

VID Colloquium

Vienna Institute of Demography
Welthandelsplatz 2 / Level 2
Nathan Keyfitz Library
1020 Vienna

Thomas Plümer

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Wednesday, 30. November 2016
2:00 - 3:00 pm

"Spatial Inequality in Premature Mortality in Great Britain"

Premature mortality exhibits strong spatial patterns in Great Britain. Local authorities that are located further North and West, that are more distant from its political center London and that are more urban tend to have a higher propensity to die prematurely. Premature mortality also tends to cluster among geographically contiguous and proximate local authorities. We develop a novel analytical research design that relies on spatial pattern recognition. We demonstrate that an empirical model that contains only socioeconomic variables can eliminate the spatial patterns in premature mortality in 2012-14 for both men and women almost entirely and never less than 80 percent. Policy-makers cannot hope that health policies alone suffice to significantly reduce inequalities in health. Rather, it requires strong efforts to reduce the inequalities in socioeconomic factors, or living conditions for short, in order to overcome the spatial disparities in health, of which premature mortality is a clear indication..

About the presenter

Thomas Plümer is Professor of Quantitative Social Research at the Vienna University of Economics, Vice-President of the European Political Science Association, and a research fellow at CAGE, University of Warwick, and PRIO, Norway. Plümer published in Political Science, Economics, Geography, Public Administration, Public Health, and Social Science Methodology journals. He has also written a book on 'Robustness Tests for Quantitative Research' which is forthcoming with Cambridge University Press. recently, his applied research focuses on natural disasters, terrorism and counterterrorism, premature mortality, tax competition, panel data analysis, and spatial econometrics, among others.