

ANTOINE BOUCHER

◇ Nationality: French

✉ Oeconomicum, Platz der Göttinger Sieben 3, 37073 Göttingen

✉ antoine.boucher@uni-goettingen.de

WORK EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral researcher, University of Göttingen *2024 - 2025*

Chair of Development Economics (Prof. Andreas Fuchs). Project:
“Economic and Ideological Causes of Political Radicalization and Violence:
Evidence from the 1789 French Revolution”, with Gerda Asmus-Bluhm,
Richard Bluhm, Raphaël Franck, and Andreas Fuchs.

Lecturer, Université Gustave Eiffel *2023 - 2024*

Teaching macroeconomics, economic and social policies, money and finance,
and statistics to undergraduate students.

Lecturer, Sciences Po Paris, School of International Affairs *2023*

Teaching public finance of development course to graduate students.

Lecturer, Université Paris Dauphine *2021 - 2023*

Teaching open macroeconomics to undergraduate students.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Université Paris Dauphine PSL, DIAL - IRD *2019 - 2023*

“Three Essays in Applied Political Economy”
Thesis under the direction of Lisa Chauvet and Marin Ferry.
Jury members: Silvia Marchesi, Pierre-Guillaume Méon,
Emmanuelle Lavallée, Kai Gehring.

Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne *2017 - 2019*

Master in Development Economics, with honors.

Université Savoie Mont-Blanc, Annecy *2014 - 2017*

Bachelor in Economics and Finance,
Valedictorian, with honors.

LANGUAGES

French	Native language.
English	Full professional proficiency.
Spanish	Limited working proficiency.

SKILLS

Statistics	Stata, Python (web scraping, OCR), Excel.
GIS	QGIS.
Word Proc.	L ^A T _E X, Word.

PUBLICATIONS

Connective Infrastructure and Firms Export: China vs. the World Bank, Different Approaches, Different Results? *2023*
Revue d'Economie du Développement, International Conference on Development Economics, Special Issue

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Foreign Aid and Power Play: Political Cycle in World Bank's Procurement Allocation *Submitted*
With Lisa Chauvet and Marin Ferry.

This paper examines the existence of political cycles in the awarding of World Bank procurement contracts around elections. We consider elections in the home country of firms winning these contracts, whether the firms come from the aid recipient country (*i.e.* domestic firms) or from other supplier countries (*i.e.* foreign firms). Our findings indicate that domestic firms are more likely to secure larger contracts around elections in their home country, especially when corporate donations to candidates are allowed. Additionally, our results reveal an increase in contract sizes awarded to foreign firms before elections in their home country. This cross-border political cycle appears to be driven by strong aid partnerships and historical colonial ties between the supplier and recipient countries.

Do Roads Lead to Exports? Chinese Transport Infrastructure Projects in Developing Countries *Work in progress*

In recent decades, China has become a crucial provider of transport infrastructure in developing countries. This paper investigates the impact of Chinese-funded transport infrastructure on firm-level development, focusing on its influence on firms' likelihood to export. To explore these effects, I matched firm-level data from the World Bank Enterprise Survey with geolocated Chinese-funded transport projects implemented between 2000 and 2019. Employing an instrumental variable strategy, I exploit the interaction between a region's probability of receiving transport projects and labor unrest in China as a source of exogenous variation. The analysis reveals no significant overall effect of Chinese transport infrastructure on firms' export probabilities. However, heterogeneity analyses suggest that firms in low-population-density regions benefit more from these projects.

Borders, Repression, and Electoral Persistence: The Legacy of 1851 *Work in progress*
Runner-up for the Wicksell Prize during the EPCS conference 2023 in Hannover.

This paper investigates how diverging historical trajectories and exposure to political repression in the 19th century influenced long-term electoral outcomes. Leveraging the natural experiment created by the 1815-1860 border separating France from the Duchy of Savoy and the County of Nice, I employ a spatial discontinuity design to estimate the political legacy of these distinct paths, characterized by different exposure to the 1851 political repression against Republicans. The results indicate that communes remaining in France during this period have a persistent preference for left-wing candidates, which is driven by limited cross-border population mixing during higher education and at work. Archival data on arrest reports reveal that the 1851 political repression increased abstention rates. Further analysis suggests the repressions long-term effects stem from its impact on local political demand

and supply, as well as a contraction in the Republican activist network.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

2024

Political Economy of Global Development Seminar, University of Stuttgart.
Homecoming of the Göttingen School of Development Economics
International Conference in Development Economics, Aix-en-Provence.
72th Congress of the French Economic Association (AFSE), Bordeaux.
Economic History Society Conference, Newcastle.
Virtual Workshop in Historical Political Economy.

2023

European Public Choice Society Conference, Hanover.
The Political Economy of International Organization Conference, San Diego.
AFEDEV Job Market training seminar
LEDa Internal Seminar
DIAL Internal Development Seminar.
CEPR Paris Symposium 2023
Annual Workshop Economics & Politics, Brussel.

2022

Journée des Doctorants PSL.
DIAL Internal Development Seminar.
Graduate Students in International Political Economy Workshop.
European Public Choice Society Conference, Braga.
70th Congress of the French Economic Association (AFSE), Dijon.
International Conference in Development Economics, Clermont-Ferrand.

2021

The Political Economy of International Organization Seminar.
CSAE Conference on Economic Development in Africa.
European Public Choice Society Conference.
International Conference in Development Economics.
Globalization and Development International Conference.

2020

DIAL Internal Development Seminar.
Journée Doctorale du Développement.

REFEREE

Revue d'Economie du Développement.