The Internet and Mass Protest in Autocracies

In the aftermath of the Arab Spring, many observers argued that Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), notably the Internet, played a key role for the mobilization of popular uprisings. Inspired by these accounts, we investigate the influence of Internet connectivity on the dynamics of anti-regime protests in autocratic regimes. Using new, fine-grained data on Internet penetration and a new event database on protest, we show that Internet penetration reduces the incidence of protest, but can catalyse ongoing episodes of protest once they have started.

Montag, 03. Juli 2017, 17:30 - 19:00 Uhr; M 2.31
Alle sind herzlich eingeladen!