

[Working Papers](#)

Crime, Punishment and the Halo Effect of Corporate Social Responsibility

Harrison Hong & Inessa Liskovich

SHARE       

WORKING PAPER 21215

DOI 10.3386/w21215

ISSUE DATE May 2015

Three reasons are often cited for the value of corporate social responsibility: product quality signalling, delegated giving, and the halo effect. Previous tests cannot separate these channels because they focus on consumers, who value all three. We focus on prosecutors, who are only susceptible to the halo effect. Using Foreign Corrupt Practices Act enforcements, we find that social responsibility is associated with 2 million dollars less in fines, though it is uncorrelated with bribe characteristics and cooperation, which should entirely determine sanctions following Becker (1974). We show that this bias is likely a halo effect and not prosecutorial conflict of interest.

[Download a PDF](#)

[Information on access](#)

Acknowledgements and Disclosures

▼

Citation and Citation Data

▼

Related

TOPICS	Financial Economics
	Other
	Law and Economics
PROGRAMS	Corporate Finance
	Law and Economics
WORKING GROUPS	Behavioral Finance

More from the NBER

In addition to [working papers](#), the NBER disseminates affiliates’ latest findings through a range of free periodicals — the [NBER Reporter](#), the [NBER Digest](#), the [Bulletin on Health](#), and the [Bulletin on Entrepreneurship](#) — as well as online [conference reports](#), [video lectures](#), and [interviews](#).



Martin Feldstein Lecture, Summer Institute 2025
The Fiscal Future

N. Gregory Mankiw, Harvard University and NBER
July 10, 2025

2025, 17th Annual Feldstein Lecture, N. Gregory Mankiw, "The Fiscal Future"

FELDSTEIN LECTURE

PRESENTER: [N. GREGORY MANKIW](#)

N. Gregory Mankiw, Robert M. Beren Professor of Economics at Harvard University, presented the 2025 Martin Feldstein...



Methods Lecture, Summer Institute 2025
**Uncovering Causal Mechanisms:
Mediation Analysis and
Surrogate Indices**

Raj Chetty, Harvard University and NBER
Kosuke Imai, Harvard University
July 24, 2025



2025, Methods Lecture, Raj Chetty and Kosuke Imai, "Uncovering Causal Mechanisms: Mediation Analysis and Surrogate Indices"

PRESENTERS: [RAJ CHETTY](#) & [KOSUKE IMAI](#)

SlidesBackground materials on mediationImai, Kosuke, Dustin Tingley, and Teppei Yamamoto. (2013). "Experimental Designs...

A blue banner for a panel discussion. On the left, there are three circular headshots of the panelists: Oleg Itskhoki, Paul Krugman, and Linda Tesar. To the right of the headshots, the text reads: "International Trade and Macroeconomics, Summer Institute 2025", "Panel on The Future of the Global Economy", "Oleg Itskhoki, Harvard University and NBER", "Paul Krugman, City University of New York and NBER", "Linda Tesar, University of Michigan and NBER", and "July 8, 2025".

International Trade and Macroeconomics, Summer Institute 2025
Panel on The Future of the Global Economy
Oleg Itskhoki, Harvard University and NBER
Paul Krugman, City University of New York and NBER
Linda Tesar, University of Michigan and NBER
July 8, 2025

2025, International Trade and Macroeconomics, "Panel on The Future of the Global Economy"

PANEL DISCUSSION

PRESENTERS: [OLEG ITSKHOKI](#), [PAUL R. KRUGMAN](#) & [LINDA TESAR](#)

Supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant #G-2023-19633, the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation grant #20251294...

National Bureau of Economic Research

[Contact Us](#)

1050 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02138

[617-868-3900](tel:617-868-3900)

info@nber.org

webaccessibility@nber.org

[HOMEPAGE](#)

[Accessibility Policy](#)

[Diversity Policy](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

FOLLOW



© 2025 NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.