

## Jonas Hjort

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hjort@columbia.edu  
www.jonashjort.com  
Citizen of Denmark, Norway,  
United States  
Married, three children (2016,  
2018, 2019)

### Employment

2018 – present	Columbia University, Graduate School of Business Associate Professor of Economics (without tenure), and Gary Winnick and Martin Granoff Associate Professor of Business
2012 – 2018	Assistant Professor of Economics

### Other appointments

2020 – present	J-PAL Affiliate
2017 – present	Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), Affiliate (Development)
2016 – present	National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), Faculty Research Fellow (DEV, PR)
2016 – present	International Growth Centre (IGC), Research Affiliate
Fall 2015	Harvard University, Dept. of Economics, Visiting Assistant Professor
2013 – present	Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD) Affiliate
2013 – present	Center for Economic Studies/Ifo Institute for Economic Research (CESifo), Distinguished Affiliate
2013 – present	Columbia University, Dept. of Economics, Affiliated faculty member
2013 – present	Chazen Institute Senior Scholar
Fall 2008	University of Chicago, Becker Center, Price Theory Scholar

### Professional activities

2020 – present	Associate Editor, Journal of Development Economics
2014 – present	Lead Academic, International Growth Centre Liberia & Sierra Leone Country Program (Liberia Country Program pre-2018)

### Education

2006 – 2012	PhD Economics, UC Berkeley
2005 – 2006	MA International & Development Economics, Yale University
2002 – 2005	BSc Economics, London School of Economics

### Research interests

Development Economics, Labor Economics, Organizational Economics

### Research on workers, firms, and organizations in developing countries

Published and forthcoming papers

“How Research Affects Policy: Experimental Evidence from 2,150 Brazilian Municipalities”,  
with Diana Moreira, Gautam Rao, and Juan Francisco Santini  
*AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*, conditionally accepted  
NBER working paper no. 25941

Coverage: [NPR Planet Money](#), [DerStandard](#), [Het Financieele](#), [Exame](#), [Pesquisa](#), [Folha](#), [El Comercio](#), [LiveMint](#), [Nexo Jornal](#)

“Vertical Integration, Supplier Behavior, and Quality Upgrading among Exporters”, with Christopher Hansman, Gianmarco León, and Matthieu Teachout

*JOURNAL OF POLITICAL ECONOMY*, vol. 128, no. 9, pp. 3570-3625, September 2020

*Winner of the Oliver Williamson Award for Best Paper presented at the Society of Institutional and Organizational Economics 2018 annual conference in Montréal*

NBER working paper no. 23949, CEPR DP no. 12518, BREAD working paper no. 525

Coverage: [VoxDev](#)

“Interlinked Firms and the Consequences of Piecemeal Regulation”, with Christopher Hansman and Gianmarco León, *JOURNAL OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION*, vol. 17, no. 3, pp. 876-916, June 2019

BREAD working paper no. 442, CEPR DP no. 12584

“The Arrival of Fast Internet and Employment in Africa”, with Jonas Poulsen, *AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*, vol. 109, no. 3, pp. 1032-1079, March 2019

NBER working paper no. 23582, BREAD working paper no. 519

Coverage: [The Economist](#), [The Economist](#), [VoxDev](#), [CATO](#), [Quartz Africa](#), [National Affairs](#), [Le Monde](#), [World Bank blog](#), [Le Nouvel Économiste](#), [Brookings](#)

“Ethnic Divisions and Production in Firms”, *QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS*, vol. 129, no. 4, pp. 1899-1946, November 2014

*Winner of the 2013 CESifo Prize for best paper in Applied Microeconomics*

CDEP-CGEG working paper 006, CESifo working paper 4449

Working papers and work in progress (somewhat advanced stage)

“Across-Country Wage Compression in Large Multinationals”, with Xuan Li and Heather Sarsons

*Revise&resubmit, AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*

NBER working paper no. 26788, CEPR DP no. 14465

Coverage: [Chicago Fed](#)

“Ethnic Investing and the Value of Firms”, with Christopher Yenkey and Changcheng Song  
*Revise&resubmit, JOURNAL OF POLITICAL ECONOMY*

“Individuals and Organizations as Sources of State Effectiveness”, with Michael Carlos Best and David Szakonyi

*Revise&resubmit, AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*

NBER working paper no. 23350, CEPR DP no. 11968, BREAD working paper no. 510

Write-ups: [VoxDev](#), [VoxDev podcast](#)

“Informational Barriers to Market Access: Experimental Evidence from Liberian Firms”, with Vinayak Iyer and Golvine de Rochambeau

NBER working paper no. 27662, CEPR DP no. 17008

“Strategic or Confused Firms? Evidence from “Missing” Transactions in Uganda”, with Miguel Almunia, Justine Knebelmann, and Lin Tian

“The Missing Middle Managers: Labor Costs, Firm Structure, and Development”, with Hannes Malmberg and Todd Schoellman, work in progress

### **Other research (on other topics or in non-economics journals)**

Published and forthcoming papers

“Universal Investment in Infants and Long-run Health: Evidence from Denmark’s 1937 Home Visiting Program”, with Mikkel Sølvsten and Miriam Wüst, *AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL: APPLIED ECONOMICS*, vol. 9, issue 4, pp. 78-104, October 2017

“Ebola, jobs and economic activity in Liberia”. With Jeremy Bowles, Timothy Melvin, and Eric Werker. *BMJ: JOURNAL OF EPIDEMIOLOGY & COMMUNITY HEALTH*, vol. 70, pp. 271-277, 2016

“Pre-Colonial Culture, Post-Colonial Economic Success? The Tswana and the African Economic Miracle”, *THE ECONOMIC HISTORY REVIEW*, vol. 63, no. 3, pp. 688-709, August 2010

Working papers and work in progress (somewhat advanced stage)

“How a Labor Market Sorts Workers to First Jobs Compared to a Lottery: Norway's Shift Away from Doctor Assignment by Random Serial Dictatorship”, with Ashna Arora and Len Goff

### **Teaching**

Managerial Economics (Microeconomics for MBAs), Graduate School of Business, Columbia University: fall 2016, fall 2017, fall 2018, fall 2019, fall 2020

Global Immersion: New Growth and Business Opportunities in East Africa (MBA), Graduate School of Business, Columbia University: spring 2018, fall 2018, spring 2020

The Private Sector and International Development (MBA, Executive MBA), Graduate School of Business, Columbia University: spring 2013, spring 2014, fall 2014, spring 2015

### **Selected grants**

2018	\$55,000 from SSHRC Canada (with Francesco Amodio)
2017	\$45,000 from the IGC (with Miguel Almunia, Alan Griffith, and Lin Tian)
2017	\$45,000 from PEDL (with Francesco Amodio)
2016	\$125,000 from Lemann Fund (with Gautam Rao)
2016	\$75,000 from Weiss Family Fund (with Gautam Rao)
2015	\$160,000 from the IGC
2014	\$69,000 the IGC (with Miguel Almunia and Francois Gerard)
2013	\$53,000 from PEDL (with Tarek Ghani and Sylvan Herskowitz)
2013	\$33,000 from the IGC
2013	\$20,000 from CBS Dean’s Seed Funding
2013	\$20,000 from CIBER (with Gianmarco León)

### **Selected fellowships and awards**

2018	Oliver Williamson Award for Best Paper presented at the Society of Institutional and Organizational Economics 2018 annual conference in Montréal
2015	American Economic Review, Excellence in Refereeing Award
2014	Sandmo Junior Visiting Fellowship at Norwegian School of Economics
2013	CESifo Prize for best paper in Applied Microeconomics
2012	Journal of Development Economics Prize for outstanding dissertation in the area of development economics, UC Berkeley 2012
2009-2011	The Hewlett/IIE Dissertation Fellowship
2009-2010	Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
2008-2009	The Norway-America Association's King Olav V Birthday Fund Award
2007-2008	The American-Scandinavian Foundation Graduate Fellowship

### **Refereeing**

*American Economic Review, Econometrica, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of the European Economic Association, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Journal of Economic Literature, Journal of Labor Economics, RAND Journal of Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Economic Journal, Journal of African Economies, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Journal of Economic Growth*

### **PhD students advised (First job /year of PhD)**

Yue Yu (A.P., Rotman School of Management (Economics)+Dept of Management/2020)  
 Suanna Oh (Post-doc, briq Bonn & A.P., Dept. of Econ., Paris School of Economics/2020)  
 David Alfaro-Serrano (Cornerstone Research/2020)  
 Matthieu Teachout (Research Director, International Growth Centre/2019)  
 Xuan Li (A.P., Dept. of Economics, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology/2019)  
 Golvine de Rochambeau (A.P., Dept. of Economics, Sciences Po/2018)  
 Lin Tian, (A.P., Insead/2018)  
 Ashna Arora (Research Director, Crime Lab, University of Chicago)  
 Maria Micaela Sviatschi (A.P., Dept. of Economics, Princeton University /2017)  
 Christopher Hansman (A.P., Imperial College Business School /2017)  
 Nicolás de Roux (A.P., Dept. of Economics, Universidad de los Andes /2017)  
 David Szakonyi (Post-doc, Harvard Univ. Academy. & A.P., Dept. of Pol. Science, GWU /2016)  
 Jonas Poulsen (Lecturer, Dept. of Economics, Harvard University/2015)

### **Invited presentations**

2020: Cornell, Stanford GSB, UCLA, University of Virginia, Yale, AEA Annual Meeting, UBC, University of Munich  
 2019: Warwick, CERGE-EI Prague, IMF, LSE, World Bank, NBER Summer Institute, Econometric Society North American Meetings, MIT Sloan, LSE/CEPR, Zurich  
 2018: Harvard/MIT, UCLA Anderson, NYU Stern, Wharton, Zurich, Paris School of Economics, Marseille School of Economics, Namur, UCSD, USC, Cambridge, SIOE Annual Conference in Montréal  
 2017: MIT, Yale, Vancouver School of Economics, Georgetown, Brown, Zurich, NYU  
 2016: IGC Growth Week, Barcelona Summer Forum, NBER Summer Institute, Bocconi, Stockholm University, Stanford SCID-IGC Conference on Trade, Firms, and Development,

NBER Organizational Economics meeting, NBER Development Economics meeting, Zurich  
Conference on Public Finance in Developing Countries

2015: Copenhagen University, University of Toronto, McGill, Harvard, Oxford, Central  
European University, Boston University, IFPRI, University of Oslo, Stockholm IIES,  
Norwegian School of Economics

2014: World Bank DRG, BREAD, Princeton, Stanford

2013: Harvard / MIT, LSE, UPF, Uppsala

2012: Columbia GSB / Econ, Stanford GSB, University of Michigan, Penn State, Cornell,  
Wharton, Stockholm IIES, Kellogg, Warwick, Chicago Booth

2011: PopPov Conference (Marseilles)

2010: Chicago, Norwegian School of Economics, University of Oslo

2009: World Bank / IZA conference on Evaluation of Labor Market Programs in Developing  
Countries (Bonn), Working Group on African Political Economy (WGAPE) conference  
(Berkeley)

### **Outside activities**

2019 – present      Member, Advisory Committee for the World Bank's Research  
Program on Digital Transformation for Africa

2019      Short-term consultant for CDC Group