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APPOINTMENTS & AFFILIATIONS

Associate Professor, Central European University (CEU), August 2023 -

Senior Researcher, University of Vienna, July 2024 -

Senior Fellow, Institute of Advanced Studies Vienna, July 2022 -

Research Affiliate, Democracy Institute Budapest, September 2022 -

Affiliate Faculty, Social Mind Center, CEU, November 2016 -

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of Maryland, College Park, 2015

Dissertation: "Economics of Society: Essays on Health, Marriage and Child Adoption"

M.S., University of Arizona, Tucson, 2008

M.A., Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2003

B.Com., Bangalore University, 2001

RESEARCH

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Seeding hope: Empirical Evidence of the Participatory Multiplier Effect in Central and Eastern Europe, with Centofanti, T. *accepted at Environmental Development*, November 2026.

Markets for Children: International Adoption, ART, and U.S. Foster Care, with Innes, R., *Review of Economics of the Household*, October 2025.

Leader and citizens participation for the environment: Experimental evidence from Eastern Europe, with Centofanti, T., *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, 2022*

Drain on your health: Sanitation externalities from dirty drains in India, with Rahman, T., & Dayal, V., *Review of Development Economics, 2022*

Air pollution trade-offs in developing countries: An empirical model of health effects in Goa, India, with Das, S., Dayal, & Uma, R., *Environment and Development Economics,* 2021.

Use of Weather Information for Agricultural Decision Making, with Frisvold, G., *Weather, Climate and Society*, 5(1), 55-69, 2013.

Book

Demystifying causal inference: Public Policy Applications with R, with Dayal, V., Springer, 2023.

Working Papers and Other Publications

From Enlightened Cameralism to Tax Compliance: Building Fiscal Capacity through Reciprocity, with Dorsch, M.

Paying Cash-for-Votes, with Tyran, J-R., in C. Bjornskov and R. Jong-A-Pin (eds.), *Elgar Encyclopedia of Public Choice*, 2025.

Electoral clientelism and vote buying, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics,* 2020.

Works-in-Progress

Votes are (not) for sale: Evidence from an Institutional Discontinuity in Southern India, with Tyran, J-R.

Fighting Cash-for-Votes: Information interventions, with Tyran, J-R.

Voice and Vote: Measuring democratic resilience, with Tyran, J-R.

No Country for Old Cows: Vigilante Enforcement, and the Incidence of Intolerance in India, with Singh J.

Give or Take: Experimental examination of bribery vs. extortion, with Innes, R.

PAST EMPLOYMENT† / SERVICE‡ / VISITS

Visiting Scholar, Sciences Po, October 2024

Visiting Scholar, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi, August 2023

‡ CIVICA (WP3 subtask lead), Collaborative Experimental platform, Feb. 2021 - Dec. 2023

Visiting Scholar, King Center on Global Development, Stanford University, USA, July 2023

Visiting Professor, Center for Development Studies, India, December 2022

Visiting Professor, Universitá Bocconi, Italy, November 2022

‡ Lead Author (Economics), *Enlightenment 2.0*, EC (JRC) Flagship Report, 2018 - 2019

Visiting Professor, Dept. of Economics, Ashoka University, India, August - December 2018

Visiting Scholar, Dept. of Economics, University of Bologna, Italy, May 2018

Visiting Scholar, Dept. of Economics, University of Vienna, January - February 2018

‡ Program Director, School of Public Policy, CEU, Hungary, August 2016 - December 2017

Visiting Professor, Azim Premji University, India, Summer 2016

†Assistant Professor (consultant), Minerva University, USA, August 2016 - July 2017

†Lecturer & Research Scholar, University of California, Merced, USA, August 2012 - June 2015

†Consultant Economist, World Bank, July - September 2011, March 2013 - February 2014

†Research Associate, The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi, June 2003 - May 2006

TEACHING

Central European University, Vienna (graduate)
Microeconomics, Behavior and Policy, Fall 2023, 2025
Causal Inference (MethodsNet with CEU), Summer 2025
Advanced Impact Evaluation, Winter 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
Impact Evaluation: Policy Applications with R, Winter 2020, 2021, 2022, 2025 & Fall 2023
Economic Analysis for Public Policy, Fall 2021 & Winter 2023, 2025
Data and Development, Winter 2020
Institutional and Behavioral Economics, Winter 2020, 2021, 2022

Central European University, Budapest (graduate)
Data 1: Statistics for Executives (w/ A. Reguly), Summer 2020

Economic Analysis for Public Policy (w/ C. Brown & M. Dorsch), Fall 2019
Economic Analysis for Public Policy II, Winter 2019
Institutions, Culture and Economic Development, Winter 2016, 2019
Cognitive Science and Policy Making (with Heintz, C.), Fall 2017 & Winter 2019
Economic Analysis I, Fall 2017
Poverty, Health and Development, Winter 2016 & Spring 2017
Consumer and Firm Behavior (Dept. of Economics & Business), Winter 2017
Economic Analysis (with Dorsch, M.), Fall 2015 & Winter 2017
Quantitative Methods (with Diamond, A.), Fall 2016

University of California, Merced (undergraduate)
Statistical Inference Lab, Spring 2015
Intermediate Microeconomic Theory, Summer 2014
Econometrics Lab, Fall 2013, Spring and Fall 2014

Advising

Central European University, Budapest (graduate)
Aderoju Alao, Daniel Szugyi and Jonathan Vega (*Applied Policy Project, 2015 - 2016*)
Hanh Nguyen, Michele Massacesi and Faryal Sajjad (*APP, 2016 - 2017*), Client: EBRD
Michele Massacessi, (*Thesis, Winter and Spring 2017*)
Saheem Khizar (*Thesis, Winter and Spring 2019*)
Reena Burathoki (*Thesis, Winter 2019 - Summer 2020*)
Akshay Ahuja and Teresa Giedel (*Thesis, Winter - Spring 2020*)

Central European University, Vienna (graduate)
Mia Karabegovic (*Ph.D. Committee member*)
Tanja Burjel and Lou Manalo (*Thesis, Winter - Spring 2021*)
Maciej Drwal, Maryna Lebid, Grace Linczer & Nina Melkonyan (*Applied Policy Project, 2019 - 2021*), Client: International Institute for Sustainable Development
Timur Naushirvanov, Gabija Siaulytyte and Marius Frankenhorst (*Thesis, Winter - Spring 2022*)
Gulsun Alca (*Ph.D. Committee member, Fall 2022 -*)
Natalia Esquenazi, Fanni Kontro & Aizada Omen (*Applied Policy Project, 2023 - 2024*), Client: Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic
Kornel Denes & Alena Teplyshova (*Thesis, Winter - Spring 2024*)
Nu Thuy Duong Ton (*Ph.D. Committee member, Fall 2021 -*)
Vlad Surdea-Hernea (*Ph.D. Committee member, Fall 2024*)
Itgelt Bat-Ochir, Shkelqim Berisha, Chisato Maezawa & Yuko Yamashita (*Applied Policy Project, 2024 - 2025*), Client: World Bank
Olle Rehnfeldt (*Undergraduate Thesis Supervisor, Winter - Spring 2025*)

GRANTS, AWARDS AND HONORS *(selected)*

EU Horizon Grant, "The emotional politics of democracies" with Jorg Matthes & Tyran, J-R [June 2024 - May 2027, 750,000€]

CEU Research Excellence Support Fund, "Voter's dilemma: Experimental study of cash-for-votes" [April 2023 - August 2024, 17,000€]

CEU ACRO, "Demystifying causal inference" [January 2022 - December 2022, 5,000€]

CEU Intellectual Themes Initiative (ITI) Grant, "Just Data" (w/ team) [2017 - 2019, 100,000€]

CEU ACRO grant, "Greening the Margin: Building Cooperation and Public Goods I & II" (w/ Centofanti, T.) [2018 - 2019, 10,000€]

CEU ITI Grant, "Beliefs Fostering Dishonesty" (w/ team) [100,000€, 2016 - 2019]

Best Student paper (second place) "Betrothal Testing, Beliefs and Bad Behavior: Effect of Testing Rules on HIV Transmission," Institutional and Behavioral Economics Section, AAEA, 2013

Complex Systems Summer School scholarship, Santa Fe Institute, 2011

Pass with Distinction, Ph.D. qualifying paper, University of Maryland, 2010

Ray Cowden Scholarship (GPA 4.0), University of Arizona, 2007

Bangalore University Top Ranker, 2001

Best Outgoing Student, St. Joseph's College, Bangalore, 2001

LANGUAGES

Fluent: English, Hindi, Kannada and Tamil *(native)*
Basic: Bengali, German, Italian, Urdu
Beginner: Hungarian, Spanish

PERSONAL

Male, *Indian Citizenship*

Last updated November 20, 2026.