

Edith Zink

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Employment

Postdoctoral Research, Department of Economics
University of Copenhagen (Denmark)

since December 2023

Education

Ph.D. Economics

November 2023

University of Copenhagen (Denmark)

Supervisor: Pablo Selaya

Dissertation: *Empirical Essays on the Political Economy of Social Exclusion*

Committee: Søren Leth-Petersen (University of Copenhagen), Johanna Rickne (Stockholm University), James Robinson (UChicago)

M.Sc. Economics

July 2020

University of Copenhagen (Denmark)

B.Sc. Economics

July 2017

University of Mannheim (Germany)

Research Visits

Bocconi University, LEAP (Italy)

Spring 2022

Host: Eliana La Ferrara

Stockholm University, SOFI (Sweden)

Fall 2021

Host: Johanna Rickne

Experience

Short Term Consultant

December 2020 - July 2022

World Bank, Tom Bundervoet

Graduate Assistant

January - April 2018

Georgia Tech, Michael E. Kummer

Intern & Graduate Assistant

January - July 2017

Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Digital Economy, Irene Bertschek

Grants

Rockwool Foundation

2023

Project funding for *The Danish Refugee Cohort (DARECO) – Early Integration and Mental Health* with Mette Foged, Camilla Hvidtfeldt, Karen-Inge Karstoft

Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN)

2023

Project funding for *Early integration of Ukrainian refugees in Denmark* with Mette Foged

Agustinus Fonden

2021-2022

Travel grants for research visits to Stockholm and Milan

Teaching and Supervision

Interdisciplinary Field Research Assistance with realization of interdisciplinary research projects during field work in Bolivia Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Global Development	Spring 2024
Interdisciplinary Field Research Assistance with realization of interdisciplinary research projects during field work in Nepal Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Global Development	Spring 2023
Advanced Development Economics: Microeconomic Aspects Applied exercises in Stata, assignment grading Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics	Spring 2023
Advanced Development Economics: Microeconomic Aspects Applied exercises in Stata, assignment grading Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics	Spring 2020
Advanced Microeconometrics Applied exercises with derivations and Matlab application, assignment grading Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics	Fall 2019
Social Data Science Assistance for exercise solving and project realization in Python Summer School at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics	Summer 2019
Economic Growth and Inequality Teaching assistance for quantitative seminars Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Global Development	Fall 2019
Advanced Development Economics: Macroeconomic Aspects Seminars with jigsaw discussions, lecturing, provision of feedback on submissions Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics	Fall 2018 & 2019

Referee Work

International Migration Review

Presentations and Workshop Participation

MZES, University of Mannheim, <i>Politics of Residential mobility workshop</i> IAB, Nuremberg, <i>Investigating social inequalities using survey and register data</i>	2024
EDGE Jamboree Applied Young Economist Webinar - Political Economy Workshop	2023
EDGE Jamboree	2022
Nordic Conference in Development Economics	2021

Skills

Languages German (native), English (fluent), Danish (C1), Spanish (B1)

Software Python, Stata, T_EX, Microsoft Office, Markdown, Github, R (basic), Matlab (basic)

Working Papers

Power Struggles After Autocracy – Evidence from Post-Uprising Tunisia
Draft available. Current version: July 2023

What happens to the existing balance of political power when autocrats leave? I study the territorial redistribution of political power in Tunisia after the Arab Uprisings – four weeks of mass protests – had forced the president of 24 years to step down in January 2011 setting Tunisia off on a transition from autocracy. Political decentralization was an important part of Tunisia's new constitution. Municipal elections, however, were not held until May 2018. In these seven years, the central government appointed, and replaced municipal councils by decree. I generate a novel data set on these council appointments from regulative texts and exploit variation across regions and over time to quantify the power struggles that arise between civil society seeking greater autonomy and the state trying to establish larger territorial reach. I find that appointments led to more violent conflict which is driven by repeated replacements of previously appointed councils. Event studies support that violent conflict was indeed a reaction to council appointments and not vice versa. I relate to the literature on the political economy of decentralization, the role of local officials during transitions, and the power relationships between state and society.

What is the Ideal Number of Women in Politics? – The Gender Gap in the Perceived Deficit of Women in Politics

with Pablo Selaya (UCPH), and Sina Smid (CBS)

Draft available. Current version: March 2024

The persistent inequality in the distribution of political power has led to increasing calls for affirmative action. We focus on gender inequality in politics and design a survey asking what the ideal level of women in parliament would be. We find that male respondents are more likely to think that the actual level of women in politics is ideal, while female respondents are more likely to choose a gender equal outcome. There is no difference in estimates of the actual level between men and women. This gender gap in the perceived deficit of women in parliament is robust over time and to a wide range of controls, including ethnicity and parental background. It can not be explained by different preferences for concentration of female politicians in specific policy areas. Rather, we find indicative evidence from a first set of survey experiments that women are more aware of differential meritocratic standards being applied to female politicians. This finding is in line with women, the underrepresented group, becoming aware that the gender inequality in politics is not the outcome of a fair and efficient process. We support this interpretation with evidence from a second set of survey experiments showing that women are more likely to support affirmative action.

Neighborhood Engineering – Place-Based Policies and Neighborhood Composition

with Jack Melbourne (Bocconi), Sara Signorelli (CREST), Yajna Govind (Copenhagen Business School)

Draft available. Current version January 2024.

Residential segregation can either be overcome by developments within segregated areas or by changes to area composition from migration. We explore these two channels by evaluating Denmark's Ghetto Plan, which targeted public housing areas with low socio-economic status, using administrative data from the Danish population register. The policy did not fundamentally alter neighbourhoods' socio-economic composition with regard to crime, education, and country of origin metrics. However, there is evidence for modest improvements in labour market indicators, as we estimated average incomes and labour market participation to increase. When we break these effects down into groups of people who moved or stayed in treated neighbourhoods, we find the effects are driven by individuals with higher incomes and probability of having a job moving in replacing individuals with worse labour market indicators.

Working in Progress

Trauma and Refugees' Employment – Evidence from People Displaced from Ukraine

with Mette Foged (UCPH, Economics), Karen-Inge Karstoft (UCPH, Psychology), Anne Agathe Pedersen (UCPH, Psychology)