Seminar Regulatory Impact Assessment

Students will become familiar with one of the most widely applied tools of improving law-making. But they also will learn about the pros' and cons' particularly of alternatives to the conventional measures of welfare as well as related policy tools.

The main topic is Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA). Regarding measures of wellbeing the seminar will start with overviews over Cost-Benefit-Analysis, Cost-Effectiveness-Analysis, Welfare Criteria, alternatives such as Happiness, the Precautionary Principle and Feasibility Analysis. Then the principles of Regulatory Impact Analysis as well as the Standard Cost Model (cutting back red tape for private businesses) will be discussed.

Guidance and examples will be provided by scholarly experts.

Grading: Students will be requested to present a paper from the reading-list and to develop a structure for a RIA for one problem they can select from a sample of case-studies.

Seminar Recent Developments in the Economic Analysis of Public Law

Students will become familiar with scholarly work and state of the art research, including the behavioral approach to law and economics, the emerging focus on “nudging” and so on, so that they can see the applicability and flexibility of the law and economics approach for analysis. Moreover they also improve their critical perception of the approach.

Speakers will be renown scholars and Vienna university faculty.

The format is lectures and discussions. For grading students are invited to write a critical comment on a presentation of their choice. Moreover they are requested to observe actual lawmaking and report issues in the seminar, of which the students are sure that they must undergo scrutiny.