

# Abstracts

*Tim Spier*

## **Individual-level Determinants of Factionalism in German Parties**

An Empirical Analysis of the Membership in Intra-party Wings and Currents

Factionalism in political parties is mostly seen as a result of macro-level influences. The individual-level determinants of the membership in intra-party wings and currents have been neglected by empirical research so far. This study addresses this research gap by transferring the explanatory approaches of research on participation in general to the subject and putting them to an empirical test using data from the German Party Membership Study 2009. It is shown that membership in factions is explained in particular by political interest, internal political efficacy, an ideological motivation and the perceived ideological distance to one's own party.

*Mario Haim*

## **Party Prices**

On the influence of motivation on the behavior of political stock market participants

Political Stock Markets (PSM) are said to be a reliable forecasting method for elections. They thus experience increasing media interest. Yet, due to a presumed media influence on people's intention to vote, media coverage regularly leads to manipulative attacks on PSM's. That is, participants try to affect prices and, thus, forecasts through tactical trading. However, even without manipulative objectives, previous findings suggest various biases affecting the trader's decisions and, hence, forecast quality. The present study assumes trader motivation to be an indicator for their objectives and their market behavior. Therefore, a multi-method design is applied: First, a quantitative survey among PSM participants was conducted. Second, qualitative interviews with PSM managers were carried out. Results indicate a discrepancy between various trading objectives (manipulation v. entertainment). Moreover, findings show strong relationships between the participant's (biased) stock portfolio and their political attitude. Recommendations for PSM managers are discussed.

*Bastian Vollmer*

### **Deliberation – An Empirical Analysis of the Trialog “Energy Transition”**

This article examines the Trialog “Energy Transition” at the HUMBOLDT-VI-ADRINA School of Governance and tests it for deliberation. Using the discourse quality index (DQI), the quality of the discourse evolving in the Trialog, that is the level of deliberation, will be measured and evaluated. Transcribed proceedings of the Trialog generated a large text corpus from which certain dataset was selected: the particularly contested theme of market vs. regulation. The level of deliberation in the arena of discussion Trialog “Energy Transition” was evaluated as very high. The article attests that the level of deliberation was higher than in other arenas of discussion such as the national parliaments of Germany and Switzerland.