



KATEDRA HOSPODÁRSKEJ POLITIKY



CENTRUM PRE EKONÓMIU A FINANČIE



NÁRODNÁ BANKA SLOVENSKA
EUROSYSTEM



BRATISLAVA ECONOMIC SEMINAR

June 4, 2014

Giacomo Corneo

Free University of Berlin, CEPR London, CESifo Munich, IMK Düsseldorf, IZA Bonn

Democratic Redistribution and Rule of the Majority

Abstract

Does redistribution in democracies cater to the will of the majority? We resort to the median-voter theorem and exploit international survey data in order to answer that question. We find that the median-voter theorem provides an acceptable first approximation to how redistribution is determined, provided the theorem is not restricted by assuming that voters are guided by pecuniary motives alone. However, a non-negligible share of democracies violates the theorem and implements some minority-backed redistributive policy. Those violations cannot be explained by political absenteeism of the poor. Rather, they are explained by the electoral bundling of redistribution with issues that pertain to societal conflicts over values and rights.

Venue: University of Economics in Bratislava, room C1_07 (new building)
Dolnozemska cesta 1, Bratislava

Date: June 4, 2014

Program: 14:50 registration
15:00 Giacomo Corneo: Democratic Redistribution and Rule of the Majority
16:30 coffee