

Curriculum Vitae

ZAREH ASATRYAN

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Public Finance, Political Economics, Development Economics

POST-GRADUATE WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Senior Researcher**, Leibniz-Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW Mannheim) 2014-
Deputy Head (tenured, since 2019), Department of Public Finance and Corporate Taxation 2018-
- **Post-Doctoral Researcher**, University of Mannheim 2017-18

EDUCATION

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

AFFILIATIONS

- **CESifo**, Network Affiliate 2019-
- **MannheimTaxation**, Junior Member 2014-
- **Armenian Economic Association**, President and Executive Director (since 2016) 2011-

PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- Vote Buying or (Political) Business (Cycles) as Usual? 2019. [Review of Economics and Statistics \(accepted\)](#). (with Toke Aidt, Lusine Badalyan and Friedrich Heinemann).
- Balanced Budget Rules and Fiscal Outcomes: Evidence from Historical Constitutions. 2018. [Journal of Public Economics](#), 167, 105-119. (with Cesar Castellon and Thomas Stratmann).
- Remittances and Public Finances: Evidence from Oil-Price Shocks. 2017. [Journal of Public Economics](#), 155, 122-137. (with Benjamin Bittschi and Philipp Dörrenberg).
- 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).
- 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).
- 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).

- 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).
- 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.
- 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).
- Direct Democracy and Local Government Efficiency. 2015. [European Journal of Political Economy](#) 39, 58-99. (with Kristof De Witte).
- 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).

ONGOING WORK (SELECTED)

- Responses of Firms to Tax, Administrative, and Accounting Rules: Evidence from Armenia. (with Andreas Peichl) *ZEW Discussion Paper No. 16-065*, 2016. [Paper](#), [Video](#).
- Biases in Fiscal Multiplier Estimates. (with Annika Havlik, Friedrich Heinemann and Justus Nover) *ZEW Discussion Paper No. 19-025*, 2019. [Paper](#).
- The Political Economy of Multilateral Lending to European Regions. (with Anika Havlik) *ZEW Discussion Paper No. 19-046*, 2019. [Paper](#).
- Inverse December Fever: Evidence from Austria (with Andreas Peichl, Thomas Schwab and Johannes Voget)
- Austerity and Distributional Policy (with Matteo Alpino, Sebastian Blesse, Nils Wehrhöfer)
- Nudging for Tax Compliance: A Meta-Analysis (with Armenak Antinyan)
- The Incidence of VAT Evasion (with David Gomtsyan)

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 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).

POLICY AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 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).
- The Armenian Banking Sector: Current Issues and Future Directions. *Yerevan State University Press*, 2011. (with Bagrat Asatryan).
- Effects of External Debt on Growth when Controlling for Policies in Post-Soviet and East-European Emerging Economies. *YSU Banber* 132(5), 2010.
- Changes in the Structure of German Airport Charges. *GAP Working Paper*, Berlin, 2009. (with Jürgen Müller and Marius Barbu).

AWARDS

- Dissertation award, Friedrich-August-von-Hayek Prize 2016 of the University Freiburg

GRANTS, PROJECTS (SELECTED)

- DFG: Regional Favoritism in Developing Countries. 2020-21.
- SEEK: Political Biases in EU Spending. 2019-20.
- USC Institute of Armenian Studies: Conditional Cash Transfers and Voter Turnout in Armenia. 2019
- ZEW-STB: Public Procurement and Firm Innovation. 2019-2020.
- Leibniz: Market Design by Public Authorities. 2018-2021.
- SEEK: European Network of Better Institutions. 2016-19.
- USC Institute of Armenian Studies: Public Policy and Entrepreneurship in Armenia. 2016.
- SEEK: Fiscal Governance in the EU under Crisis Conditions. 2014-15.
- Open Society Institute: GSGP. 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- European Commission: Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs. 2013.
- Leibniz: Tax Policy in the EU in an Environment of New Fiscal Institutions. 2012-16
- Leibniz: The Future of Fiscal Federalism in Germany and Europe. 2011–12.
- DAAD: Masters Scholarship. 2008-10.

TEACHING

- 2018 Spring: Fiscal Federalism, [Syllabus](#), University of Mannheim.
- 2017 Fall: Topics in Applied Public Finance, [Syllabus](#), University of Mannheim.

SELECTED TALKS

- **Invited Talks:** VATT Helsinki, University of Cagliari, University of Innsbruck, WZB (Berlin), Ifo (Munich), LMU (Munich), University of Barcelona, University of Siegen, Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting, 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 (Tampa, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Baltimore), SEA

(Washington, DC), EPCS (Budapest, Freiburg, Groningen, Cambridge, Zurich), PCS (Miami), Silvaplane Political Economy Workshop.

- **Public Lectures:** Evidence-Driven Public Policy Design in Armenia (2017, [slides](#)), Tax and Fiscal Policy in Armenia (2018, [slides](#) and [video](#)), Tax Evasion and Avoidance (2018), Direct Democracy and Public Policy in Germany (2019, [slides](#)).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- **Refereeing:** Journal of Economic Growth, European Economic Review, Journal of Public Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Political Science Review, Public Choice, European Journal of Political Economy, Southern Economic Journal, Review of Development Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, International Tax and Public Finance, Regional Studies, Finanzarchiv / Public Finance Analysis, Economics of Transition, Review of International Organizations, PLOS ONE.
- **Conference (Co-)Organization:** ZEW Public Finance Annual Conference 2015-2020; Armenian Economic Association Annual Meetings 2011-2020; ZEW Workshop on Fiscal Governance in the Eurozone 2016; ZEW Workshop on Economics of Public Procurement 2018.

PERSONAL

- **Languages:** Armenian (native), English (fluent), Russian (very good), German (conversational)
 - **Citizenship:** Armenia
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Updated: November, 2019