

## **Call for papers**

### **Journal of Economics and Statistics (Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik)**

**Special issue:** Industrial Relations: Worker Codetermination and Collective Wage Bargaining

#### **Guest Editors:**

- Steffen Müller, IWH and University of Magdeburg
- Claus Schnabel, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg

#### **Topic**

Unions and works councils are the corner stones of the industrial relations systems in many developed economies. Germany stands out as a country with very strong works councils and a substantial coverage by sector-level wage agreements. The German case has attracted substantial attention in the academic literature, which also has to do with the country's high productivity and comparably few strikes. However, industrial relations systems in many countries have come under pressure and declining union coverage and an increasing share of workplaces without codetermination mirror this development. New technologies, outsourcing, and flexible work arrangements change people's everyday work and the framework for worker participation and wage negotiation. At the same time, industrial relations systems adapt and become more flexible, e.g. by including opening clauses in union contracts.

We would like to invite researchers to submit both theoretical and empirical contributions that cover topics such as:

- Incidence and causes of coverage by collective wage agreements and works councils
  - Quantitative development of coverage rates over the last decades and its causes
  - Current developments in industrial relations (e.g. opening clauses, erga omnes clauses, alternative modes of participation, legislative changes)
  - Current and future challenges for the industrial relations system (e.g. digitalization, globalization, atypical employment)
  - International comparisons of industrial relations systems
- The effect of works councils and collective agreements on
  - Productivity, profits, and plant failure
  - Wages and wage inequality (within and between firms)
  - Strike incidence and duration
  - Vocational and further employer provided training
  - Worker mobility, job satisfaction and further job characteristics

All papers will be refereed by one guest editor and two anonymous referees; they should be submitted in English to: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jbnst>.

#### **Dates:**

Submission of full papers: before December 1, 2017

Feedback from referees: around April 1, 2018

Submission of revised papers: before August 1, 2018