

Hans-Christian Boy

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Married, two children (*2018 and *2023)

Employment

World Bank (IBRD)

WASHINGTON, D.C., UNITED STATES

Extended-Term Consultant

Dec. 2022 –

Economist in the Infrastructure Practice Group (Digital Development).

Pompeu Fabra University (Economics)

BARCELONA, SPAIN

Research Officer

Sep. 2009 – Aug. 2010 & Sep. 2012 – Aug. 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.

Working Papers

Boom versus Bust in House Price Belief Formation

Summary: House price beliefs show momentum in booms but not in downturns. I argue that this is because market observers process price signals differently in booms than in downturns given homeowner incentives to climb the property ladder. Ample evidence at the levels of dwellings and of neighborhoods supports this view.

The Property Ladder and the Labor-Leisure Trade-off

Summary: A small increase of a household's labor supply can enable a discontinuous jump in their consumption of housing services as downpayment-constrained homeowners climb up the property ladder. Through a natural experiment in Depression-era Philadelphia, I show that marginal climbers increase their labor supply around the time of their intended home purchase.

Teaching

University of Zurich

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

Behavioral Finance (TA, undergraduate)

Spring 2021

Development Economics (TA, undergraduate)

Fall 2018

Inequality and Taxation (seminar support, master's)

Spring 2018

Econometrics (TA, master's)

Fall 2017

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*).