Hans-Christian Boy

h.boy@gmx.de • German citizen • hanschristianboy.github.io
Married, two children (*2018 and *2023)

May 6, 2024

Employment

World Bank (IBRD)	Washington, D.C., United States
Extended-Term Consultant	*Dec. 2022 –*
Infrastructure Practice Group	
Famine Relief Fund	London, United Kingdom
Consultant	*Feb. 2021 – June 2023*
Data Science Consultant	
Universität Zürich	Zurich, Switzerland
Assistant	*Oct. 2016 – July 2021*
Doctoral assistant in the Economics Department	
Pompeu Fabra University (Economics)	Barcelona, Spain
Research Officer	*Sep. 2009 – Aug. 2011 & June 2012 – July 2013*
Research Officer to Joachim Voth	

Education

University of Zurich	Zurich, Switzerland
Ph.D. in Economics (*summa cum laude*)	*January 2023*
Visiting New York University	*Feb. – May 2019*
Princeton University	Princeton, NJ, United States
M.A. in Politics	*September 2016*
University of Bonn	Bonn, Germany
M.Sc. in Economics	*November 2012*
London School of Economics and Political Science	London, United Kingdom
B.Sc. in Economics & Economic History	*July 2009*

Publications

Essays in Urban Economics. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Zurich, October 2022.

Artificial Intelligence. With Y. Liu, S. Khurana, and A. Sinha. Report Chapter. World Bank, 2024.

Ongoing research

Why House Price Beliefs Are Extrapolated Only in Booms

Summary: House price beliefs exhibit momentum during booms but not in downturns, converging to market prices from different ex-ante levels of optimism. This study suggests that sales data contain information about price trajectories in booms, as equity-constrained homeowners seek reservation gains, whereas in downturns, sales signal only current price levels not trajectories.

Local Spillovers From Distressed Housing Portfolios

Summary: This study provides causal evidence of housing market externalities caused by investor financial distress in 1930s Philadelphia. The need to refinance short-term mortgage debt amid a banking crisis is used for identification. Investors' financial distress caused negative local spillovers even around properties they did not sell.

Honors

Princeton University Graduate School	
University Fellowship in the Social Sciences	*Sep. 2013 – May 2016*
German National Academic Foundation	
Undergraduate and graduate fellowship (*Grundförderung*)	*Feb. 2006 – Sep. 2012*

Skills

Software and Programming: R, STATA, Python.

Languages: German (*native*), English (*fluent*), French (*intermediate*).