Emergency Constitutions: Who has them, who uses them, and are they effective?

Professor Stefan Voigt
Chair of Economic Analysis of Law, University of Hamburg

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Nine out of ten countries currently have emergency provisions written into their constitutions, here simply referred to as emergency constitutions. The nature of these provisions remains poorly understood. During this talk, three questions will be dealt with: (1) who has emergency constitutions? (2) When are they used, and (3) are they effective?

Professor Stefan Voigt is Chair of Economic Analysis of Law and the director of the Institute of Law & Economics at the University of Hamburg. He is a fellow with CESifo (Munich). His previous positions include chairs at the Universities of Marburg, Kassel and Ruhr-University Bochum. Professor Voigt has also been a fellow at the Institutes for Advanced Study in Berlin, in Greifswald, and at the University of Notre Dame. His research focuses on the economic effects of constitutions, particularly the economic effects of judicial institutions. Professor Voigt is one of the editors of Constitutional Political Economy and serves on the board of various journals, including Public Choice and International Review of Law & Economics. He has consulting experience with both the public and the private sector, and has worked for the World Bank, the European Commission, the OECD, and the European Round Table of Industrialists (ERT).