Public Money & Management ›

Volume 36, 2016 - Issue 7

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Information brokers and the use of budgetary and financial information by politicians: the case of Portugal

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Pages 515-520 | Published online: 27 Sep 2016

Cite this article https://doi.org/10.1080/09540962.2016.1237152

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Abstract

This paper analyses the intermediary role of the technical bodies that support the use of budgetary and financial information by central government politicians in Portugal. The main findings show that information brokers are playing a central role in preparing this information in a credible, simple and understandable way. However, even if not intentionally, the information they present can be biased. Politicians need to be aware that the information brokers they rely on may not be giving them ‘neutral’ information.

Keywords:

Central government | information brokers | information needs | politicians | technical intermediaries

Acknowledgements

This study was conducted at Research Center in Political Science (UID/CPO/0758/2013), University of Minho and supported by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology and the Portuguese Ministry of Education and Science.

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