Yang Xun
Curriculum Vitae

CEMFI
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Education	*Ph.D.* in Economics Advisor: Monica Martinez-Bravo CEMFI, Madrid, Spain	2020 - July 2024 (Expected)
	M.A. in Economics and Finance CEMFI, Madrid, Spain	2018 - 2020
	B.Sc. in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics *B.Ec.* in Finance Renmin University of China, Beijing, China	2014 - 2018 2014 - 2018
	International Exchange University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA	2016 - 2017

References	Monica Martinez-Bravo CEMFI mmb@cemfi.es	Manuel Arellano CEMFI arellano@cemfi.es	Cauê Dobbin Georgetown University Caue.Dobbin@georgetown.edu

Placement Coordinators	Nezih Guner CEMFI nezih.guner@cemfi.es	Tom Zohar CEMFI tom.zohar@cemfi.es

Research Fields   Development Economics, Political Economy

Working Papers

Corruption and Talent Allocation (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: Talent is a key input in the delivery of public services, yet less is known about what affects the supply of talent for the public sector. This paper studies the role of political corruption in shifting talent allocation across public and private sector careers. I exploit a randomized anti-corruption audit program in Brazil together with comprehensive micro-data on educational and labor market outcomes of college students. Using a generalized difference-in-difference research design, I find that high-ability students in audited municipalities are less likely to choose majors tailored toward public sector careers, such as business administration and law. Moreover, tracking students to the labor market demonstrates that audits also lead to a lower share of high-ability students working as civil servants. Finally, I provide suggestive evidence that the effects of audits on talent allocation can be driven by the perception of lower rent-seeking returns and higher reputation costs. Taken together, these findings highlight an understudied negative consequence of corruption on the economy: the distortion of talent allocation toward rent-seeking in the public sector.

Selected Work in Progress

Economic Integration and Political Dispute Across the Taiwan Strait (with Chi Man Cheung and Tzu-Ting Yang)

Abstract: Does economic integration foster political affinity, or can it trigger a backlash? We approach this question by investigating an unconventional type of "China

shock" in the context of the Taiwanese export surge to mainland China. Applying a shift-share design with newly delineated commuting zones (CZs) in Taiwan, our preliminary findings suggest that an across-CZ interquartile change in China export exposure leads to a 1.2% increase in pro-independence vote shares during 2000-2016. Individual data from socioeconomic surveys reveals similar effects on pro-independence attitudes. We do not, however, find evidence of export exposure affecting inclination toward a more exclusive Taiwanese versus Chinese identity. To understand the mechanisms behind the political backlash of trade integration, we plan to disentangle the potential roles of labor market adjustments to trade versus an indirect political deterrence effect from overall economic dependence.

Immigration and Assimilation of the Chinese Diaspora in Indonesia

Abstract: This paper studies the effects of state-enforced assimilation policy on immigrant integration. I focus on the Chinese diaspora in Indonesia when long-lasting anti-Chinese legislation during the New Order (1966-1998) was revoked after the fall of Suharto. I exploit across-regency differences in ethnic Chinese shares prior to the revoke as a proxy for the intensity of out-group exposure. The difference-in-difference estimates suggest the revoke of the legislation fostered cultural assimilation of Chinese Indonesians, as measured by language use and religious affiliation. Additional data collection is in process to study economic and political assimilation, as ethnic Chinese are perceived as economic insiders but political outsiders in Indonesia. All in all, this study aims to contribute to understanding how state policy affects immigrant integration in the context of south-south migration.

Conferences and Seminars (*Scheduled)	**2023** NEUDC (Harvard), EWMES (*Manchester), RES Annual Conference (*Belfast), CGU (*Brasilia, online)
	2022 CAGE Summer School (Warwick), ACES Political Economy Summer School (LSE)

Teaching Experience	*Teaching Assistant*, Mathematics (Graduate), CEMFI Fall 2021 *Teaching Assistant*, Uncertainty and Information (Graduate), CEMFI Winter 2021, 2023

Relevant Positions	*Research Assistant*, Dr. Yarine Fawaz, CEMFI	2021 - Present
	Research Assistant, Prof. Manuel Arellano, CEMFI	2020 - 2021
	Research Assistant, Prof. Monica Martinez-Bravo, CEMFI	2019

Grants, Awards, and Honors	*Maria de Maeztu* Research Grant (€2000)	2023
	CEMFI Ph.D. Scholarship	2020-2024
	CEMFI Master in Economics and Finance Scholarship	2018-2020
	Presidential Scholarship for International Exchange, RUC	2016-2017
	China National Scholarship	2015 & 2016
	China National Petroleum Corporation Scholarship	2014

Short-term Visits	*INEP*, Ministry of Education Brasilia, Brazil	Apr. 2023

Citizenship	Chinese

Languages	Mandarin (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Intermediate), Portuguese (Basic)

Last Updated: Dec. 2023