

Venice Summer Institute

Managing the State: A New Look at Bureaucrats and Public Administration

24 - 25 June 2026 | San Servolo, Venice

Scientific Organizers: Nadja Dwenger, Florian Englmaier and Anna Gumpert
Presenting authors are denoted in slanted letters.

Program

Wednesday, 24 June 2026

9:00 – 9:05 **Welcome and Introductions by Scientific Organizers**
Nadja Dwenger (University of Hohenheim), Florian Englmaier (LMU Munich), and Anna Gumpert (University of Tuebingen)

Session 1: Information and Implementation

9:05 – 9:35 **State Capacity: Measurement and Impacts Using AI**
Michael Best (Columbia)

9:35 – 10:05 **The Value of Information for Regulatory Enforcement**
Silvia Vannutelli (Northwestern & Sciences Po)

10:05 – 10:35 **Standardizing Policy Implementation: Evidence from Progressive Era Naturalizations**
Guo Xu (UC Berkeley)

10:35 – 11:00 Coffee Break

Session 2: Organization

11:00 – 11:30 **Do Incentives and Organizational Innovations Affect the Performance of Public Administrations? Lessons from the Italian NRRP**
Audinga Baltrunaite (Bank of Italy), Antonio Accetturo, Elena Lazzaro, Anna Laura Mancini

11:30 – 12:00 **The Implementers of Industrial Policy: Bureaucrats and the Korean Export Miracle**
Philipp Barteska (Hong Kong University), Jay Euijung Lee

12:00 – 12:30 **Police Organization and Police Performance**
Arianna Ornaghi (Hertie School), Elisa Facchetti, Eddy Zou

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

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Session 3: Geography

- 14:00 – 14:30 **Not Incentivized Yet Productive: Working From Home in the Public Sector**
Alessandra Fenizia (The George Washington University), Tom Kirchmaier
- 14:30 – 15:00 **Managers and the Organization of Remote Work**
Erika Deserranno (Bocconi University), Silvia Vannutelli, Maria De Paola
- 15:00 – 16:00 Afternoon Coffee Break and Group Picture

Session 4: Policy Panel

- 16:00 – 18:00 *Jean-Marc Atsebi (IMF), Colin Kuehnhanns (European Commission), Monika Schnitzer (LMU Munich), Filippo Teoldi (The Economist)*
- 19:30 Conference Dinner

Thursday, 25 June 2026

Session 5: Complexity

- 9:00 – 9:30 **Negotiating Taxes**
Eva Davoine (UC Berkeley), Sebastien Laffitte
- 9:30 – 10:00 **Grant Uptake and Public Investment in Municipalities: The Cost of Complexity**
Sarah Necker (ifo Institute), Sebastian Blesse, Leon Högner
- 10:00 – 10:30 **Management and Performance in the Public Sector: Evidence from German Municipalities**
Gerd Mühlheusser (University of Hamburg), Florian Englmaier, Andreas Roeder, Niklas Wallmeier
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

Session 6: Incentives and Discretion

- 11:00 – 11:30 **Scaling Teacher Performance Contracts in Rwanda: An Adaptive, Experimental Study in the Rwandan Imihigo System**
Clare Leaver (Oxford University), Leo Mfura, Owen Ozier, Pieter Serneels, Andrew Zeitlin

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- 11:30 – 12:00 **Signal Extraction in Hiring: Evidence from Teacher Recruiting**
Gianmarco León-Ciliotta (University Pompeu Fabra & BSE), Matteo Bobba, Tim Ederer, Christopher A. Neilson, and Marco Nieddu
- 12:00 – 12:30 **Process or Progress: A Theory of Demosclerosis**
Luis Garicano (LSE) and Tim Besley
- 13:00 [Lunch and Departure](#)
- [End of Conference](#)