



ECONOMIC GROWTH CENTRE

Division of Economics
School of Humanities & Social Sciences

The Division of Economics and the Economic Growth Centre under Asia One Foundation Lecture Series cordially invite you to a seminar by Professor Mehmet Huseyin Bilgin

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- Speaker** : **Professor Mehmet Huseyin Bilgin**
Professor from the Department of Labor Economics at the Faculty of Economics at Istanbul University
- Topic** : **"The Impact of 2008 Financial Crisis on Firms Productivity: Evidence from Eastern Europe "**
- Chairperson** : **Assistant Professor Laura Wu**
*Assistant Professor, Division of Economics
School of Humanities & Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University*
- Date** : **Wednesday, 27 August 2014**
- Time** : **2:30 pm – 3:30 pm**
- Venue** : **HSS Conference Room, Level 5 (HSS-05-57)**
*Nanyang Technological University
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
14, Nanyang Drive
Singapore 637332*

About the Speaker:

Prof. Dr. Mehmet Huseyin Bilgin graduated from the Department of Labor Economics at the Faculty of Economics at Istanbul University where he also earned a M.A. degree in Labor Economics. Professor Bilgin received his Ph.D from the Department of Economics at Abant Izzet Baysal University in 2000 when he also became an assistant professor. In 2005, he started serving as an associate professor in macroeconomics and became a full professor at the Department of International Economic Integration in 2011. He taught at Kadir Has University between 2000-2011 and served as the head of the Department of International Finance at the same university during 2009-2011. Since 2011, he has been teaching at Faculty of Political Sciences at Istanbul Medeniyet University and concurrently serves as a part-time professor at Yeditepe University. He also held several visiting faculty positions such as visiting professor and visiting researcher at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), USA; Jacksonville University, USA, and Zagreb University, Croatia.

Professor Bilgin has many articles published in reputed journals indexed by international scientific databases and research papers presented at international conferences as well as published academic books, plenty of articles both published and presented at the conferences on a national scale. He is involved in administration of various national and international scholarly institutions and takes part in various boards of the academic journals. He is the founder of Istanbul Economic Research Association and currently serves as the Chairman. He is also the founder of an international scholarly association called EBES (Eurasia Business and Economics Society) and currently serves as the Vice President. He has also been active as a consultant in several institutions, a newspaper columnist, and featured in several television programs.

Abstract:

This study examines the impact of 2008 financial crisis on firms productivity in Latvia, Lithuania, and Romania by using the World Bank's Enterprise Financial Crisis Survey data. The World Bank carried out the survey to have a short, quick, and cost-efficient evaluation of the effect of the 2008 global financial crisis on companies in European and Central Asian countries. We find that different firm-specific variables affect the firm's productivity in Latvia, Lithuania, and Romania. Firms benefited from huge market potential and this location proximity to capital city can improve the chance of being less affected from the crisis only in Latvia. On the contrary to the findings for Latvia, the capital city variables are not statistically significant for firms in Lithuania and Romania. Working capital financing matters for firms in Latvia and Lithuania while short-term leverage is important for firms in Lithuania and Romania. More interestingly, we observe that R&D expenses may not be able to improve firms' performance at the time of financial crisis.

Reservation:

Admission is free. Please reply to Director-EGC, e-mail: d-egc@ntu.edu.sg to confirm your attendance.