

Edith Zink

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Education

Ph.D. Economics University of Copenhagen (Denmark) Supervisor: Pablo Selaya Expected graduation: Fall 2023	ongoing
M.Sc. Economics University of Copenhagen (Denmark)	July 2020
B.Sc. Economics University of Mannheim (Germany)	July 2017

Research Visits

Bocconi University, LEAP (Italy) Host: Eliana La Ferrara	Spring 2022
Stockholm University, SOFI (Sweden) Host: Johanna Rickne	Fall 2021

Experience

Short Term Consultant World Bank, Tom Bundervoet	December 2020 - July 2022
Graduate Assistant Georgia Tech, Michael E. Kummer	January - April 2018
Intern & Graduate Assistant Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Digital Economy, Irene Bertschek	January - July 2017

Grants

Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN) Project funding for <i>Early integration of Ukrainian refugees in Denmark</i>	2023
Agustinus Fonden Travel grants for research visits to Stockholm and Milan	2021-2022

Teaching and Supervision

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

Spring 2020

Applied exercises in Stata, assignment grading

Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics

Advanced Microeconometrics

Fall 2019

Applied exercises with derivations and Matlab application, assignment grading

Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics

Social Data Science

Summer 2019

Assistance for exercise solving and project realization in Python

Summer School at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics

Economic Growth and Inequality

Fall 2019

Teaching assistance for quantitative seminars

Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Global Development

Advanced Development Economics: Macroeconomic Aspects

Fall 2018 & 2019

Seminars with jigsaw discussions, lecturing, provision of feedback on submissions

Master's level course at University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics

Skills**Languages** German (native), English (fluent), Danish (B2), Spanish (B1)**Software** Python, Stata, T_EX, Microsoft Office, Markdown, Github, R (basic), Matlab (basic)

Work in Progress**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? - Distributive Preferences, Inequality, and Meritocracy*with Pablo Selaya (UCPH), and Sina Smid (CBS)*

Draft available. Current version: July 2023

We study the number of women in politics as a question of distributive justice, and examine empirically what would be an ideal number. Based on Harsanyi's (1977) theory of moral judgments about societal outcomes, we design an online survey in which we ask respondents to (a) estimate the current number of women in politics; and (b) express their ideal number of women in politics under a "lottery of nature" that helps respondents to abstract from their personal characteristics, and thereby helps us to interpret their preferences as impersonal, moral value judgments concerning societal welfare (Harsanyi, 1953, 1977; Rawls, 1971). Respondents reveal an ideal number of women in politics of 39%. These preferences are not confounded by personal characteristics, are stable over time, and on average consistently below the 50% equality threshold. Given these preferences for inequality, we probe two mechanisms to explain them: First, we analyze whether female politicians' work, or are preferred to work, in specific policy areas. If these areas are less valued in society, specialization might explain preferences for a lower ideal number of women in politics. We show, however, that there is both a low degree of actual, female specialization across policy areas and also low preferences for such specialization. Second, we examine whether respondents believe that meritocratic attributes

are more important for female than for male political candidates to become successful politicians, by running three experiments to elicit whether respondents believe that (i) effort, (ii) experience, and (iii) education (university degree) are more important for female than for male political candidates. Female respondents consider that having a university degree is in general not that important for political candidates, unless the candidate in question is female, in which case having a university degree becomes more important. We show that actual educational attainment is higher among women than men among parliamentarians relative to the whole population in Tanzania. These results suggest that meritocratic values may be used to justify inequality in the distribution of political power between men and women and as women seem to be held to higher standards, they call for a discussion of the origins of these meritocratic values in society. Our research contributes to understanding the mechanisms that sustain a lower participation of women in politics.

The Making of a Ghetto - Residential Moving and Neighborhood Segregation

with Jack Melbourne (Bocconi)

Draft available. Current version July 2023.

Residential segregation is influenced by a multitude of historical and structural factors, but it is also significantly shaped by people's ability and decisions to move into and out of different neighborhoods. In this paper, we evaluate Denmark's Ghetto Plan, a policy introduced in 2010 with the goal to reduce residential segregation in the country. In particular, we study how this policy affected residential moving decisions, and how this type of mobility contributed to achieving the policy's goal. The Ghetto Plan affects only public housing areas, and defines thresholds at the neighborhood level, which are related to the country of origin, education level, criminal activity, income, and labor market participation of their inhabitants. Neighborhoods that cross enough thresholds are listed on yearly updated, publicly available lists. Once listed, neighborhoods are affected by a range of policies aimed to increase labor market participation, reduce crime, increase children's day-care enrollment, and influence neighborhood compositions via moving-in restrictions. We compare individual outcomes for people with residential addresses that were treated with those that were considered but not treated. We find that the Ghetto Plan was largely ineffective, as it did not fundamentally alter neighborhoods socio-economic composition. We find evidence for statistically significant yet economically small improvements in average incomes (of ca. 500 DKK a month) and an increase in labor market participation (of ca. 1 percentage point). When we break down these effects among groups of people who moved or stayed in treated neighborhoods, we find that effects are explained by residential mobility, or relative changes in the composition of groups of people who chose to move out and into treated neighborhoods. Our results help to understand better how residential moving patterns contribute to the making and changing of ghettos.