

**Seminar on Economic Geography – Summer Term 2018**

## **GEOGRAPHY OF TRANSNATIONAL PRODUCTION NETWORKS**

**Course Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Claes G. Alvstam, University of Gothenburg, Sweden**

**Course Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Martina Fuchs, University of Cologne**

### **Course Objectives:**

The course focuses on the continuous fragmentation of production of goods and services in the global economy, investigating the shift from “trade in products” to “trade in tasks”. It comprises the contemporary research of the emerging global value chains at the regional as well as at the global level. Furthermore it aims at giving an increased understanding of the process of technology and knowledge upgrading along the global value chain, and of the interaction between the foreign multinational enterprise and the local host-country supplier. In this context a number of mutually integrated themes, such as the “global-local” question, the complex internal geographies of the TNC (control and coordination, location of different corporate functions, the impact of multilateral vs. regional preferential trade agreements etc.) are discussed and analyzed. In parallel, the course aims at extending the understanding of the intricate and complex “bargaining” relationship between states and TNCs, as seen from a geographical perspective. Emerging markets in Asia, particularly China, are taken as illustrative cases.

### **Dates & Location:**

April 16, 2-3.30 pm in room 524, WiSo building

May 22-25, 10 am - 5 pm in room 524, WiSo building

***Important Notice: Participation in the preparatory meeting on April 16, 2 - 3.30 pm in room 524 (WiSo building) is mandatory!***

### **Registration:**

Please register via KLIPS 2!

### **Key reading:**

Baldwin, R. (2016) *The Great Convergence: Information Technology and the New Globalization*. Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press.

Coe, N.M. and Yeung, H.W-C., (2015), *Global Production Networks: Theorizing economic development in an interconnected world*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Dicken, Peter, *Global Shift*, (2015), *Mapping the Changing Contours of the World Economy 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*, London: SAGE Publications.