

LÉO PICARD

Pre-doctoral research assistant in Economics

Areas of interest: political economy, international trade, text as data.

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EDUCATION

University of Lausanne (HEC) 2017 - 2019

Master of Science (MSc.) in Economics

Fall 2018: Exchange semester at the University of Mannheim, Germany

Spring 2019: Master's thesis: "The smell of trouble: natural gas dependence and interstate conflicts"

University of Lausanne (HEC) 2013 - 2017

Bachelor of Science (BSc.) in Economics

WORK EXPERIENCE

ETH Zürich since February 2020

Scientific Assistant

- Applied microeconometrics, machine learning and natural language processing for academic research in the field of law and political economy.

UNCTAD, United Nations Office at Geneva August 2019 - January 2020

Intern, Research and Policy Analysis

- Participation in the drafting of a report on illicit financial flows, capital flight and structural transformation in Africa. Data collection, cleaning, analysis and policy recommendations.

University of Lausanne (HEC) February 2018 - August 2019

Research Assistant

- Building a text database of political speeches in the United States.
- Building a georeferenced dataset of the natural gas network on ArcGIS.
- Other data cleaning tasks and analysis on Stata and Python.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Lausanne (HEC)

Teaching assistant

- Statistics and Applied Econometrics: Introduction (undergraduate) Spring 2019

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages	Python, R, SQL, LaTeX, Shell Scripting
Frameworks/Packages	Shiny, Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, NLTK, SpaCy, Regex Selenium, PostgreSQL
Softwares	MS Office, Stata, ArcGIS

LANGUAGES

French	mother tongue
English	fluent
German	intermediate

DATASETS

State of the State transcripts (1995-2020)

Plain text database at the U.S. state level (yearly). Usually held at the beginning of each year, U.S. governors give a public speech to talk about the situation in their state.

Contributions to the United Nations regular budget (2000-2020)

Dataset of Member States yearly payments with effective date and amount.

PUBLICATIONS

Slany A, Chérel-Robson M and Picard L (2020). *Illicit financial flows and sustainable development: Panel-data evidence for Africa*. Background paper for Economic Development in Africa Report 2020. UNCTAD.