

**Juniorprofessur Makroökonomik,
Fakultät für Wirtschaftswissenschaft, RUB
Jun.-Prof. Dr. Sanne Kruse-Becher
Winter Term 2021/2022**

Seminar in Advanced International Trade: “International trade and modern slavery”

SYLLABUS

The “Seminar in Advanced International Trade” deals with forced labor in the context of a globalizing world. On the one hand, trade has the potential to reduce poverty and inequality, thereby providing a basis against the use of forced labor, which is made possible due to extreme poverty. On the other hand, trade puts companies under competitive pressure, thereby incentivizing the search for ever cheaper workers and loopholes to circumvent local labor standards.

In this seminar, we take an encompassing look at the phenomenon of “Modern Slavery”. Thus, the seminar is an economics seminar, but open to interdisciplinary takes on the topic. In your seminar paper, you will find your own research question in the realm of one of the following topics.

Our seminar session encompasses student presentations and extended discussions on the grounds of your expertise and the mandatory reading material.

ORGANIZATION

The seminar is fully virtual and accompanied by a Moodle course, where students can share thoughts and ideas. You receive your final grade for the seminar paper in January 2022. The grade is based on your written work. Also, you have the chance to earn bonus points during the seminar (presentation and discussion), which correspond to up to 10% of your final grade.

Kick-Off Meeting: October 27th, 2021 (16pm)

Choice of Topic: November 1st, 2021

Submission of Extended Abstract for Peer Review (not graded): November 15th, 2021

Submission of Seminar Paper (15 pages): December 12th, 2021

Seminar Discussion: December 13th and 14th, 2021

Informal virtual Coffee-Meetings: October 29th, November 12th, December 10th (12:15 to 13:45)

TOPICS

1) Trade and poverty

P. K. Goldberg and N. Pavcnik, “The Effects of the Colombian Trade Liberalization on Urban Poverty,” in *Globalization and Poverty*, National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc, 2007, pp. 241–290.

2) Trade and (wage) inequality

J. Han, R. Liu, and J. Zhang, “Globalization and wage inequality: Evidence from urban China,” *Journal of International Economics*, vol. 87, pp. 288–297, 2012.

3) Trade and child labor

E. V. Edmonds and N. Pavcnik, “International trade and child labor: Cross-country evidence,” *Journal of International Economics*, vol. 68, no. 1, pp. 115–140, 2006, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jinteco.2005.01.003>.

4) Trade and informal labor markets

L. S. Paz, “The impacts of trade liberalization on informal labor markets: A theoretical and empirical evaluation of the Brazilian case,” *Journal of International Economics*, vol. 92, pp. 330–348, 2014.

5) Modern Slavery in the fishing industry

D. Tickler et al., “Modern slavery and the race to fish,” *Nature Communications*, vol. 9, no. 1, p. 4643, 2018.

MANDATORY READING (prior to Dec 13th, 2021):

- A. V. Banerjee and E. Duflo, “The Economic Lives of the Poor,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, vol. 21, no. 1, pp. 141–168, Mar. 2007, doi: 10.1257/jep.21.1.141.
- B. N. Pavcnik, “The Impact of Trade on Inequality in Developing Countries,” National Bureau of Economic Research, Working Paper 23878, Sep. 2017.
- C. J. Nolan and M. Boersma, *Addressing modern slavery*. Sydney: UNSW Press, 2019.

This is a preliminary outline and potentially subject to change.