

# Simon Heß

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## RESEARCH AND EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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from 2024	<b>Vienna University of Economics and Business</b> , assistant professor (tenure track)
2022 – 2024	<b>University of Vienna</b> , assistant professor (non-tenured)
2020 – 2022	<b>Goethe University</b> , postdoc, Chair of Development Economics, M Schündeln
2018	<b>Stanford University</b> , visiting researcher at SIEPR, invited by M Fafchamps
2014 – 2019	<b>Goethe University</b> , part-time employed within at the Chair of Development Economics
2013 – 2014	<b>European Bank for Reconstruction &amp; Development</b> , research analyst, Chief Economist's Office
2012 – 2013	<b>University of Konstanz</b> , student research assistant to H Ursprung and C Alós-Ferrer
2010	<b>KfW Development Bank</b> , trainee, Country Office Ghana

## DEGREES

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2020	<b>Goethe University</b> , PhD in Economics (Summa Cum Laude), <i>Research prize for scientific excellence and practical relevance</i> by the German Economic Association and the KfW-Development Bank)
2013	<b>University of Konstanz</b> , MSc in Economics (Distinction, 1 <sup>st</sup> in class), <i>VEUK-Award for the best graduate in economics at the University of Konstanz</i>
2011	<b>University of Konstanz</b> , BSc in Economics (Excellent, 2 <sup>nd</sup> in class), one semester at the American University in Cairo

## PUBLICATIONS

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*Shared e-scooter services and road safety: Evidence from six European countries* (with C Cloud and J Kasinger)  
**European Economic Review**, [doi.org/10.1016/j.eurocorev.2023.104593](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eurocorev.2023.104593)

*Environmental Effects of Development Programs: Experimental Evidence from West African Dryland Forests* (with M Schündeln and D Jaimovich)  
**Journal of Development Economics**, vol. 153: 102737, 2021, [doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2021.102737](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2021.102737)

*Development Projects and Economic Networks: Lessons From Rural Gambia* (with M Schündeln and D Jaimovich)  
**The Review of Economic Studies**, vol. 88(3): 1347–1384, 2021, [doi.org/10.1093/restud/rdaa033](https://doi.org/10.1093/restud/rdaa033)

*Randomization Inference with Stata: A Guide and Software* 296 citations  
**Stata Journal**, vol. 17(3): 630–651, 2017, [doi.org/10.1177/1536867X1701700306](https://doi.org/10.1177/1536867X1701700306)

## WORKING PAPERS

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*Political Influence through Kinship Networks: Evidence from the Universe of Registered Voters in Nepal*  
with P Pathak and M Schündeln (Goethe University).

*Causal evidence that herpes zoster vaccination reduces the incidence of dementia* [medRxiv 2023.05.23.23290253](https://medrxiv.org/lookup/doi/10.1101/2023.05.23.23290253)  
with M Eyting (Mainz and Stanford) and M Xie (Heidelberg and Stanford), P Geldsetzer (Stanford).

*The effect of herpes zoster vaccination on the occurrence of deaths due to dementia in England and Wales* [medRxiv 2023.09.08.23295225](https://medrxiv.org/lookup/doi/10.1101/2023.09.08.23295225)  
with F Michalik (Heidelberg and Stanford), M Eyting (Mainz and Stanford) and M Xie (Heidelberg and Stanford), S Chung (Stanford), P Geldsetzer (Stanford).

*Altruism and the Topology of Transfer Networks*, [CEPR Discussion Paper 16561](https://cepr.org/discussion/papers/16561)  
with M Fafchamps, (Stanford).

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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*Social Networks and the Effect of Political Debates in Young Democracies: Evidence from Gambia*  
with J Detemple, and M Schündeln (both Goethe University Frankfurt) and H Jawara (University of The Gambia)

*German Colonialism*  
with SO Becker, N Jahangirli, and R Ramachandran (Monash University)

## TEACHING

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### As course instructor

2022, 2023	<b>Introductory Econometrics</b> , undergraduate lecture with ~100 students, University of Vienna
Sept 2023	<b>Causal inference</b> , 3-day mini course, Monash University Malaysia
Spring 2023	<b>Causal inference</b> , undergraduate course with 38 students, University of Vienna
Spring 2022	<b>Development Economics: Microeconomic Aspects of Development</b> , MSc lecture, Goethe University; co-taught with M Schündeln
Fall 2021	<b>Microeconomic Methods and Applications</b> , MSc seminar, Goethe University
2020, 2021	<b>Empirical Development Economics</b> undergraduate lecture, Goethe University; co-taught with M Schündeln

### As teaching assistant

2014 – 2020	<b>Development Economics II, Development Economics III, Evaluation of Development Policy</b> , MSc courses, Goethe University
2008 – 2013	<b>Microeconomics II – Game Theory</b> (undergraduate), <b>Advanced Microeconomics I</b> (MSc), <b>Mathematics for Economists I</b> (undergraduate), <b>Mathematics for Economists II</b> (undergraduate), University of Konstanz

## AWARDS & GRANTS

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2023	Small research grant, University of Vienna € 2,000
2021	Dissertation award by the KfW Development Bank and the Development Group of the German Economic Association, € 5,000
2020	Sturm & Drang Prize 2020 for the best publication by a young researcher of the Faculty of Economics and Business at Goethe University, € 1,500
2019 – 2022	Joachim Herz fellow for interdisciplinary economics, € 12,500
2013 – 2014	Carlo Schmid fellow for placements in international organizations
2013	VEUK-Award for the best graduate in economics at the University of Konstanz
2011 – 2013	Scholarships from the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes (German National Academic Foundation) and the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIPS

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### Presentations and invited seminars

**2024:** Central European University (planned); **2023:** Vienna University of Economics and Business; Standing Committee on Development Economics of the German Economic Association; University of Passau; TU Dresden (planned); **2022:** Trinity College Dublin (scheduled); University of Vienna; HEC Lausanne; DIME/Worldbank; Annual Conference of the Research Group on Development Economics of the German Economic Association; **2021:** Theory Seminar at Aix Marseille School of Economics; **2020:** 12<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the Econometric Society; Annual Meeting of the European Economic Association; **2019 and before:** CSAE Conference 2019 at Oxford University; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Research Seminar; Workshop on Geodata and Economics 2018 by the TU Braunschweig and the Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW); 70<sup>th</sup> European Meeting of the Econometric Society; Annual Conference of the Research Group on Development Economics of the German Economic Association 2016

### Scientific refereeing

Journal of Development Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Land Use Policy, Party Politics

### Affiliations and memberships

[German Economic Association](#) (Verein für Socialpolitik); [Research Committee on Development Economics of the German Economic Association](#)

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