



Banka Slovenije

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the Research Centre of the School of Economics and Business

invites you to a seminar

Do Test Scores Help Teachers Give Better Track Advice to Students? A Principal Stratification Analysis

Co-author and speaker:

Andrea Ichino

Full Professor, Department of Economics, University of Bologna

The seminar will be held in the Great Hall of Banka Slovenije on Friday, 16 January 2026 at 14:00 CEST

Abstract:

The authors, Andrea Ichino, Fabrizia Mealli, and Javier Viviens, study whether access to standardized test scores improves the quality of teachers' secondary school track recommendations, using Dutch data and a metric based on Principal Stratification in a quasi-randomized setting. Allowing teachers to revise their recommendations when test results exceed expectations increases the share of students successfully placed in more demanding tracks by at least 6%, but misplaces 7% of weaker students. However, only implausibly high weights on the short-term losses of students who must change track because of misplacement would justify prohibiting test-score-based upgrades. Access to test scores also induces fairer recommendations for immigrant and low-SES students.

About the speaker:

Andrea Ichino graduated from Bocconi University in 1985 and received his Ph.D. from MIT in 1990. He has taught at Bocconi University in Milan, at the European University Institute in Fiesole, and at the University of Bologna, where he is currently based. His research interests include labour economics, the economics of education, and microeconometrics. He is a Research Fellow at CEPR, CESifo, and IZA, and has served as Managing Editor of Economic Policy.

How to sign up:

To sign up for the seminar, please send an email to seminar@bsi.si. You can sign up by Wednesday, 14 January 2026. The seminar will be held in English.