

OSTROM WORKSHOP COLLOQUIUM SERIES

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“Who Knows Better on the Rule of Law?”

Monday, NOVEMBER 5, 2018

12:00–1:00 PM • Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park

In the spirit of Hayek (1945), this paper explores in survey data how knowledge on rule-of-law institutions is distributed among experienced and inexperienced individuals. Relying on the 102 national surveys used by the World Justice Project’s Rule of Law 2015 Index, it first identifies which factors determine the demand for rule-of-law services in contract, criminal, administrative, and labor law. It then observes that those individuals who have had experience with such services evaluate more negatively their performance than the general population, what causes substantial changes in cross-country rankings. Results support that experienced respondents do hold substantial additional knowledge, arguably valuable when evaluating and designing institutions. Furthermore, the impact of experience on stated performance perceptions is bigger than those of more general factors such as education and relative wealth.



[Benito Arruñada](#) is professor of business organization at Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain. Former president of the Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics, his research lies in the conjunction of law, economics, and organization and focuses on the organizational conditions that facilitate impersonal exchange, covering from moral systems to property titling and business formalization. Author of *Institutional Foundations of Impersonal Exchange* (University of Chicago Press, 2012), where he explains how public registries strengthen property rights and reduce transaction costs, analyzes the main tradeoffs in their organization, and proposes a set of principles and policies for successfully developing them. He has advised international agencies, governments, and multinational corporations. Member of the Social Science Advisory Panel of the American Law Institute’s Restatement (Fourth) of the Law of Property project.

Presentations are open to the public and are live streamed (see our website for URL and papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).