Anke Hoeffler’s research is in the areas of development and security. She is a widely cited social scientist and received an Alexander von Humboldt professorship, Germany’s highest award for international research. In February 2019 she left the University of Oxford and moved to the University of Konstanz in Germany where she has a chair in development policy in the Department of Politics and Public Administration. Prof. Hoeffler holds a DPhil in economics from the University of Oxford, an MSc in economics from Birkbeck College, University of London and a Diplom in Volkswirtschaftslehre from the University of Würzburg. Her research interests are wide ranging and interdisciplinary. Broadly, she is interested in the social causes of excess morbidity and mortality and uses mainly quantitative methods in her academic quest. Current research projects focus on: (1) the impact of interpersonal violence on development, in particular violence against children and women (2) the relationship between interpersonal & political violence (3) costs of violence.

Is Chinese Aid different?

China’s involvement in African countries has been criticized for being guided by self-interest rather than recipients’ needs or merits. In this paper, we compare China’s aid allocation behaviour to that of the fifth largest donor countries globally: France, Germany, Japan, the UK, and the USA. We use regression analysis and a rigorous variance decomposition method to measure the importance of various factors in predicting aid allocation. We find that donors differ markedly in how they allocate aid. While Germany, Japan, the US, and the UK assign high importance to recipients’ needs, France and China’s allocation models are for a large part driven by variables that relate to self-interest: trade relationships in the case of France, and the adherence to the ‘One-China policy’ in the case of China. Language is also an important factor for France and the UK, which tend to favour their former colonies, but also for China and the US, which favour English-speaking countries. In conclusion, the claim that China’s aid allocation is different must be qualified.

Research Seminar Political Science
You are cordially invited to the following seminar
Tuesday, 18 May from 10:00 – 11:00hrs, ONLINE via ZOOM

Is Chinese Aid different?