

OSTROM WORKSHOP COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Robert Kravchuk

*O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs
Indiana University*

“Elements of a Post-Keynesian Public Finance: Contributing Concepts from Modern Monetary Theory—Concept for a Book”



Monday, December 2, 2019

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

This intended work presents the Modern Monetary Theory (MMT) perspective on modern governmental finance for monetarily-sovereign governments. Such governments face extremely “soft” budget constraints: they issue and regulate the value of their own currencies, possess central banks that function as the fiscal agents of their government treasuries, are able to issue sovereign debt denominated in their domestic currency in world capital markets, and operate in a system of freely-floating currency exchange rates. Monetarily-sovereign, they are able to make all debt service payments, virtually without regard to their level of outstanding debt; they cannot be forced to default against their will. These conditions describe, in precise terms, the fiscal position of the U.S. Federal Government. As such, the existence of an ultra-soft U.S. government budget constraint is grounded in extremely favorable conditions of money and credit, which it has, in fact, created and nurtured for itself since the Second World War. An important implication is that the budgeting literature can never again ignore the macroeconomics and the administration of sovereign currency regimes, nor the monetary economics that ungirds it.

~ TM

By education, training, professional experience, and personal inclination [Professor Kravchuk](#) possesses an interdisciplinary perspective, skills, and knowledge of the literature relevant to the proposed research. Kravchuk has served in the public and private sectors, both domestically and abroad. His experience includes significant roles in state government, as well as long service in academe. His training is in public and private finance (MPA, MBA), and political science (MA, PhD). Over a 30-year career, he has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in public finance, public administration, state & local government, organization theory, and large scale change. Further, he has been a consultant to numerous domestic and foreign governments on issues ranging from strategic planning, organizational structure, program performance measures, budgeting and finance.

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).