

Curriculum Vitae

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Current Position

Associate Professor, IdEP, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland, 2012 - .
Department Head, IdEP, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland, 2015 - .
Vice-Dean, Faculty of Economics, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland, 2016 - .
Responsible of the Observatory for Public Finance and Energy (O-FPE), Università della Svizzera italiana, 2017 - .

Affiliations

CESifo Research Network, Fellow.
Center for Economic and Political Research on Aging (CEPRA), Fellow.
Swiss Public Administration Network (SPAN), Director.

Previous Positions

Assistant Professor, Mecop Institute, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland, 2008 - 2011.
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, York University, Canada, 2006 - 2010.
Visiting Scholar, IEB, University of Barcelona, Spain, 2009.
Visiting Professor, IAP, Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería, Nicaragua, 2008.
Visiting Scholar, CES, University of Munich, Germany, 2008.
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Economics, McMaster University, Canada funded by Swiss National Science Foundation, 2004 - 2006.
Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, 2001 - 2004.
Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, 2000 - 2004.
Lecturer, Departamento de Economía Aplicada, Universidad Centroamericana, Managua, Nicaragua, 1999 - 2000.
Lecturer, Facultad de Ciencias Comerciales, Universidad de Santiago, Chile, 1998.
Representative for Central America, Inecon S.A., Managua, Nicaragua 1998 - 2000.
Consultant, Inecon S.A., Santiago, Chile, 1996 - 1998.
Research Assistant, Department of Geography, McMaster University, Canada, 1996.
Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, McMaster University, Canada, 1995 - 1996.

Education

Ph.D. Economics, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, August 2004. (Thesis Committee : Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, Marius Brühlhart, Gebhard Kirchgässner)

Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics, Studienzentrum Gerzensee, 2002.

M.A. Economics, McMaster University, Canada, 1996.

B.A. Economics, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, 1995.

Fields of Interest

Public Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Applied Econometrics, Industrial Organization.

Publications

“Electoral Competition as a Determinant of Fiscal Decentralization” (with Marcelin Joanis). *Fiscal Studies* 37(2):285-300, 2016

“How to Tame Two Leviathans? Revisiting the Effect of Direct Democracy on Local Public Expenditure” (with Sergio Galletta). *European Journal of Political Economy* 39:82-93, 2015

“Highway to Economic Growth? Competition in Public Works Tenders in the Democratic Republic of Congo” (with Sergio Galletta and Agustin Redonda). *South African Journal of Economics* 83(2): 240-255, 2015.

“Pension Benefit Insurance and Pension Plan Portfolio Choice” (with Thomas Crossley). *Review of Economics and Statistics* 95(1): 337-341, 2013.

“Do Agglomeration Economies Reduce the Sensitivity of Firm Location to Local Taxes?” (with Marius Brühlhart and Kurt Schmidheiny). *Economic Journal* 122(563): 1069-1093, 2012.

“Risk Selection in Natural Disaster Insurance” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg). *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* 166:344-364, 2010.

“Underfunding of Defined Benefit Pension Plans and Benefit Guarantee Insurance - An Overview of Theory and Evidence“. *Canadian Public Policy* 34(s1):39-45, 2008.

“Vertical Versus Horizontal Tax Externalities: An Empirical Test” (with Marius Brühlhart). *Journal of Public Economics* 90(10-11): 2027-2062, 2006.

“Assessing the Efficiency of an Insurance Provider - a Measurement Error Approach” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg). *The Geneva Risk and Insurance Review* (formerly *Geneva Papers*) 30:15-34, 2005.

Invited Papers

“Survivre à la crise financière mondiale: la démocratie directe est-elle d'un quelconque secours?” *Télescope - Revue d'Analyse Comparée en Administration Publique* 20(1):61-76, 2014.

“Tax Competition and Direct Democracy in Local Public Finance - Empirical Work on Switzerland”. CESifo DICE Report 12(1):12-17, 2014.

“The Rise of Partial Decentralization and Shared Responsibility Federalism” (with Marcelin Joanis). IEB's World Report on Fiscal Federalism '09, 2010.

Working Papers

“Weathering the Global Financial Crisis - Is Direct Democracy of any Help?”. IdEP Economic Papers 2014/05.

“Elections and de facto Expenditure Decentralization in Canada” (with Marcelin Joanis, 2014). CESifo Working Paper 4791, IEP Economic Papers 2014/04.

“The Power to Pass on Taxes - A Test for Tax Shifting Based on Observables” (with Agustin Redonda and Anindya Sen, 2013). CESifo Working Paper 4265, USI Quaderno 13-01.

“Determinants of Fiscal Decentralization: Political Economy Aspects” (with Marcelin Joanis, 2010). Document de treball de l'IEB 2010/7.

“Hurricane Insurance in Florida” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, 2009). CESifo Working Paper 2768.

“Does Tax Competition Tame the Leviathan?” (with Marius Brühlhart, 2007). Working Paper #2007-07, York University; Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #07.09, Université de Lausanne, CEPR Discussion Paper 6512.

“Die Übernahme von Denner durch Migros verstösst gegen das Kartellgesetz“ (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, 2007). Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #07.02, Université de Lausanne.

“Disaster Insurance or a Disastrous Insurance - Natural Disaster Insurance in France” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, 2004), CESifo discussion paper #1303, Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #04.12, Université de Lausanne and Department of Economics Working Paper #2004-13, McMaster University.

“Der Bericht der Expertengruppe: 'Reform der Währungsordnung' - Eine kritische Würdigung” (with Thomas von Ungern-Sternberg, 2001). Cahiers de Recherche DEEP #01.06, Université de Lausanne.

Work in Progress

“Leverage in Public Private Partnerships” (with Laure Athias)

“Fiscal decentralization and Public Private Partnerships” (with Laure Athias)

“Horizontal and Vertical Tax Reaction Functions Across Federations”.

“Determinants of the Conversion from Defined Benefit to Defined Contribution Pension Plans in Canada”

Awards and Nominations

Prix de la Banque Cantonale Vaudoise for best thesis, 2005.

Prix Jean Charles Burnens for academic excellence in undergraduate studies, Université de Lausanne, 1995.

Grants and Fellowships

Division I Grant, Swiss National Science Foundation (co-applicant), 2015 - 2018.

Sinergia Grant II, Swiss National Science Foundation (co-applicant), 2014 - 2016.

Sinergia Grant, Swiss National Science Foundation (co-applicant), 2010 - 2013.

ProDoc, Swiss National Science Foundation, 2010 - 2013.

Empirical Project Grant, Swiss Public Administration Network (SPAN), 2009.

IEB Research Grant on Fiscal Federalism, University of Barcelona, 2009.

SSHRC Conference Travel Grant, York University, 2007.

Faculty of Arts Research Grant, York University, 2007 - 2008.

SSHRC Small Grant, York University, 2007.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, SEDAP, McMaster University, 2006.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Swiss National Science Foundation, extension to initial fellowship, 2005 - 2006.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Swiss National Science Foundation, 2004 - 2005.

Conference Presentations (last 5 years)

Empirical Micro Workshop, Banff, August, 2016.

IIPF Conference, Lake Tahoe, August, 2016.

SIEP Conference, Ferrara, September 2015.

IIPF Conference, Dublin, August 2015.

CEA Conference, Toronto, May 2015.

"Reforming Public Service Delivery", IDHEAP, Lausanne, May 2014.

"Federalism and Regional Policy Workshop", Siegen, April 2014.

IIPF Conference, Taormina, August 2013.

Swiss IO-Day, Berne, June 2013.

Conference on Fiscal Rules, CIRANO, Montreal, June 2013.

CESifo Area Conference Public Sector Economics, Munich, April 2013.

EPCS Conference, Zürich, April, 2013

CESifo Workshop on Political Economy, Dresden, December 2012.

CPEG Meeting, Montréal, October 2012.

Invited Seminars

2016 U Fribourg

2014 University College Dublin

2013 ETH Zürich, U Heidelberg

2012 U Lucerne, Koç U, U Fribourg

2011 U Augsburg, U Neuchatel, Cambridge U, ifo Munich

2010 U Brescia

2009 IEB, Barcelona

2008 IFS, London; U of Munich

2007 U of Berne, U of Lugano, U of Toronto

2006 U of St. Gallen, York U, U of Oklahoma, U of Alabama, U Carlos III, Guelph U, Ottawa U, U of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier U

2005 McMaster U, U of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, U of Leicester

Invited Talks

"Koooperation von NPO - ökonomische Aspekte am Beispiel der Public-Private Partnerships", invited lecture at "Internationales Verbände-Forum, Davos, March 2015.

"Estado, Economía y Políticas Públicas", invited lecture at Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería, Nicaragua, July 2008.

Central Europe Economic Forum, Toronto and Montreal, September 2007.

Professional Associations

International Institute of Public Finance (Member of Board of Management)

Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics (Member of Executive Committee, 2011 - 2017)

Teaching

Economia Pubblica II, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.

Introduzione alla Microeconomia Quantitativa (BA Economics), Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.

Political and Institutional Economics (MSc Public Policy), IDHEAP, University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

Industrial Organization (MSc Economics), HEC, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Advanced Microeconomics (MSc Public Policy), Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.

Public Economics (MSc Public Policy), Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.

Microeconomics (MSc Public Policy), Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.

Advanced Microeconomics (PhD), Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.
Industrial Organization (MSc Management), Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.
Public Economics II (graduate, topics in empirical public), York University, Canada.
Public Economics II (4th year, expenditure), York University, Canada.
Use of Economic Data (3rd year, econometrics), York University, Canada.
Intermediate Microeconomics II (Consumer Behaviour), McMaster University, Canada.
Introductory Microeconomics, McMaster University, Canada.
International Economics, Universidad Centroamericana, Nicaragua.
Principles in Economics, Universidad de Santiago de Chile.

Teaching Assistant for *Principles in Economics* and *Seminar on Applied Microeconomics*, Université de Lausanne.

Executive Teaching

Introductory Economics (co-instructor), NetMEGS, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2009 - 2013.
Public Economics (executive master in public policy), UNI, Nicaragua. 2008.

Referee

Annals of Actuarial Science, Australian Economic Papers, Canadian Journal of Economics, Canadian Public Policy, CESifo Economic Studies, Economica, European Economic Review, FinanzArchiv/Public Finance Analysis, Fiscal Studies, The Geneva Papers, International Journal of Health Care Finance and Economics, International Tax and Public Finance, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Public Economic Theory, Journal of Public Policy, Journal of Risk and Insurance, Journal of Urban Economics, National Tax Journal, Natural Hazards, Public Finance Review, Publius: The Journal of Federalism, Review of Economics and Institutions, Risk Management and Insurance Review, Structural Change and Economic Dynamics, Swiss National Science Foundation, Urban Studies.

PhD Supervision

Paolo Campli, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2015 -
Eleonora Lanzio, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2014 -
Edoardo Sterca, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2012 -
Agustin Redonda, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2010 - 2015
Sergio Galletta, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2010 - 2014

Dissertation Committees

Piera Bello, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2016
Christian Marti, University of St. Gallen (external), 2015
Maxime Clemenceau, IDHEAP, Université de Lausanne (external), 2014
Moreno Baruffini, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2014
Stefano Scagnolari, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2013
Laura Gonzalez, Università della Svizzera italiana (external), 2011
Simin Seury, York University, 2008 - 2009
Muhammad Cheema, McMaster University, 2005 - 2009

Master Thesis Supervision

Doris Gasser, Julien Mozzo, Aline Ducommun, Ingo Trede, Marco Tarchini, Veronika Litwan, Felix Schönenberger, Dario Gasparini

Seminar series co-organizer

Research Seminar in Economics, Università della Svizzera italiana, 2010 - 2012
York University, 2006 - 2008

Conference co-organizer

SSES, Lugano, 2016 (local organization committee)
IIPF, Lugano, 2014 (head of local organization committee).
YSEM, 2013 - (program committee)
SSES Congress, Lucerne, 2011 (program committee)
Private Pensions and Income Security in Old Age: An Uncertain Future, SEDAP
Hamilton, 2006.

Scientific Commissions

DSAS-SUPSI (Department of Management and Social Sciences, University of Applied
Sciences, Lugano), 2009 - 2015.
National Research Programme proposal "Lebensende", 2008.

Policy

Member of the Roundtable in Economics of the Canton Ticino (organized by the cantonal
department of finance), 2016.

Personal Information

Born: 09.02.1972
Citizenship: Swiss; married.
Personal interests: sports involving running after a ball (squash, tennis), travel, cinema,
languages.

Languages

German, French, English, Spanish and Italian (all speaking and writing).