

Dr. Zareh Asatryan - Curriculum Vitae

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Updated: December, 2022

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Public Finance, Political Economics, Development Economics

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Employment

Since 2019	Deputy Head (Tenured) Department of Public Finance and Corporate Taxation ZEW – Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research, Mannheim, Germany
2017 - 2018	Post-Doctoral Researcher, University of Mannheim, Germany
2014 - 2017	Researcher, ZEW

Affiliations

Since 2019	CESifo, Network Affiliate
Since 2011	Armenian Economic Association, President and Executive Director (since 2016)

EDUCATION

2015	Dr. rer. pol. with distinction (summa cum laude), University of Freiburg Thesis: Direct Democracy and Local Public Finances in Germany (slides) Advisor: Prof. Lars P. Feld Coursework: Berlin Doctoral Program of Economics and Management Science
2010	MSc in Economics and Management Science, Humboldt University of Berlin
2007	BSc in Applied Mathematics and Statistics, State University of New York at Stony Brook

MAIN RESEARCH PAPERS

1. Nudging for Tax Compliance: A Meta-Analysis. 2022. [R&R \(second round\)](#) at [Economic Journal](#). (with Armenak Antinyan).
2. Austerity and Distributional Policy. 2020. [Journal of Monetary Economics](#) 131, 112-127. (with Matteo Alpino, Sebastian Blesse, Nils Wehrhöfer).
3. Vote Buying or (Political) Business (Cycles) as Usual? 2020. [The Review of Economics and Statistics](#) 102(3), 409-425. (with Toke Aidt, Lusine Badalyan and Friedrich Heinemann).
4. Balanced Budget Rules and Fiscal Outcomes: Evidence from Historical Constitutions. 2018. [Journal of Public Economics](#) 167, 105-119. (with Cesar Castellon and Thomas Stratmann).
5. Remittances and Public Finances: Evidence from Oil-Price Shocks. 2017. [Journal of Public Economics](#) 155, 122-137. (with Benjamin Bittschi and Philipp Dörrenberg).
6. Direct Democracy and Local Public Finances under Cooperative Federalism. 2017. [Scandinavian Journal of Economics](#) 119(3), 801–820. (with Thushyanthan Baskaran, Theodoris Grigoriadis and Friedrich Heinemann).

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Political Consequences of Consumer Debt Relief. 2022. [ZEW Discussion Paper No. 22-049](#). (with Toke Aidt and Lusine Badalyan).
8. Favoritism and Firms: Micro Evidence and Macro Implications. 2021. [ZEW Discussion Paper No. 21-031](#). (with Thushyanthan Baskaran, Carlo Birkholz, and David Gomtsyan).

9. Regional Favoritism and Human Capital Accumulation. 2021. [ZEW Discussion Paper No. 21-030](#). (with Thushyanthan Baskaran, Patrick Hufschmidt, and Alexander Stöcker).
10. Regional Redistribution of Mineral Resource Wealth in Africa. 2021. [ZEW Discussion Paper No. 21-032, 2021](#). (with Thushyanthan Baskaran, Carlo Birkholz, and Patrick Hufschmidt).
11. The Incidence of VAT Evasion. 2020. [Reject&Resubmit at Journal of Public Economics](#). (with David Gomtsyan).
12. Responses of Firms to Tax, Administrative, and Accounting Rules: Evidence from Armenia. 2016. [ZEW Discussion Paper No. 16-065](#). (with Andreas Peichl).
13. Inverse December Fever: Evidence from Austria. (with Andreas Peichl, Thomas Schwab and Johannes Voget).

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

14. Taxes and Business Philanthropy in Armenia. 2022. [Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization 200, 914-930](#). (with David Joulfaian).
15. Does the Frequency of Reminders Matter for their Effectiveness? 2021. [Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization 191, 752-764](#). (with Armenak Antinyan, Zhixin Dai, and Kezhi Wang).
16. Political Economy of Multilateral Lending to European Regions. 2020. [Review of International Organizations 15, 707-740](#). (with Anika Havlik).
17. Biases in Fiscal Multiplier Estimates. 2020. [European Journal of Political Economy 63, 1-25](#). (with Annika Havlik, Friedrich Heinemann and Justus Nover).
18. Reforming the Public Administration: The Role of Crisis and the Power of Bureaucracy. 2017. [European Journal of Political Economy 48, 128-143](#). (with Friedrich Heinemann and Hans Pitlik).
19. Vetoing and Inaugurating Policy Like Others Do: Evidence on Spatial Interactions in Voter Initiatives. 2017. [Public Choice 172\(3-4\), 525-544](#). (with Annika Havlik and Frank Streif).
20. The Effect of Direct Democracy on the Level and Structure of Local Taxes. 2017. [Regional Science and Urban Economics 65, 35-55](#). (with Thushyanthan Baskaran and Friedrich Heinemann).
21. The Indirect Effects of Direct Democracy: Local Government Size and Non-Budgetary Voter Initiatives in Germany. 2016. [International Tax and Public Finance 23\(3\), 580-601](#).
22. Partial Fiscal Decentralization and Sub-National Government Fiscal Discipline: Empirical Evidence from OECD Countries. 2015. [Public Choice 163\(3-4\), 307-320](#). (with Benny Geys and Lars P. Feld).
23. Direct Democracy and Local Government Efficiency. 2015. [European Journal of Political Economy 39, 58-99](#). (with Kristof De Witte).
24. Revisiting the Link between Growth and Federalism: A Bayesian Model Averaging Approach. 2015. [Journal of Comparative Economics 43\(3\), 772-781](#). (with Lars P. Feld).

POLICY PAPERS

- The Other Government: State-Owned Enterprises in Germany and Their Implications for the Core Public Sector [ZEW Expert Brief No 08, November 2022](#). (with Friedrich Heinemann and Justus Nover).
- Representing the Future in Aging Societies: Policy Implications of the Voting Age Reform in Germany [ZEW Expert Brief No 04, April 2022](#).
- The European Fiscal Board: An Experiment at the Supranational Level. In Roel Beetsma and Xavier Debrun eds.: Independent Fiscal Councils: Watchdogs or Lapdogs? [VoxEU e-book, pp. 165-173, CEPR press, London, UK 2018](#). (with Friedrich Heinemann).

- Which Role for the European Minister of Economy and Finance in a European Fiscal Union. [EconPol Policy Report 05/2018\(2\)](#), Munich 2018. (with Xavier Debrun, Annika Havlik, Friedrich Heinemann, Martin Kocher and Roberto Tamborini).
- Making the Most of the European Fiscal Board. [ZEW policy brief No. 17-03](#), Mannheim 2017. (with Xavier Debrun, Friedrich Heinemann, Michal Horvath, Ludovít Ódor and Mustafa Yeter).
- Public Sector Reform: How the EU Budget is Used to Encourage It. [European Parliament, DG Internal Policies: Budgetary Affairs \(D\)](#). Brussels 2016. (with Friedrich Heinemann, Mustafa Yeter, Eulalia Rubio, David Rinaldi and Fabian Zuleeg).
- Better Fiscal Rules for Europe: Reflections Based on New Empirical Evidence. [ZEW policy brief No. 15-04](#), Mannheim 2015. (with Dirk Foremny, Friedrich Heinemann, Albert Solé-Ollé, Thomas Stratmann and Mustafa Yeter).
- Some Observations on the Economic Implications of Constitutional Reform in Armenia. [Caucasus Analytical Digest 76, 10-14](#), 2015.
- The Political Economy of Pension Reform in Armenia. [Caucasus Analytical Digest 60, 2-5](#), 2014.
- Compensating the Losers of Free Trade. [WWWforEurope Working Paper No 63](#), 2014. (with Sebastian Braun, Wolfgang Lechthaler, Mariya Mileva and Catia Montagna).

AWARDS

2022	IDEAS RePEc ranking of top 1% of young economists (with 10 or fewer years of research activity)
2016	Dissertation award, Friedrich-August-von-Hayek, University of Freiburg

FUNDING (SELECTED)

2022 - 2024	BMF (German Federal Ministry of Finance): Reforming European Structural Policy.
2021 - 2022	BMBF (German Federal Ministry of Education and Research): The Role of Economic and Social Mobility in the Development Processes of Transition Economies.
2020 - 2021	DFG (German Science Foundation): Regional Favoritism.
2019 - 2020	SEEK: Political Biases in EU Spending.
2018 - 2021	Leibniz: Market Design by Public Authorities.
2016 - 2019	SEEK: European Network of Better Institutions.
2014 - 2015	SEEK: Fiscal Governance in the EU under Crisis Conditions.
2013	European Commission: Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs.
2012 - 2016	Leibniz: Tax Policy in the EU in an Environment of New Fiscal Institutions.
2011 - 2012	PhD Fellowship. Leibniz. The Future of Fiscal Federalism in Germany & Europe.
2008 - 2010	Masters Scholarship. DAAD

TEACHING

2018 Spring	Fiscal Federalism, Syllabus , University of Mannheim.
2017 Fall	Topics in Applied Public Finance, Syllabus , University of Mannheim.

TALKS (SELECTED)

Invited Talks	University of Exeter (TARC), Goethe University of Frankfurt, Walter Eucken Institut (Freiburg), VATT Helsinki, University of Cagliari, University of Innsbruck, WZB (Berlin), Ifo (Munich), LMU (Munich), University of Barcelona, University of Siegen, OSF (Cambridge), DIW (Berlin), University of Zurich, EconPol (Brussels), University of Bayreuth, National Bank of Denmark, ECB (Frankfurt).
Annual Conferences	ASSA (Atlanta, Boston), EEA (Lisbon, Mannheim, Toulouse, Gothenburg), IIPF (Tampere, Taormina, Dresden, Glasgow), NTA (Miami, Tampa, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Baltimore), SEA (Washington, DC), EPCS (Braga, Budapest, Freiburg, Groningen, Cambridge, Zurich), PCS (Miami), Silvaplana Political Economy Workshop, Public Finance in Developing Countries (Zurich).
Public Lectures	Direct Democracy and Public Policy in Germany (2019, slides), Tax and Fiscal Policy in Armenia (2018, slides and video), Tax Evasion and Avoidance (2018), Evidence-Driven Public Policy Design in Armenia (2017, slides).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Refereeing	Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Economic Journal, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Review of Economics and Statistics, American Political Science Review, Journal of Economic Growth, European Economic Review, Journal of Econometrics, International Tax and Public Finance, European Journal of Political Economy, Public Choice, Experimental Economics, Southern Economic Journal, Review of International Organizations, Journal of Comparative Economics, Economics of Transition, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Regional Studies, Review of Development Economics, Finanzarchiv Public Finance Analysis, PLOS ONE, among others.
Conference (Co)Organization	ZEW Public Finance Annual Conference, 2015-2023; Armenian Economic Association Annual Meetings, 2011-2023; Workshop on Fiscal Governance in the Eurozone, 2016 program ; Workshop on the Economics of Public Procurement, 2018 program ; Politics of Favoritism and Its Economic Implications, 2021 program ; Workshop on Redistributive Taxation: Optimal Design and Political Economy Forces 2021 program .

PERSONAL

Languages	Armenian (native), English (fluent), Russian (very good), German (conversational)
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