

Intersections Monthly Lecture Series Department of Liberal Arts

Impact of governance institutions on foreign direct investment inflows: Evidence from a global sample



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Thursday, 29th September 2022
Room B 205, Academic Block
11 am–12 am

Economic and political theories postulate that good quality governance institutions in recipient countries increase foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows. However, the large empirical literature is still unsettled and ambiguous. This talk will examine the impact of governance institutions on FDI inflows in 117 countries, comprising both developed and developing countries for the period 2002-2019. Our panel regression results imply that not all types of institutions are significant predictors of FDI inflows. Types of institutions matter across countries of different income groups. Moreover, we find that the host countries' economic growth, trade openness, and resource availability influence FDI inflows. Governments in the capital-scarce and/or technology-scarce countries in need of FDI to shore up their economic growth path have a clear policy imperative to boost the quality of governance institutions in their jurisdictions to attract more FDI inflows.

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