

ELIO BOLLIGER

PhD in Economics, Head of Federal Finances Analysis and Forecasting Team in Financial Statistics | Swiss Citizen

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PROFILE

- Economist specialized in public finance forecasting and financial stability analysis
- Proven experience leading analytical teams and managing projects
- Applied experience in machine learning and developing policy-relevant indicators

EDUCATION

University of Lausanne - HEC , Department of Economics, Switzerland <i>Ph.D. in Economics</i> - Thesis titled "Three Essays in Macroeconomics" <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus on Informational and Financial Frictions• Methods: Applied Econometrics, Time Series Analysis and Natural Language Processing• Advisors: Kenza Benhima and Adrian Bruhin	09/2018 - 09/2023
Study Center Gerzensee , Switzerland Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics	09/2018 - 08/2019
University of Lausanne - HEC , Switzerland Master of Science in Economics	09/2016 - 07/2018
University of Bern , Switzerland Bachelor of Science in Economics	09/2012 - 06/2015

WORK EXPERIENCE

Swiss Federal Finance Administration , Bern, Switzerland <i>Deputy Head of Financial Statistics Division</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Act as head of a 17-person division in the division head's absence• Participate at the Federal Government Expert Group on Business Cycle	01/2025 - Today
<i>Head of the Public Finance Analysis and Forecasting Team</i> , Financial Statistics <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leading a team of 3 professionals• Analysing/forecasting data for the general/central government and social security funds• Development and bi-annual publication of policy indicators (e.g, fiscal impulse)	05/2023 - Today
Central Bank of Ireland , Dublin, Ireland <i>Ph.D. Research Intern</i> , Macro Financial Division <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expanding the usage of machine learning techniques to support policy analysis• Research Technical Paper "Distressed Mortgages: A Machine Learning Assessment"	11/2022 - 04/2023
Institut d'économie appliquée (CREA) , Lausanne, Switzerland <i>Economic Consultant</i> , Forecasting, Inflation Sentiment Indices	02/2018 - 09/2023
Swiss National Bank , Bern, Switzerland <i>Ph.D. Research Intern</i> , Financial Stability Division	10/2019 - 10/2020
University of Lausanne , Switzerland <i>Research Assistant</i> , for Jürgen Maurer, Johannes Buggle, José Mata	07/2017 - 08/2018
Swiss National Bank , Bern, Switzerland <i>Intern</i> , Financial Stability Division	08/2015 - 07/2016

SKILLS

Programming & Data Tools	R (package dev., Shiny), Python, Matlab, Stata, SQL, Excel VBA, Groovy
Version Control & Typesetting	Git, L ^A T _E X
Machine Learning & NLP	BERT (fine-tuning using PyTorch and scikit-learn), sentiment and text analysis
Languages	German (<i>native</i>), English (<i>fluent</i>), French (<i>fluent</i>), Spanish (<i>intermediate</i>), Italian (<i>beginner</i>), Portuguese (<i>beginner</i>)

PUBLICATIONS

- Do Local Forecasters Have Better Information?**, *with Kenza Benhima* – 2025, **Review of Economics and Statistics**
- The Effect of Macroprudential Policies on Homeownership: Evidence from Switzerland**, *with Adrian Bruhin, Andreas Fuster and Maja Ganarin* – **Journal of Urban Economics**, 2025

WORKING PAPERS

- Inflation Expectations, Perceptions and News Media: Regional Differences in Switzerland** – submitted
- Granular Portfolios, Expectations, and International Capital Flows**, *with Kenza Benhima and Margaret Davenport*
- Distressed Mortgages: A Machine Learning Assessment**, *with P. Lyons, S. Shaikh and F. Yao*

POLICY WORK

- Analysis of the Structural Deficits and Fiscal Impulses in Switzerland** 2025
- Swiss public finances, main publication of financial statistics** 2023, 2024

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Study Center Gerzensee Advanced Courses**
Bayesian Methods (2022), Financial Frictions and Macroprudential Policies (2021), Time Series Modelling (2021)
- Additional Courses**
HANK Made Easy (2021); Winter School in Data Analytics and Machine Learning (2021);
Deep Learning in Python and R (2021); Structural Shocks Identification (2019)

CONFERENCES AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- Central Bank Conferences and Policy Seminars**
Central Bank of Ireland (2023); Deutsche Bundesbank Brown Bag (2023); JME Poster Session (2022)
Swiss National Bank (2020)
- International and Swiss Conferences**
SSES Meetings (2020–2024); ifo Conference on Macro and Survey Data (2024); EEA-ESEM (2023);
KOF and ETH Young Swiss Economists Meeting (2022); Gerzensee Alumni Conference (2021)

INTERESTS

- Ski touring, motorbike, reading, running, hiking, football

REFERENCES

Prof. Kenza Benhima , University of Lausanne Department of Economics kenza.benhima@unil.ch	Prof. Adrian Bruhin , University of Lausanne Department of Economics adrian.bruhin@unil.ch
Assoc. Prof. Andreas Fuster , EPFL Swiss Finance Institute andreas.fuster@gmail.com	Dr. Robert Bichsel , Swiss National Bank Head Banking System robert.bichsel@snb.ch