



Wittgenstein Centre


FOR DEMOGRAPHY AND  
GLOBAL HUMAN CAPITAL



The hybrid seminar will be held  
online via Zoom and in person at  
Vordere Zollamtsstraße 3, 1030 Vienna  
(FFP2 mask & 2G certificate required)

## WIC Hybrid Colloquium

### Projections of Skills-Adjusted Human Capital and the Effect of COVID-19 on Adult Skills

Wednesday, June 22nd, 2022   
14:00-15:00 (CEST)

Please click [here](#) to register online.  
Login information will be sent to registered  
participants shortly before the presentation.

#### Caner Özdemir

Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University, Turkey

Together with colleagues at the Human Capital Data Lab, we extend Skills-in-Literacy Adjusted Mean Years of Schooling (SLAMYS), a recently released human capital indicator. Estimates of SLAMYS between 1970 and 2015 have shown that being in school does not necessarily mean learning. Moreover, the gap between years of schooling and SLAMYS varies considerably between countries. Using both international student assessment data and international adult skills data, we extend SLAMYS until 2050 for 45 countries, applying projections for the working-age population in 5-year-time-periods from 2015 to 2050. Our projections indicate a further widening global gap in learning and in adult skills. We also incorporate the learning loss during the school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Projections indicate that COVID-related skill loss may eliminate progress gained in the last 20-30 years. Our projections call for urgent action to mitigate learning losses due to school closures during the pandemic.

#### About the presenter

Caner Özdemir is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Labor Economics and Industrial Relations at Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University, Turkey. He had his BSc in Statistics and MSc in Social Policy from Middle East Technical University, Turkey where he also got his PhD in Sociology. He teaches and publishes on topics including sociology of education, social inequalities, and social mobility. He is a participating member of ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification and ESA Research Network on Sociology of Education.

The Wittgenstein Centre is a collaboration among the Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW), the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the University of Vienna.

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