

# VARTAN SHADAREVIAN

## EDUCATION

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### HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

*J.D., cum laude | Cambridge, MA*

*May, 2020*

Luys Scholarship, near full tuition (for select Armenian students at global top 10 universities)

*Dean's Scholar Prize*, Empirical Law and Finance; Law and Economics

*Cross-registered math & PhD economics courses:*

Contract Theory (A), Industrial Organization (A), Political Economics (A)

Real Analysis (A), Stochastic Processes (A) [Shadow grades due to COVID-19]

### UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

*M.A. Economics | GPA conversion 4.32/4.33 | Vancouver, BC*

*Aug 2015*

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

*B.A. Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, Second Upper Class Honours | Oxford, UK*

*Jul 2013*

Luys Scholarship, near full tuition (for select Armenian students at global top 10 universities)

Distinction, First Year Public Examinations (awarded Gladstone prize for highest mark in college)

Varsity Track and Field, awarded Oxford Half-Blue. Oxford Union, Debater

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

*Researcher, International Postgraduate Research Program | Cambridge, MA*

*Aug 2020 –*

Conduct economics and law research under supervision of Howell Jackson; focus on the economics of financial regulations. Developed extensive datasets of rulemaking actions by U.S. financial agencies and comments by private parties on proposed rules.

*John M. Olin Fellow in Law and Economics | Cambridge, MA*

*Sept 2019 – May 2020*

*Residential Academic Fellow | Cambridge, MA*

*Jun 2018 – Aug 2018; Aug 2019*

Developed research in topics law and economics. Focus on the incentives and behavior of U.S. regulatory agencies and bureaucratic employees. Developed and submitted paper to IJIO on collusive pricing and imperfect information. Received stipend as Residential Academic Fellow and Olin Fellow.

*Research Assistant | Cambridge, MA*

*Jun 2017 – Dec 2018*

Conducted law and economics research for law professors at HLS. Worked with Louis Kaplow on research into economy-wide markups. Conducted research on ownership data of U.S. firms for Jesse Fried.

### UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

*Research Assistant | Vancouver, BC*

*Aug 2015 – Aug 2017*

Assist UBC professors with academic research. Worked with Thomas Ross on theoretical research into the role of product quality in cartel formation and stability. Worked with Josh Gottlieb on computational analysis of partial equilibrium of housing prices and interest rates. Worked with Francesco Trebbi on empirical analysis of lobbying and financial regulation.

*Teaching Assistant | Vancouver, BC*

*Sep 2014 – Jun 2015*

Taught intermediate microeconomics and macroeconomics. Led weekly review lectures and graded exams.

## ECONOMICS PAPERS

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“Collusive Price Stickiness and Consumer Search”, *Revise and Resubmit, International Journal of Industrial Organization* – IO theory paper that examines the relation between consumer behavior and collusive prices in oligopolies. Presented at 2020 Harvard IO and Contract Theory Workshops.

“Tacit Semicollusion” (with Prof. Thomas W. Ross and Prof. Leonardo J. Basso) – Economic competition policy paper examining self-enforcing semicollusion and comparing stability and welfare to that of full collusion.

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## OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

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### ALEPH POLICY INITIATIVE

*Cofounder, Executive Director | Vancouver, BC & Boston, MA*

*Sept 2016 – May 2019*

Ran a non-profit economic consultancy group, cofounded with several colleagues. Built a team of over 10 research affiliates from five countries. Conduct research for U.S. Department of State (DOS) and Canadian Parliament. Led grant writing for over \$5,000,000 of DOS and USAID funding. Continued to run the organization concurrently with law school studies.

### BLACK SNOW CAPITAL

*Summer Research Associate | New York City, NY & Boston, MA*

*Jun 2018 – Aug 2018*

Conducted financial research for an NYC-based hedge fund. Devised options trading strategies based on macroeconomic data. Built computational models to price derivatives. Analyzed dividend yield patterns of publicly traded equities. Tested strategies on real-world financial data to understand risk and relation to business cycles.

### UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM (USCIRF)

*Contractor, Principal Researcher | Vancouver, BC*

*Jan 2016 – Sept 2016*

Awarded a contract with USCIRF to produce report on religious freedom in Iraq. Built 10-person research team to analyze statutes, construct region's most exhaustive ethnoreligious mappings from over 800 sources, and statistically analyze satellite data following methodology in Alesina et al. (JPE, 2016). Wrote findings into published policy report (see below). Report used by policymakers including in U.S. Department of State.

### SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM LLP

*Summer Associate | Washington, DC*

*May 2019 – Jul 2019*

Summer associate at DC office of big-law firm Skadden. Worked with the financial regulation, antitrust, and M&A practices.

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## PRESENTATIONS

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2020 Harvard Contract Theory Workshop.

2019 Harvard Law and Economics Seminar; Harvard Industrial Organization Workshop.

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## OTHER RESEARCH

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“Learning-Constrained Agents” – I develop an economic model of learning-constrained agents, who choose a posterior subject to a cost that depends on the Kullback-Leibler divergence (a measure of relative entropy of distributions) from the prior. A game-theoretic concept with multiple agents is also defined.

“Partitioned Cooperation Equilibrium” – Refinement of Subgame Perfect Equilibrium providing a solution to repeated games where exogenous coalitions of players cooperate, but where coalitions compete against each other.

“Wilting in the Kurdish Sun” (with Crispin M. I. Smith), *U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom*, June 2017 – Policy report summarizing factfinding and econometric research on minorities in Northern Iraq (details above).

“Multiple-Rule Cost-Benefit Analysis” (with Robert Delaney) – Law and economics article arguing that US agencies should consider complementarity and substitute effects between different rules in conducting cost-benefit analysis (CBA). Presented at 2019 Harvard Law and Economics Seminar. *Forthcoming at Charleston Law Review*.

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## TESTIMONY

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House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration, October 4, 2018. Appeared as expert witness following request to discuss causes of immigration policy and implications for Canadian policy.

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## SKILLS & OTHER

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Proficient in Python, R, Matlab, Stata, Mathematica, QGIS. Arabic, intermediate level.

Former Editor-in-Chief of *Harvard National Security Journal*.

Tennis enthusiast and player. Former provincially ranked 100m sprinter (Personal Best 10.97s).