

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"	09/2018 - 09/2023
<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	
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>	01/2025 - Today
<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	
<i>Head of the Public Finance Analysis and Forecasting Team</i> , Financial Statistics	05/2023 - Today
<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)	
Central Bank of Ireland , Dublin, Ireland <i>Ph.D. Research Intern</i> , Macro Financial Division	11/2022 - 04/2023
<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"	
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 Languages	BERT (fine-tuning using PyTorch and scikit-learn), sentiment and text analysis 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 – Review of Economics and Statistics, 2025*

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 – submitted*

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

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Swiss Finance Institute
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