Stephanos Vlachos

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Department of Economics
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Research fields

Political Economy, Public Economics, Economic History

Current position

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Vienna

since 2017

Graduate studies

Ph.D. in Economics (with honors)

2017

University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Thesis title: «On exposure to violence and political behavior»

Committee: Elena Esposito, Mathias Thoenig (Advisor), David Yanagizawa-Drott

M.Sc. in Economics 2012

University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Publications

Populist Persuasion in Electoral Campaigns: Evidence from Bryan's Unique Whistle-Stop Tour (with Johannes C. Buggle) *The Economic Journal (accepted)*

Anti-Muslim Voting and Media Coverage of Immigrant Crimes (with Mathieu Couttenier, Sophie Hatte, and Mathias Thoenig) *Review of Economics and Statistics (online early)*

On war and political radicalization: Evidence from forced conscription into the Wehrmacht *European Economic Review 144 (2022): 104086*

Working papers

The Logic of Fear – Populism and media coverage of immigrant crimes (with Mathieu Couttenier, Sophie Hatte, and Mathias Thoenig) *CEPR Discussion Paper No. DP13496*

Work in progress

Economic Aryanization in the city of Bordeaux (with Julien Senn and Juha Tolvanen)

In this paper, we study the link between self-interest and morality by leveraging a historical context with extremely high stakes: the introduction of "Economic Aryanization" in the city of Bordeaux, France, during World War II. This policy aimed to "permanently remove the Jewish influence in the economy" through the expropriation of Jewish firms. Regional authorities had significant autonomy in implementing the policy, which left substantial scope for competing firms to influence the procedure. We combine information on the universe of expropriated Jewish firms in the city of Bordeaux with the 1939 Yellow Pages to reconstruct the market structure of sectors in which Jewish firms operated. Our baseline estimation indicates that, conditional on a wide array of covariates, the risk of expropriation for a Jewish firm with a gentile competitor in its street is 1.7 times greater than for a competing Jewish firm with no gentile competitor close by. The reduced-form results are confirmed by estimating a structural model in which distance between gentile and Jewish competitors is one of the drivers of denunciation. The effect is not present when looking at Jewish competitors.

Far-Right Ownership in the Printed Press and Public Policy (with Mathieu Couttenier, Sophie Hatte, and Thomas Taylor)

In this paper, we exploit is the purchase of the Basler Zeitung, the largest newspaper of the Basel region in Switzerland by Christoph Blocher, the leader of the Swiss People's Party (SVP). We plan to use unsupervised measures of language similarity (TBIP) to identify any potential bias and its effect on voting. We then want to exploit the sale of the newspaper in 2018 to evaluate whether the effect persists due to ideological sorting. We are also interested in endogenous content adjustments by competitors. We have already collected the data (roughly 3 million articles from 2008 to 2020) and are currently implementing the language similarity algorithm.

Teaching

Main instructor

Political Economy (MA), University of Vienna	since 2017
Quantitative Economic History (BA), University of Vienna	since 2017

Graduate teaching assistant

Economic Growth (MSc), University of Lausanne	2016 – 2017
Applied Econometrics (MSc), University of Lausanne	2016
Applied Econometrics and Statistics (BSc), University of Lausanne	2013 – 2015

Master and Bachelor thesis supervisions

Ivan Lakicevic (MA, 2018), Livia Fernandez (MA, 2020), Filip Popovic, Theodora Steiner (BA, 2021), Eduard Amon, Zeynep Güzel, Lukas Hutter, Emma Pirsch, Loris Sultano, Matthias Walter (BA, 2022)

Fellowships, Grants & Awards

Heinrich Graf Hardegg Stiftung	2020
Doctoral Prize "Nicolas and Hélène Porphyrogenis"	2018
Heinrich Graf Hardegg Stiftung	2018
Best Paper Award, 13 th Augustin Cournot Doctoral Days	2016
University of Lausanne Research Fund	2014
Greek State Scholarship Foundation (I.K.Y.) Scholar	2010 – 2013

Academic community service

Commissions

Hiring Commission (Structural Microeconomics), University of Vienna	2021
Hiring Commission (Development Economics), University of Lausanne	2016
Hiring Commission (Public Economics), University of Lausanne	2015
B.Sc. Students' Evaluation, HEC, University of Lausanne	2015
Faculty Council, HEC, University of Lausanne	2014 - 2016
M.Sc. in Economics Evaluation Committee, University of Lausanne	2014

Refereeing

American Political Science Review, Czech Science Foundation, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journalism, Swiss Journal of Economics and Statistics, Swiss National Science Foundation, The Economic Journal, The Journal of Economic History

Undergraduate studies

B.Sc. in Economics

University of Macedonia, Greece

Erasmus Program

Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal

Misc

Softwares Stata, Mata, R, ArcGIS, LaTex

Languages Greek, French (native), English (C2), Portuguese (C1), Italian (B2), German (B2), Spanish (B2)

References

Prof. Mathias ThoenigProf. Mathieu CouttenierProf. Alejandro CuñatDepartment of EconomicsCERGIC, Department of EconomicsDepartment of EconomicsUniversity of LausanneEcole Normale Supérieure de LyonUniversity of Vienna+41 21 692 33 93+33 4 37 37 60 00+43-1-4277-37436mathias.thoenig@unil.chmathieu.couttenier@ens-lyon.fralejandro.cunat@univie.ac.at