



Peer-to-Peer Markets: Airbnb and the Accommodation Industry

Wednesday, December 12

Room 457/458 (4th floor) - Department of Economics, University of Mannheim, L7, 3-5

68161 Mannheim

The goal of this workshop is to advance our understanding of peer-to-peer markets, as well as their impact on traditional providers, with a focus on Airbnb and the accommodation industry. The rapid growth of Airbnb is often attributed to a business model which uses technology to create markets for surplus resources. But part of the success of these online platforms may also come from the parallel legal universe they inhabit. Concerns about fair competition have grown with the size of these platforms. While it started as a platform for hosts to make some extra cash on the side by occasionally renting out spare rooms, entrepreneurs spied a more lucrative opportunity: acquiring a portfolio of empty properties and offering them as a direct, often cheaper, competitor to hotels, with consequences on sale prices of properties and long-term rentals. The workshop encourages a discussion on these themes and a reflection on relevant research questions on the topic.

Program

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All sessions take place in room 458 (4th floor) at the Department of Economics, University of Mannheim, L7, 3-5

10:00-12:30	Arrival and Registration (Room TBA) Time for collaborative research
12:30-13:45	Lunch
13:45-14:00	Welcome Address Laura Grigolon
14:00-15:20	Session 1 Chair: Andrew Bibler
14:00-14:40	<i>Market Power and Mergers in Multi-Sided Markets</i> Mark J. Tremblay (Miami University)
14:40-15:20	<i>Inside the Engine Room of Digital Platforms: Reviews, Ratings, and Recommendations</i> Martin Peitz (University of Mannheim)
15:20-15:40	Coffee Break
15:40-17:20	Session 2 Chair: Mark Tremblay
15:40-16:20	<i>Inferring Tax Compliance from Pass-through: Evidence from Airbnb Tax Enforcement Agreements</i> Keith F. Teltser (University of Louisville)
16:20-17:00	<i>Hotel Rankings of Online Travel Agents, Channel Pricing and Consumer Protection</i> Ulrich Laitenberger (Telecom ParisTech)
17:00-17:40	<i>Airbnb and Rental Prices: Evidence from Berlin</i> Kevin Ducbao Tran (DIW Berlin)
19.00	Workshop Dinner

Directions

Traveling by Train and Tram

To get to the university from Mannheim central station, you can take tramlines 1, 2, 4a, 5, 5a, 6, 6a, and 15, or bus route 60 to the stations, Schloss or Universität.

Walking from Mannheim Main Station

The walk from the station to the place where the university is located (the Schloss) takes around ten minutes.

