

# Dóra Zsuzsanna Simon

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Research Interests: International Trade, Environmental Economics

## Academic Positions

09/2021–present Assistant Professor, University of Stavanger Business School

## Education

08/2015–05/2021 Ph.D., Economics, University of Zurich  
Advisors: Ralph Ossa, Gregory Crawford  
Main Fields: International Trade, Environmental Economics  
08/2019–03/2020 Visiting Scholar, University of California, Berkeley  
Host: Meredith Fowlie  
09/2013–07/2014 M.Sc. in International Trade, Finance and Development, Barcelona Graduate School of Economics  
10/2009–02/2013 B.Sc. in Economics and Business Administration, Goethe University Frankfurt

## Working Papers

### **Greening Ricardo: Environmental Comparative Advantage and the Environmental Gains from Trade**

*M. Le Moigne, S. Lepot, R. Ossa, M. Ritel, D. Simon, 2025*

Abstract: We show that climate policy can unlock large environmental gains from trade by inducing countries to specialize according to their environmental comparative advantage. We make this point by exploring the effects of a carbon tax in a quantitative trade model. Our main result is that the environmental gains from trade account for over one-third of the total reduction in greenhouse gas emissions brought about by the carbon tax. This finding holds for a wide range of carbon tax rates and coverages.

## **The Distributional Effects of Carbon Pricing: A Global View of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities**

*M. Le Moigne, S. Lepot, D. Simon, M. Ritel, 2025*

**Abstract:** We use a quantitative international trade model with climate policies to explore the distributional effects of carbon pricing across countries. Our analysis addresses two key questions facing global climate action: which countries bear the greatest burden of climate policies, and how these policies can be designed to ensure fairness. We present three main findings. First, efficient climate policies that disregard distributional concerns significantly exacerbate between-country inequality. Second, equity can be achieved alongside efficiency when climate policies are complemented by realistic international transfers, either equalizing carbon tax costs or accounting for historical emissions, with minimal economic impact on high-income countries. Third, carbon tax schemes with heterogeneous pricing—featuring lower rates for low- and middle-income countries—do not necessarily result in fairer outcomes.

## **Trump Tariffs and the Environment**

*S. Lepot, M. Ritel, D. Simon, 2025*

**Abstract:** This paper examines the unintended effects of noncooperative tariff hikes on global greenhouse gas emissions. Using a multi-country, multi-industry quantitative trade policy model, we evaluate protectionist and retaliatory scenarios shaped by the current geopolitical landscape and assess their impact on the carbon footprint of international trade. Our findings reveal that while noncooperative tariffs suppress economic activity - leading to modest emission reductions - they also restructure trade networks in ways that increase reliance on carbon-intensive production. As a result, arbitrary protectionist measures risk driving globalization towards a less sustainable path.

## **To Beef or Not To Beef: Trade, Meat, and the Environment**

*D. Simon, 2025*

**Abstract:** How can food consumption choice reduce emissions? I estimate a demand model using purchasing data of meat and other protein rich products from a European retailer and combine it with data on production and transport emissions. In counterfactual exercises, I analyze the reaction of consumers to food consumption policies. I find that buying local only decreases emissions by around 2% compared to the status quo. Vegetarian scenarios lead to the largest decrease in emissions of more than 20%. Pigouvian taxes lead to emissions reductions of 8-21%. These findings underscore the role of consumer choices in shaping food-related emissions.

## **Consumption Slowdown after the Great Recession**

*D. Simon, V. Sulaja, 2025*

**Abstract:** Consumption growth in the United States slowed markedly following the 2007–2009 financial crisis. We argue that costly regulatory interventions targeting banks with foreclosure-related misconduct contributed to this decline by constraining credit supply. Using variation in county-level exposure to affected banks, we show that tighter regulatory controls reduced mortgage loan origination, leading to weaker house price recoveries and lower household wealth. We find that consumption

growth slowed more in counties more exposed to these banks, consistent with a wealth effect transmitted through housing markets. The decline in mortgage lending reflects a reduction in the number of loans rather than in average loan size, suggesting that regulation operated primarily through extensive-margin credit supply.

## **Work in Progress**

### **Tax incidence of carbon taxation**

*S. Lepot, M. Ritel, D. Simon, 2025*

Abstract: We analyze the effect of producer vs. consumer carbon taxes. We conduct this analysis in the context of a modern quantitative trade model.

## **Academic Presentations**

- 2025      Economics Seminar (Mercator Institute, Berlin), Workshop on the Future of the Global Trading System (Kiel Institute for the World Economy), CESifo Area Conference on Energy and Climate Economics (Munich), World Congress of the Econometric Society (Seoul, planned)
- 2024      Meeting of Norwegian Economists (University of Oslo), CEPR Sustainability and Public Policy Workshop (University of St. Gallen), Economics Seminar (University of Wuerzburg), Economics Seminar (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences), NBER International Trade and Investment Program Meeting Fall 2024 (Stanford University)
- 2023      NHH Seminar (NHH Bergen), LISIT Conference (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), NOITS (Stockholm University), Workshop on Trade, Spatial Economics, and the Environment (online)
- 2022      Economics Seminar (University of Mainz), EAERE (University of Bologna), Oslo Macro Conference (University of Oslo), ETSG (Groningen University), NAERE (Uppsala University), Meeting of Norwegian Economists (University of Stavanger), German Economists Abroad (DIW)
- 2021      NBER Summer Institute, NOITS (University of Akureyri), Rare Voices in Economics (Geneva Graduate Institute)
- 2020      Giannini Foundation of Agricultural and Resource Economics Student Conference (University of California, Berkeley), HSG-ZRH International Trade Workshop (University of Zurich), Doctoral Microeconomics Seminar (University of Zurich), Doctoral Macroeconomics Seminar (University of Zurich)
- 2019      Brown Bag Seminar (World Trade Institute, University of Bern), Environmental and Resource Economics Seminar University of California, Berkeley), Doctoral Macroeconomics Seminar (University of Zurich)

## Teaching

2021-present	Environmental Economics, Master Course	University of Stavanger
2021-2024	Research Methods, Master Course	University of Stavanger
2021-2023	Data Analytics, Master Course	University of Stavanger
2017, 2018	International Trade, Bachelor Course	University of Zurich
2018	Programming Practices, PhD Course	University of Zurich
2018	Econometrics, Master Course	University of Zurich

## Grants and Awards

2019	Doc.mobility	Swiss National Science Foundation
2015-2020	PhD Funding	University of Zurich
2013	Partial Tuition Waver	Barcelona GSE

## Work Experience

09/2014-05/2015	Trainee, European Central Bank	Frankfurt, Germany
04/2013-07/2013	Intern, German Council of Economic Experts	Wiesbaden, Germany
03/2013-04/2013	Intern, European Parliament	Brussels, Belgium

## Languages

- German, Hungarian - mother tongues
- English - fluent
- Norwegian, Spanish, French - can hold a conversation

## Programming Skills

- R, Python, Git, Markdown
- Stata, Matlab, Latex

## Extracurricular Activities

- Organizer of the weekly seminar series at the University of Stavanger
- Elected as delegate of the PostDocs and PhDs in the faculty meetings at the University of Zurich
- Founder & Leader of the Stress Management Group for PhD Students of the University of Zurich