

WWZ Research Seminar

Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Basel

Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 16:15, ZOOM

Prof. Ross Levine, Berkeley Haas

"Competition Laws, Ownership, and Corporate Social Responsibility"

Abstract

Theory offers differing predictions about the impact of competition on corporate social responsibility (CSR). Using firm-level data on CSR from 2002 through 2010 and panel data on competition laws across countries, we discover that intensifying competition laws induces firms to increase CSR as a strategy for strengthening relationships with workers, suppliers, and customers and enhancing product differentiation. The CSR-enhancing effects of competition vary across (a) firms with different institutional investors, controlling owners, industry structures, industry product similarity, and financing constraints and (b) countries with different social attitudes toward CSR in ways that are consistent with the stakeholder and product differentiation theories.

All seminars are open to the public and take place via Zoom, hybrid, or on-site (subject to change). Non-faculty members, who would like to register for the seminars, please send an email to forschungsseminar-wwz@unibas.ch.

For updates (abstracts etc.) kindly visit <https://wwz.unibas.ch/en/research-seminar/>