

# SOEREN J. HENN

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Pearson Institute 2016-5  
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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics, Political Economy, Comparative Politics

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Innovations for Poverty Action, Peace & Recovery, Post-Doctoral Fellow, 2019-  
University of Chicago, Pearson Institute, Guest Scientist, 2019-

## EDUCATION

*Ph.D.*, Political Economy & Government. Harvard University, 2013-2019.  
Committee: Torben Iversen, Horacio Larreguy, Nathan Nunn & Pia Raffler.  
  
*BA*, Politics. University of Essex, 2010-13.

## RESEARCH PAPERS

Soeren J. Henn. "Complements or Substitutes? How Institutional Arrangements Bind Chiefs and the State in Africa." *Revise & Resubmit, American Political Science Review*.

Soeren J. Henn, Laura Paler, Wilson Prichard, Cyrus Samii, and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra. "Increasing Bargaining Power to Reduce Informal Taxation: Evidence from an Experiment in the DRC." [Pre-Analysis Plan](#).

Soeren J. Henn, Gauthier Marchais, and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra. "Indirect Rule: Evidence from Armed Groups in Eastern Congo." *Draft Available*.

Soeren J. Henn and Horacio Larreguy. "The Lasting Impact of Colonial Educational Policies in Nigeria: Evidence from a Policy Experiment on Missionary Activity." *Draft Available*.

Soeren J. Henn, Horacio Larreguy, and John Marshall. "You Get What You Pay For? Can Certification Programs Contribute to Local State Capacity Strengthening?" [PDF](#).

Soeren J. Henn, Horacio Larreguy, and Carlos Schmidt-Padilla. "Missionary Competition, Education, and Long-run Political Development: Evidence from Africa" *Draft Available*.

Soeren J. Henn, Christian Mastaki Mugaruka, Miguel Ortiz, Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, David Qihang Wu, and Jean Paul Zibika. "Stationary Bandits and Their Time Horizon: Evidence from the FDLR in the Eastern DRC." *Draft Available*.

Soeren J. Henn and Connor Huff. "Fighting for Empires." *Draft Available*.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Soeren J. Henn, Horacio Larreguy, and John Marshall. "The Effect of Drug-related Violence on Local State Capacity." *In Progress*.

Oeindrila Dube, Soeren J. Henn, and James Robinson. "Farmer Herder Violence in Nigeria." *In Progress*.

**PROJECT  
MANAGEMENT**

Co-PI, \$ 1,485,000 USAID, IPA, & JPAL randomized control trial on farmer herder violence in Nigeria, 2019-

National coordinator and co-PI, \$750,000 DFID project on taxes, corruption, and fiscal evasion in the DRC, 2015: Survey of 3,100 households in 3 provinces, involving 60 enumerators.

National coordinator and co-PI, \$300,000 PEDL & ICTD project on armed group taxation and beer markets in Eastern DRC, 2015.

**ACADEMIC  
HONOURS &  
GRANTS**

2020 International Growth Centre grant over £105,606 (conditional acceptance)

USAID-DIV grant over \$811,837.63

(with Oeindrila Dube and James Robinson)

Pearson Institute Research and Innovation Fund over \$12,793

2019 JPAL CVI grant over \$420,000

(with Oeindrila Dube and James Robinson)

Harvard Certificate of Distinction in Teaching

2018 Harvard Certificate of Distinction in Teaching

CAF Latin American Development Bank research grant over \$10,000

(with Horacio Larreguy and John Marshall)

2017 IQSS graduate research grant over \$2,300

2016 IQSS graduate research grant over \$2,200

2015 IQSS graduate research grant over \$2,389

2013 Oscar Arias Prize in Politics (best thesis in politics), Essex University.

Athlete Scholar Award, Essex University.

**RESEARCH  
ASSISTANCE**

Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, Harvard University, 2015.

James Robinson, Government Department, Harvard University, 2014.

Eric Smith, Department of Economics, Essex University, 2012-13.

**TEACHING**

Senior Thesis Research Seminar in Political Economy, Development, and Econometrics: Fall 2018 & Spring 2019 (main instructor).

Analyzing Politics (undergraduate): Spring 2016 & Spring 2017 (Kenneth Shepsle).

Rethinking Financial Inclusion: Smart Design for Policy and Practice (executive): April 2016 (Asim Khwaja)

The Future of Globalization: Issues, Actors, and Decisions (undergraduate): Fall 2016 (Robert Lawrence and Larry Summers)

**TALKS &  
CONFERENCES**

**Invited Talks**

2019 World Bank, Governance Unit

2016 German Development Institute (DIE)

**Conferences**

2020 American Political Science Association

2019 American Political Science Association  
 BREAD Conference on Development Economics  
 Midwest Political Science Association  
 North East Universities Development Consortium  
 2018 American Political Science Association  
 Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science  
 2017 Midwest Political Science Association  
 American Political Science Association  
 African Studies Association  
 2016 Midwest Political Science Association  
 Formal Theory and Comparative Politics Conference  
 Boston Working Group on African Political Economy Workshop  
 2014 European Political Science Association  
 African Studies Association

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES** *Reviewer:* American Political Science Review, Journal of Development Economics, Political Analysis.  
*Member:* American Economic Association. American Political Science Association. Econometric Society. Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University. Midwest Political Science Association.  
*Academic Advisor:* [Marakuja Research](#), Goma, D.R. Congo, 2015-  
*V-DEM Country Expert:* Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, 2021-

**CONSULTING** World Bank, Governance Unit, Development of Policy Note on Conflict, State Deployment and Legitimacy in Niger, 2020.  
 World Bank, Governance Unit, Development of Policy Note on State Deployment in the Sahel Region, 2019.

**COMPUTING SKILLS** GIS,  $\LaTeX$ , Matlab, Python, R, Stata.

**LANGUAGE SKILLS** German (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), Swahili (intermediate).

Last updated: February 11, 2021.