

Quality matters

AT CAGE, WE PRIDE OURSELVES on doing cutting-edge research that is policy-relevant. In a world where the media elevate all kinds of people to the level of experts, it fills us with pride to see the work of our colleagues being rewarded with distinguished awards that publicly recognise their work as outstanding.

Starting in 2013, the British Academy has annually awarded the Wiley Prize in Economics to one UK-based economist who completed their doctorate no more than six years ago. In the last three years, the Wiley Prize has been awarded to two CAGE researchers here at Warwick. Given the immense competition across the UK, this is a great achievement indeed. Following our colleague James Fenske's success two years ago, this year Mirko Draca won the Wiley Prize in Economics "for his promising early-career work in economics, especially for his work on the effect of Chinese imports." Mirko's work covers a broad set of economic issues, all published in leading academic journals. High-quality research is the basis for sound policy advice. Mirko has given policy briefings in London and Brussels on the economics of crime as well as on the role of lobbying in political decision making. He is just one example of how CAGE combines high-quality research with sound policy advice.

CAGE also seeks and receives high-quality advice. The CAGE Advisory Board advises us on how to reach out to policy-makers, media and society at large. Our biannual Advisory Board meetings start with a brief research presentation to give the board an update on our latest



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research. This generates lively debates not only about the academic side of the research, but also about how our research links to policy and society. Over the years the board has been the source of a series of innovations. For instance, the CAGE Policy Lecture in Economics was inspired by our Advisory Board. The inaugural CAGE Policy Lecture in Economics was given earlier this year in London by Professor Simon Johnson from MIT, formerly the International Monetary

Fund's Economic Counsellor (chief economist) and Director of its Research Department. This lecture will now be an annual high-profile event that bring the best of economics research to policy-makers, at the heart of London. Talking of high-quality advice: we are delighted that the Chair of our Advisory Board, Dame Frances Cairncross, has been awarded the British Academy's President's Medal "for her contributions to economic journalism and the pioneering way she has used economic and social science research in environmental, media, public policy and technology journalism."

Congratulations to Frances and Mirko! ◀

Sascha Becker
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