

ESTEBAN MUÑOZ-SOBRADO

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DOCTORAL STUDIES

<i>Ph.D. in Economics</i> Toulouse School of Economics	2024
<i>Visiting Ph.D student</i> University of Southern California Dornsife	2022

PRIOR EDUCATION

<i>Diplôme Européen d'Economie Quantitative Approfondie</i> Toulouse School of Economics	2018
<i>Master in Economic Theory and Econometric [insigni cum laude]</i> Toulouse School of Economics	2017
<i>Bachelor in Economics</i> Universidad de Costa Rica	2014

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Public and Behavioral
Secondary: Contract Theory and Industrial Organization

PAPERS

Competing for Donations: The Role of Tax Deductibility in the U.S. Charitable Sector [Job Market Paper]

Abstract: Governments provide tax benefits to incentivize charitable giving. While higher tax benefits increase charitable giving, they also intensify potentially wasteful competition for funds among charities. I build a model where charities use advertising to attract individual donors. Competition leads to inefficient fundraising because charities incur excessive advertising costs, and the inefficiency increases as available funds increase. I estimate the structural model using data from the universe of Nonprofits in the U.S. paired with data from the country's most prominent charity assessment organization. I document that leakage, the proportion of charities' budget not spent on direct public good provision, reaches 40 percent in my sample for 2014. Moreover, findings from counterfactual analyses suggest that fundraising accounts for significant endogenous leakage of gross donations into advertising. These results suggest that estimates of the optimal deductibility rate for charitable giving that ignore competition must be adjusted downwards to account for charities' endogenous responses to the tax code.

Presented in: IIPF 2023 (Logan, Utah), EARIE 2023 (Rome), CEA 2023, ESA World Meeting 2022 (Boston), European ESA Meeting 2022 (Bologna), MannheimTaxation Conference 2022.

Taxing Moral Agents [CESifo Working Paper No. 9867]

Abstract: Experimental and empirical findings suggest that non-pecuniary motivations play a significant role as determinants of taxpayers' decisions to comply with the tax authority and shape their perceptions and assessment of the tax code. By contrast, the canonical optimal income taxation model focuses on material sanctions as the primary motive for compliance. This paper shows how taxpayers equipped with evolutionary Kantian preferences can account for both these non-pecuniary and material motivations. It builds a general model of income taxation in the presence of a public good, which agents value morally, and solves for the optimal linear and non-linear taxation problems.

Presented in: IIPF Congress 2022. CESifo Area Conference on Public Economics. Fairness and the Moral Mind workshop. LawPolEcCon. Max Planck Institute for Public Goods and Tax Law. Tilburg Enter Network Seminar. Workshop of Industrial and Public Economics. ECO-SOS, Universitat Rovira i Virgili.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Resource Allocation, Moral Hazard and Endogenous Human Capital Accumulation in Firms [with Alae Baha]

The policy diverging effects of public funding of political elections [with Mauricio Sauma]

CONFERENCES AND ACTIVITIES

2023

European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society (Manchester, programed)

European Association for Research in Industrial Economics 2023 (Rome)

International Institute of Public Finance 2023 (Logan, Utah)

Canadian Economics Association 2023 (online)

2022

Economic Science Association Europe Meetings in Bologna

International Institute of Public Finance

Stoney Brooks International Game Theory Conference ¹

Economic Science Association World Meetings in Boston

CESifo Area Conference on Public Economics

Fairness and the Moral Mind workshop. FAIR - Centre for Experimental Research on Fairness, Inequality and Rationality. Norwegian School of Economics

2021

LawPolEcCon. Max Planck Institute for Public Goods and Tax Law

Tilburg Enter Network Seminar

Workshop of Industrial and Public Economics. ECO-SOS, Universitat Rovira i Virgili

REFEREEING

Games and Economics Behaviour

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research internship in Centro del Desarrollo de la Regulación 2016

Lecturer of Introduction to Economics, Universidad de Costa Rica. 2014/2015

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

UT1 Doctoral Contract 2017/2019

Centram. Sup Scholarship by Campus France and the Institute Francais d'Amerique Central 2015/2017

Beneficiary of Universidad de Costa Rica's academic development program. 2015

TEACHING

Toulouse School of Economics

TA, Theory of Incentives (Master 1) 2020,2021

TA, Game Theory (Master 1) 2020,2021

TA, Microeconomics (undergraduate) 2018,2019

Universidad de Costa Rica

Lecturer, Introduction to Economics (undergraduate) 2014,2015

TA, History of Economic Thought (undergraduate) 2013,2014

TA, Mathematics for Economists 3 (undergraduate) 2013,2014

TA, Mathematics for Economists 2 (undergraduate) 2013,2014

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

Selected courses from years 1 and 2 of Mathematics Bachelor 2013/2014

Universidad de Costa Rica

SKILLS AND SOFTWARE

¹ Accepted as presenter, cancelled last-minute due to positive COVID result.

Advanced: R, \LaTeX , Mathematica

Intermediate: Python

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: Costa Rica

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate)

REFERENCES

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