

# VENICE SUMMER INSTITUTE 2023



Call for Papers  
CESifo Workshop on

## The Economic Analysis of Critical Junctures

to be held on **19 – 20 June 2023** on the island of San Servolo in the Bay of Venice, Italy

**Submission deadline:** 31 January 2023, midnight CET

The study of critical junctures – such as revolutions and democratic transitions – allows researchers to observe contexts in which key theoretical drivers of institutional change are varying “in real time”. In particular, in such settings the use of randomized controlled trials can shed light on the role of these factors in leading to institutional change, as well as in explaining the consequences of transitions. The analysis of critical junctures thus holds the promise of combining both the rigor of randomized evaluation to identify causal effects, and the deep understanding of mechanisms arising from engagement with the institutional setting.

Our workshop will bring together leading researchers using surveys, RCTs and field work to study institutional change during critical junctures. The work will combine modern and historical perspectives

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on crucial dimensions of state and institutional development, spanning a variety of topics ranging from state and fiscal capacity, the monopoly of violence, political representation, or citizen engagement. We expect the conference to inspire and guide work that implements RCTs to study “fundamental” economic and institutional change — a perspective that is particularly important as democracy is in retreat in many places, and many of the world's poor are likely to live in contexts of violence, weak states, and authoritarian politics.

## Organizers

**Michael Callen**, LSE

**Davide Cantoni**, LMU Munich

**David Y. Yang**, Harvard

**Noam Yuchtman**, LSE

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## Submission & Publication

We accept online submissions only. To submit a paper or extended abstract please click here:

<https://ifo-cesifo-events.org/frontend/index.php?sub=146>

**Submission deadline:** 31 January 2023, midnight CET.

Authors of accepted papers will be notified by the end of February 2023.

Contact [office@cesifo.de](mailto:office@cesifo.de) for assistance should you have any technical difficulties when submitting.

All conference papers will be published as **CESifo Working Papers**.

Presented papers can be revised after the workshop to include comments.

CESifo will provide accommodation, and will reimburse economy travel costs, for all participants with accepted papers. CESifo Research Network members are invited to participate but are expected to provide their own funding for travel and accommodation.

**For more information, please consult [www.cesifo.org/venice](http://www.cesifo.org/venice)**