Public Finance*

Branko Stanić, *Institute of Public Finance*

## PUBLICATION

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Participants are encouraged to submit their contributions to a **special conference issue of *Public Sector Economics***, which will be published in the months following the Conference. It is a quarterly academic journal publishing articles in the field of public sector economics (indexed in: Scopus, EconLit, RePEc, DOAJ, HRČAK, IBSS), using a double-blind peer review process, drawing referees from a wide pool of experts (see [the list](#)) and following the highest ethical standards (see [Ethical Guidelines](#)). The editorial and production processes ensure a quick turnaround of submissions and publication of accepted papers.

## SPONSOR

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European Commission Representation in the Republic of Croatia