

Dr. Nils Goldschmidt

Seminar: The Freiburg Tradition: Market, Competition and the State

(Integrated Master Program)

This seminar provides an overview of the perspective on market, competition and the state that has been developed within the tradition of the Freiburg School. In this tradition, competition is not believed to work automatically; rather, the state is assigned a crucial role in monitoring the proper functioning of competitive processes. Consequently, the ordoliberal approach aims at a constitutional economic policy that seeks to improve the resulting economic order in an indirect manner, by establishing appropriate rules of the game, by contrast to an economic policy that seeks to improve outcomes directly by way of specific interventions in the economic process. The seminar will cover the founding ideas of the Freiburg School, the links between the Freiburg School and the post-war “Soziale Marktwirtschaft” (Social Market Economy) as well as its relation to similar modern approaches in particular the contribution of F.A. Hayek and J.M. Buchanan.

The seminar will be held on one or two weekends in January (depending on the number of students). There will be a mandatory introductory session at the beginning of the semester. The seminar will be a text-based seminar; one class presentation is required, participation in class discussion, and a final term paper will be mandatory.

Prerequisites: Foundations of Economic Policy

Credits:

4 credits based on

- term paper 50%

- presentation 30%

- participation in class 20%

Registration by email to: goldschmidt@walter-eucken-institut.de

Registration by the 15th of October the latest!

Topics:

The allocation of topics takes place after the end of the registration period.