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Affiliations

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| May 2026– | Johns Hopkins University, School of Government & Policy (Washington, DC) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▸ <i>Full Professor with tenure, and founding faculty member</i>▸ <i>Professor by courtesy in the Dept. of Economics</i> |
| 2023–2026 | Dept. of Economics, George Mason University (Fairfax, VA); <i>Full Professor with tenure</i> |
| 2023– | Peterson Institute for International Economics (Washington, DC); <i>Non-Resident Senior Fellow</i> |
| 2014– | IZA–Institute of Labor Economics (LISER, Luxembourg); <i>Research Fellow</i> |
| 2025– | <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> (American Economic Association); <i>Associate Editor</i> |
| 2021– | Centre for Research & Analysis of Migration (CReAM), Rockwool Fdn. (Berlin); <i>Research Fellow</i> |
| 2025– | Center for Economic Policy Research (CEPR, UK); <i>Invited Member</i> , Research & Policy Network on the Political Economy of Migration |
| 2023– | Center for Global Development (Washington, DC); <i>Distinguished Non-Resident Fellow</i> |
| 2026– | Fulcrum Project (UCSD and Dartmouth); <i>Mentor</i> |
| 2021–2023 | US Agency for International Development; <i>Expert Development Economist</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▸ <i>Office of the Administrator, TS security clearance</i> |
| 2002–2023 | Center for Global Development (Washington, DC) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▸ <i>Director for Migration, Displacement, & Humanitarian Policy, 2019–2023</i>▸ <i>Co-Director for Migration, Displacement, & Humanitarian Policy, 2017–2019</i>▸ <i>Research Fellow, 2002–2010; Senior Fellow, 2010–2023; Research Manager, 2011–2017</i> |
| 2022 | Georgetown University (SFS & McCourt School); <i>Adjunct Professor</i> |
| 2016–2022 | <i>Journal of Population Economics</i> (Springer); <i>Associate Editor</i> |
| 2016–2020 | <i>World Development</i> (Elsevier); <i>Associate Editor</i> |
| 2011 | Dept. of Economics & Wagner School, New York University; <i>Visiting Scholar</i> |
| 2003–2010 | McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University; <i>Affiliated Associate Professor</i> |
| 2000–2002 | Center for International Development, Harvard University; <i>Research Fellow</i> |
| 1998–2000 | World Bank; <i>Consultant</i> , environmental economics |
| 1999 | Bain & Company (Istanbul, Turkey); <i>Associate Consultant</i> |
| 1996 & 1997 | World Bank; <i>Summer Assistant</i> , environmental economics |
| 1994–1995 | Thomas J. Watson Foundation; <i>Watson Fellow</i> in Bogotá, Colombia & Cuiabá, Brazil |

Academic Journal Articles

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| 2026 | <p>“The effect of low-skill immigration restrictions on US firms and workers: Evidence from a randomized lottery”, <i>American Economic Journal: Applied Economics</i>, forthcoming (with Ethan G. Lewis). ⟨Pre-pub. version at NBER, IZA, CReAM, CESifo, and CGD⟩</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▸ Summary for VoxEU; Featured in the NBER Digest, December 2022; Referenced by White House Council of Economic Advisers in Economic Report of the President, March 2023 |
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Academic Journal Articles, *continued*

- ▶ Covered by [Wall Street Journal](#) [bis], [NPR](#), [NBC](#), [CNN](#), [The Atlantic](#), [Bloomberg Law](#) [bis], [Forbes](#), [IZA Newsroom \(Auf Deutsch\)](#), [Macro Roundup](#)
- 2024 “Migration from Developing Countries: Selection, Income Elasticity, and Simpson’s Paradox”, forthcoming in *Journal of Development Economics* (with Mariapia Mendola). *⟨Pre-pub. versions at IZA, CGD, and Centro Studi Luca d’Agliano⟩*
- ▶ [Research Summary](#) for [VoxDev](#) at [CEPR](#)
 ▶ Covered by [The Economist](#); [United Nations Dispatch](#); [Bistandsaktuell](#); [IZA Newsroom](#)
- 2023 “Human Capital Investment under Exit Options: Evidence from a Natural Quasi-Experiment”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 163: 103112 (with Satish Chand). *⟨Pre-pub. versions at CGD and IZA⟩*
- ▶ Covered by [The Economist](#), [The Atlantic](#) (bis), [Guardian Nigeria](#)
- 2023 “Labour Mobility with Vocational Skill: Australian Demand and Pacific Supply”, *Australian Ec. Rev.* 56 (4): 462–486 (with Satish Chand). *⟨Pre-pub. versions at IZA and CGD⟩*
- 2022 “The economic and fiscal effects on the United States from reduced numbers of refugees and asylum seekers”, *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, 38 (3): 449–486. *⟨Pre-pub. versions at IZA and CGD⟩*
- ▶ Covered by [Boston Globe](#), [Marketwatch](#), [Forbes](#), [El País](#), [NewsNation](#), [Dziennik Gazeta](#)
- 2022 “Migration on the Rise, a Paradigm in Decline: The Last Half-Century of Global Mobility”, *AEA Papers & Proceedings*, 112: 257–261. *⟨Pre-pub. versions at IZA, CReAM, and CGD⟩*
- 2022 “The effect of seasonal work visas on native employment: Evidence from U.S. farm work in the Great Recession”, *Review of International Economics*, 30 (5): 1348–1374. *⟨Pre-pub. versions at IZA and CGD⟩*
- ▶ Covered by the [Washington Post](#) (bis), [Fortune](#), [News & Observer](#)
 ▶ Referenced in [U.S. Congress debate](#) (video)
- 2022 “A Pacific Skills Visa: Improving Opportunities for Skilled Migration Throughout the Pacific Region”, *Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies*, 9 (3): 430–446 (with Satish Chand and Helen Dempster). *⟨Pre-pub. version at CGD and IZA⟩*
- 2021 “Violence, development, and migration waves: Evidence from Central American child migrant apprehensions”, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 124 (July): 103355. *⟨Pre-pub. versions at IZA and CGD⟩*
- ▶ Covered by [New Yorker](#); [Washington Post](#) (bis); [Wall Street Journal](#); [The Atlantic](#); [American Prospect](#); [Forbes](#); [PolitiFact](#)
- 2019 “The Place Premium: Bounding the Price Equivalent of Migration Barriers”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 101 (2): 201–213 (with Claudio Montenegro and Lant Pritchett). *⟨Pre-pub. versions at CGD, Harvard University⟩*
- ▶ Covered by the [New York Times](#); [The Economist](#) (bis); [The Atlantic](#); [Axios](#); [El País](#); [Quartz](#); [Vox](#)
 ▶ Replication code at DOI:10.7910/DVN/DHZUOT
- 2019 “The New Economic Case for Migration Restrictions: An Assessment”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 138: 153–164 (with Lant Pritchett). *⟨Pre-pub. versions at CGD, IZA, and Harvard University⟩*
- ▶ Covered by the [New York Times](#) and [The Economist](#)
 ▶ Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/HFTDQZ
- 2019 “The Labor Market Effects of Refugee Waves: Reconciling Conflicting Results”, *ILR Review*, 72 (4): 818–857 (with Jennifer Hunt). *⟨Pre-pub. version; Co-released with CGD, LSE, IZA, and CEPR⟩*
- ▶ [Summary for VoxEU](#)

Academic Journal Articles, *continued*

- ▷ Covered by *The Atlantic*, *NPR Planet Money*; *New York Times*; *Bloomberg*; *Wall Street Journal*; *The Economist* (bis); *Washington Post*; *CNBC*; *U.S. News*; *Miami New Times*; *Huffington Post*; *Bloomberg Surveillance* (1:20:15)
- 2018 “Immigration Restrictions as Active Labor Market Policy: Evidence from the Mexican *Bracero* Exclusion”, *American Economic Review*, 108 (6): 1468–1487 (with Ethan G. Lewis and Hannah M. Postel). *⟨Pre-pub. versions at NBER, CGD, and IZA⟩*

 - ▷ Summary for VoxEU
 - ▷ Covered by *New York Times* (bis); *The Economist* (bis, bis); *WSJ*; *AP*; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*; *Vox*; *El Diario*; *Newsweek*; *NY Daily News*; *Bloomberg*; featured by *NBER Digest*
 - ▷ Replication code and data at <https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/bracero>
- 2018 “Why don’t remittances appear to affect growth?”, *Economic Journal*, 128 (612): F179–F209 (with David McKenzie). *⟨Pre-pub. version; Co-released with World Bank⟩*

 - ▷ Covered by *The Economist*
- 2018 “Deterring Emigration with Foreign Aid: An Overview of Evidence from Low-Income Countries”, *Population and Development Review*, 44 (4): 667–693 (with Hannah M. Postel). *⟨Pre-pub. version; Co-released with GLM-LIC and IZA⟩*

 - ▷ Covered by *Financial Times*; *New York Times*; *The Economist*; *Washington Post*; *The Guardian*; *Mother Jones*; *CS Monitor*; *Die Welt*; *El País*; *De Standaard*; *CQ Researcher*; *Vox*
- 2018 “Testing for repugnance in economic transactions: Evidence from guest work in the Gulf”, *Journal of Legal Studies*, 47 (S1): S5–S44. *⟨Pre-pub. version; Co-released with IZA⟩*

 - ▷ Covered by the *Washington Post*
- 2017 “Split Decisions: Household Finance When a Policy Discontinuity Allocates Overseas Work”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99 (3): 531–543 (with Erwin R. Tiongson). *⟨Pre-pub. version⟩*

 - ▷ Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/2DO8QP
- 2017 “The Meaning of Failed Replications: A Review and Proposal”, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 31 (1): 326–342. *⟨Pre-pub. version⟩*
- 2017 “Temporary Work Visas as U.S.-Haiti Development Cooperation: A Preliminary Impact Evaluation”, *IZA Journal of Labor & Development*, 6: 4 (with Hannah Postel). *⟨Pre-pub. version⟩*

 - ▷ Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/J6P2KT
 - ▷ Covered by *The Economist* (bis, ter); *Washington Post*; *Reuters*; *NBC*; *CNN*; *UPI*; *Miami Herald*; *La Opinión*
- 2016 “The New Role for the World Bank”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 30 (1): 53–76 (with Michael Kremer). *⟨Pre-pub. version⟩*

 - ▷ Covered by *Vox*
- 2016 “Losing Our Minds? New research directions on skilled migration and development”, *International Journal of Manpower*, 37 (7): 1227–1248. *⟨Pre-pub. version⟩*

 - ▷ Covered by the *Financial Times*
- 2015 “Global Skill Partnerships: A proposal for technical training in a mobile world”, *IZA Journal of Labor Policy*, 4:2. *⟨Pre-pub. version⟩*

 - ▷ Proposal endorsed by the UN Secretary General and the UN Marrakesh Compact for Migration, Objective 18. Covered by *Inter Press Service*; *El País*
- 2015 “Skill Development and Regional Mobility: Lessons from the Australia-Pacific Technical College”, *Journal of Development Studies*, 51 (11): 1502–1517 (with Colum Graham and Stephen Howes). *⟨Pre-pub. version⟩*

Academic Journal Articles, *continued*

- 2014 “A case against taxes and quotas on skilled emigration”, *Journal of Globalization and Development*, 5 (1): 1–39. [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2014 “Migration and Development Research Is Moving Far Beyond Remittances”, *World Development*, 64: 121–124 (with Çağlar Özden and Hillel Rapoport). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2013 “Why Do Programmers Earn More in Houston than Hyderabad? Evidence from Randomized Processing of U.S. Visas”, *American Economic Review, Papers & Proceedings*, 103 (3): 198–202. [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- Covered by *Bloomberg* and *Slate*
- 2013 “Blunt Instruments: Avoiding Common Pitfalls in Identifying the Causes of Economic Growth”, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 5 (2): 152–186 (with Sami Bazzi). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2012 “Counting chickens when they hatch: Timing and the effects of aid on growth”, *Economic Journal*, 122 (561), 590–617 (with Steven Radelet, Rikhil Bhavnani, and Sami Bazzi). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- Paper awarded the *Royal Economic Society Prize*
- 2012 “Why were Latin America’s tariffs so much higher than Asia’s before 1950?”, *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Economic History*, 30 (1): 12–39 (with Jeffrey G. Williamson). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2011 “Economics and Emigration: Trillion-Dollar Bills on the Sidewalk?”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 25 (3): 83–106. [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- Covered by the *New Yorker*; *New York Times*; *The Economist* (bis, bis); *Fortune*; *Forbes* (bis); *The Atlantic*; *Salon*; NPR, *Deseret News*
 - Subject of the American Economic Association’s *inaugural Research Highlight 2015*
- 2011 “When Does Rigorous Impact Evaluation Make a Difference? The Case of the Millennium Villages”, *Journal of Development Effectiveness*, 3 (3): 305–339 (with Gabriel Demombynes). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/28146
 - Covered by the *Financial Times*; *New York Times* (bis); *The Economist*; *Nature* (bis); *Daily Mail*
- 2008 “Income Per Natural: Measuring Development for People rather than Places”, *Population and Development Review*, 34 (3): 395–434 (with Lant Pritchett). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- Covered by *The Economist* and *The Atlantic*
- 2008 “New data on African health professionals abroad”, *Human Resources for Health*, 6:1 (with Gunilla Pettersson).
- Replication code and data at DOI:10.7910/DVN/28161
- 2007 “The trouble with the MDGs: Confronting expectations of aid and development success”, *World Development*, 35 (5): 735–751 (with Charles Kenny and Todd J. Moss). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2007 “The ghost of 0.7%: Origins and relevance of the international aid target”, *International Journal of Development Issues*, 6 (1): 3–25 (with Todd J. Moss). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2004 “Wealth Bias in the First Global Capital Market Boom, 1870-1913”, *Economic Journal*, 114 (495): 304–337 (with Jeffrey G. Williamson). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 2004 “Why Did the Tariff-Growth Correlation Change after 1950?”, *Journal of Economic Growth*, 9 (1): 5–46 (with Jeffrey G. Williamson). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)
- 1999 “Genuine Savings Rates in Developing Countries”, *World Bank Economic Review*, 13 (2): 333–356 (with Kirk Hamilton). [〈Pre-pub. version〉](#)

Academic Journal Articles, *continued*

- 1999 “Reserve Design for Species Preservation”, *European Journal of Operational Research*, 112 (2): 273–283 (with Charles R. ReVelle and Justin Williams).
- 1993 “Homologous and illegitimate recombination in developing *Xenopus* oocytes and eggs”, *Molecular and Cellular Biology*, 13 (11): 6897–6906 (with Chris W. Lehman, David K. Worthylake, Jonathan K. Trautman, and Dana Carroll).

Papers in Progress and Under Review

- 2026 “Immigrant-Native Wage Gaps and Immigration Tariffs: Examining the Case for an H-1B Visa Tax”, Discussion Paper 072/26, Center for Research and Analysis of Migration, University College London. Berlin: Institute for the Economy and the Future of Work (RFBerlin). *⟨Co-released with IZA@LISER⟩*
- 2024 “Migration or stagnation: Aging and economic growth in Korea today, the world tomorrow”, Working Paper 24-18, Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics. *⟨Co-released with IZA and CGD⟩*
- Covered by *The Economist*, *Asia Business Daily*
 - Interactive: *Korea faces income losses within half a century without more labor migration*
- 2024 “Partial Legalization and Parallel Markets: The Effect of Lawful Crossing on Unlawful Crossing at the US Southwest Border”, PIIE Working Paper 24-10. Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics. *⟨Co-released with IZA, CReAM/RFBerlin, Mason Econ., and CGD⟩*
- Covered by *The New Yorker*, *LA Times*
- 2021 “The Fiscal Effect of Immigration: Reducing Bias in Influential Estimates”, CGD Working Paper, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development. *⟨Co-released with IZA, CReAM and CESifo⟩*
- Covered by *Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*
- 2020 “Global Mobility and the Threat of Pandemics: Evidence from Three Centuries”, CGD Working Paper 560, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development (with Thomas Ginn). *⟨Co-released with IZA⟩*
- Covered by *Bloomberg*
- 2020 “The Emigration Life Cycle: How Development Shapes Emigration from Poor Countries”, CGD Working Paper 540, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development. *⟨Co-released with IZA⟩*
- Cited by the UK Home Secretary and covered by *The Economist*; *IZA Newsroom*; *The Correspondent*; *Foreign Policy*; *Washington Examiner*; *Kehitys-Utveckling*
- 2019 “Measuring the Spatial Misallocation of Labor: The Returns to India-Gulf Guest Work in a Natural Experiment”, CGD Working Paper. *⟨Co-released with IZA⟩*
- Covered by *India Times*; *Khaleej Times*; *Gulf News*; *The National*

Litigation Work

- 2026 Lead Amicus for ‘Brief of Economists as *Amici Curiae*’, in Markwayne Mullin, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, et al. v. Dahlia Doe, et al. and Donald Trump v. Fritz Emmanuel Lesly Miot, et al. (US Supreme Court, Case Nos. 25-1083 and 25-1084)
- Co-signed by 19 top economists, incl. three Nobel laureates (Card, Acemoglu, Johnson)
 - Covered by *CNN*

Litigation Work, *continued*

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| 2025 | Lead <i>Amicus</i> for ‘ Brief of Economists as <i>Amici Curiae</i> ’, in <i>Kristi Noem, Secretary of Homeland Security et al. vs. National TPS Alliance, et al.</i> (US Supreme Court, Docket No. 25A326 , Case No. 25-5724) ▶ Also Lead <i>Amicus</i> in a follow-up brief for the US Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit (25-5724 , Nov. 12, DktEntry: 43.1), considering an expanded immigration population |
| 2025 | Signatory to ‘ Brief of Social Science Scholars as <i>Amici Curiae</i> ’, in <i>State of Washington et al. v. Donald J. Trump et al.</i> (US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 2:25-cv-00127-JCC) |
| 2023–2024 | Expert witness on behalf of the defendant in <i>State of Arizona et al. v. Merrick Garland et al.</i> (US District Court, Western District of Louisiana, 6:22-cv-01130) ▶ Case against the defendant dismissed |
| 2020 | Declaration on behalf of the plaintiff in <i>Human Rights First v. Chad F. Wolf et al.</i> (US District Court DC, 1:20-cv-03764) ▶ Rule challenged by the plaintiff enjoined by <i>Pangea Legal Services v. DHS</i> (3:20-cv-09253-JD) |

Regulatory Comments

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| 2026 | “ Economic Effects of Employment Authorization Reform for Asylum Applicants ”, Comment on “Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Employment Authorization Reform for Asylum Applicants” (91 <i>Fed. Reg.</i> 8616), US Citizenship & Immigration Services, Dept. of Homeland Security, Docket USCIS-2025-0370, RIN 1615-AC97 (with Amy Nice and Natalia Rigol). |
| 2025 | “ Comment challenging cost estimate provided by the Department of Homeland Security Request to Withdraw NPRM proposing a Wage Level Lottery for H-1B Selection ”, Comment on “Notice of Proposed Rule Making Establishing a Weighted Selection Process for Registrants and Petitioners Seeking to File Cap-Subject H-1B Petitions” (90 <i>Fed. Reg.</i> 45986), US Citizenship & Immigration Services, Dept. of Homeland Security, Docket USCIS-2025-0040, RIN 1615-AD01 (with Jeremy Neufeld and Amy Nice). |
| 2025 | “ Very high cost to the nation in deterring international STEM graduate students and postdocs if rule finalized as proposed ”, Comment on “Establishing a Fixed Time Period of Admission and an Extension of Stay Procedure for Nonimmigrant Academic Students, Exchange Visitors, and Representatives of Foreign Information Media” (90 <i>Fed. Reg.</i> p. 42070 to 42115) posted Aug 28, 2025 by Immigration and Customs Enforcement Bureau, Dept. of Homeland Security, Docket ICEB-2025-0001, RIN 1653-AA95 (with Jeremy Neufeld and Amy Nice). |

Books

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| 2027 | <i>The Walls of Nations</i> , New York: Columbia University Press, forthcoming. |
| 1991 | <i>Geometry for the Classroom</i> , New York: Springer-Verlag (with C. Herbert Clemens). |

Book Chapters

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| 2015 | “ Does Development Reduce Migration? ”, in Robert E. B. Lucas, ed., <i>International Handbook on Migration and Economic Development</i> , Northampton, Mass.: Edward Elgar Publishing, pp. 152–185. <i>{Pre-pub. version}</i> |
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Book Chapters, *continued*

- Covered by *The Economist*; *New York Times*; *Foreign Policy*; *Der Spiegel*; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*
- 2013 “Seize the Spotlight: A Case for GCC Engagement in Research on the Effects of Labor Migration”. In *Labor Mobility: An Enabler for Sustainable Development*, Abu Dhabi: Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, pp. 103–120. *{Pre-pub. version}*
- 2012 “The Collision of Development Goals and Impact Evaluation”, in Robert Peccoud, ed., *Evaluation and its Discontents: Do We Learn from Experience in Development?*, Proceedings of the 9th AFD-EUDN Conference, Paris: Agence Française de Développement, pp. 169–197.
- 2012 “Income per Natural: Measuring Development for People Rather Than Places”, in Oliver Bakewell, ed., *Migration and Development*, The International Library of Studies on Migration series, London: Edward Elgar Publishing, Ch. 34 (with Lant Pritchett).
- 2011 “The Labor Mobility Agenda for Development”, in Nancy Birdsall and Francis Fukuyama, eds. *New Ideas on Development after the Financial Crisis*, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 260–287.
- 2011 “The Financial Consequences of High-Skill Emigration: Lessons from African Doctors Abroad”, in Sonia Plaza and Dilip Ratha, eds. *Diaspora for Development in Africa*, Washington, DC: World Bank, pp. 165–182.
- 2011 “Genuine Savings Rates in Developing Countries”, in Karl-Gustaf Löfgren and Chuan-Zhong Li, eds. *Green National Accounting And Sustainability*, Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar, pp. 653–676 (with Kirk Hamilton).
- 2010 “The Biggest Idea in Development That No One Really Tried”, in Emily Chamlee-Wright, ed., *The Annual Proceedings of the Wealth and Well-Being of Nations: 2009–2010, Volume II*, Beloit, WI: Beloit College Press, pp. 25–50.
- 2006 “Aid and Growth: The Current Debate and Some New Evidence”, in Peter Isard, Leslie Lipschitz, Alexandros Mourmouras, and Boriana Yontcheva, eds., *The Macroeconomic Management of Foreign Aid: Opportunities and Pitfalls*, Washington, DC: International Monetary Fund, pp 43–60 (with Steven Radelet and Rikhil Bhavnani).
- 2006 “A first look at the consequences of African health professional emigration”, in Treasury of Australia and Reserve Bank of Australia, *G-20 Workshop on Demographic Challenges and Migration: Sydney, 27-28 August 2005*, Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia, pp. 195–231.
- 2003 “Absorptive capacity: How much is too much?” and “Exit: How long should the MCA commitment last?”, in Steven Radelet, *Challenging Foreign Aid: A Policymaker’s Guide to the Millennium Challenge Account*, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development (with Steven Radelet).
- 2001 “Are we saving enough for the future?”, in Jonathan M. Harris, Timothy A. Wise, Kevin P. Gallagher, and Neva R. Goodwin, eds., *A Survey of Sustainable Development: Social and Economic Dimensions*, Washington, DC: Island Press, pp. 37–41 (with Kirk Hamilton).
- 1997 “Are we saving enough for the future?”, in World Bank, *Expanding the Measure of Wealth: Indicators of Environmentally Sustainable Development*, Environmentally Sustainable Development Studies and Monographs Series, No. 17, Washington, DC: World Bank (with Kirk Hamilton).
- 1997 “The Hidrovia Paraguay-Parana: A Review and Analysis of the Feasibility Studies and Environmental Assessment in the Context of Regional Development”, in Environmental Defense Fund, *The Hidrovia Paraguay-Parana Navigation Project: Report of an Independent Review*, Washington, DC: Environmental Defense Fund and Fundação Centro Brasileiro de Referência e Apoio Cultural/CEBRAC (with Thayer Scudder).

Policy Writings

- 2026 [“The economic case for a \\$100,000 tax on H-1B visas rests on several errors”](#), *Realtime Economics*. Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, Mar. 16. [〈Summarizing this research paper〉](#)
- 2025 [“From Root Causes to Shared Gains: Migration Policy for Low-Income Countries in a Labor-Scarce World”](#), IZA Discussion Paper 18308. Commissioned by the International Monetary Fund. Bonn: IZA Institute of Labor Economics, Dec. 16. [〈Co-released with RFBerlin〉](#)
- 2025 [“Brain Freeze: How International Student Exclusion Will Shape the STEM Workforce and Economic Growth in the United States”](#), IZA Discussion Paper 18548, Commissioned by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for the [Reimagining STEMM Graduate Education and Postdoctoral Career Development Summit](#), Oct. 22 (with Jeremy Neufeld and Amy Nice). [〈Co-released by NAS〉](#)
 ▶ Covered by [Forbes](#)
- 2025 [“New US curb on high-skill immigrant workers ignores evidence of its likely harms”](#). PIIE Realtime Economics, Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, Sep. 22.
- 2025 [“Skilled immigration on the chopping block? Effects of eliminating ‘Optional Practical Training’ in the US”](#). PIIE Realtime Economics, Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, Apr. 8.
- 2024 [“Modernizing the US Exchange Visitor Skills List”](#). PIIE Policy Brief, Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, Sep. 5 (with William R. Kerr).
- 2024 [“Expelling Excellence: Exchange Visitor restrictions on high-skill migrants in the United States”](#), Washington, DC: Institute for Progress, Aug. 8 (with Jeremy Neufeld and Amy Nice). [〈Jointly released by IZA〉](#)
- 2024 [“Offering more lawful pathways for US border crossings reduces unlawful crossings”](#), Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, Apr. 18.
 ▶ Covered by [Reason](#)
- 2024 [“Trump’s proposed mass deportations would backfire on US workers”](#), Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, Mar. 6.
 ▶ Covered by [Financial Times](#), [The Economist](#), [US News & World Report \[bis\]](#), [Reason \[bis\]](#), [Telemundo](#), [Forbes \[bis, bis\]](#), [Washington Monthly](#), [Mother Jones](#), [Scripps News](#), [Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung](#), [FranceInfo](#)
- 2023 [“Why We Won’t Reach a ‘Climate Migrant’ Protection Category—And What We Can Do Instead”](#), Washington, DC: Center for Global Development, Jun. 8 (with Sam Huckstep).
- 2023 [“Climate Change and Migration: An Omnibus Overview for Policymakers and Development Practitioners”](#), CGD Policy Paper 292, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development, May 9 (with Sam Huckstep).
 ▶ Covered by [The Economist](#)
- 2022 [“Do Cash Transfers Deter Migration?”](#), CGD Policy Paper 270, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development, Oct. 19. [〈Co-released with IZA〉](#)
- 2022 [“Doing Refugee Integration Better: Three Lessons from the Latest Research”](#), Washington, DC: Center for Global Development, Oct. 19.
- 2022 [“Pathways for Labor Migration from Northern Central America: Five Difficult but Necessary Proposals”](#), *North and Central American Task Force on Migration*, World Refugee and Migration Council, Jan. 13. [〈Co-released with CGD and IZA〉](#)
- 2021 [“Australia needs more Pacific mid-skill migration: Here’s how to facilitate it”](#), *DevPolicy*, Oct. 15 (with Satish Chand and Helen Dempster).

Policy Writings, *continued*

- 2021 [“Expanding Legal Migration Pathways from Nigeria to Europe: From Brain Drain to Brain Gain”](#), World Bank-CGD report, Jul. 19 (with Samik Adhikari, Helen Dempster, and Nkechi Linda Ekeator). *Jointly released by World Bank*
- Policy brief: [“Why Europe Should Build Legal Migration Pathways with Nigeria”](#)
 - Covered by *Handelsblatt*, *This Day*
- 2021 [“The Real Root Causes of America’s Border Crisis: And How Biden Can Address Them”](#), *Foreign Affairs*, Jun. 7.
- 2021 [“Ethical Recruitment of Health Workers: Using Bilateral Cooperation to Fulfill the World Health Organization’s Global Code of Practice”](#), CGD Policy Paper 212 (with Helen Dempster), May 27.
- Covered by *New York Times*
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- 2005 “[Costs and Causes of Zimbabwe’s Crisis](#)”, CGD Note, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development (with Todd J. Moss).
- 2005 “[Aid and Growth: New evidence shows that aid flows aimed at growth have produced results](#)”, *Finance and Development*, 42 (3): 16–20 (with Steven Radelet and Rikhil Bhavnani).
- 2005 “[Interpréter les OMD](#)”, *Courrier de la Planète*. 76: 18–21 (with Charles Kenny and Todd J. Moss).

Comments and Reviews

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- 2017 “[Review of Patrick Kingsley, *The New Odyssey: The Story of the Twenty-First-Century Refugee Crisis*](#)”, *Population and Development Review*, 43 (2).
- 2015 “[Mapping the Worm Wars: What the Public Should Take Away from the Scientific Debate about Mass Deworming](#)”, Views from the Center blog, July 30 (with Justin Sandefur).
- 2013 “Comments on ‘Gender Equality and Development’ by Esther Duflo”, in Justin Yifu Lin and Claudia Paz Sepúlveda, eds., *Development Challenges in a Post-crisis World*, Annual World Bank Conference on Development Economics 2011, Washington, DC: World Bank.
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- 2012 “[Multisector intervention to accelerate reductions in child stunting: an independent critique of scientific method](#)”, *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 95 (3): 774–775 (with Gabriel Demombynes).
- 2009 “[Thesis of a rigid revivalist: Review of *Dead Aid* by Dambisa Moyo](#)”, *Finance and Development*, 46 (3): 53–54.
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Other Research Papers

- 2011 “[Mobiles and mobility: The Effect of Mobile Phones on Migration in Niger](#)”, Proceedings of the German Development Economics Conference, Berlin 2011 No. 2 (with Jenny Aker and Christopher Ksoll).
- 2007 “[Do visas kill? Health Effects of African Health Professional Emigration](#)”, CGD Working Paper 114, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development.
- 2004 “[The long walk to school: Development goals in historical perspective](#)”, CGD Working Paper 37, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development.
- 2004 “[Inequality, Institutions and Long-Term Growth in Colombia](#)”, Manuscript (with William Easterly and Carlos Esteban Posada).

Other Research Papers, *continued*

- 2003 | “[Who Protected and Why? Tariffs the World Around 1870–1938](#)”, Harvard Institute of Economic Research Discussion Paper No. 2010, Dept. of Economics, Harvard University (with Christopher Blattman and Jeffrey G. Williamson).
- 2002 | “[World Bank Capital Neither Complements Nor Substitutes for Private Capital](#)”, CGD Working Paper 20, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development.
- 2002 | “[Do Rich Countries Invest Less in Poor Countries Than the Poor Countries Themselves?](#)”, CGD Working Paper 19, Washington, DC: Center for Global Development.
- 1998 | “[Estimating National Wealth: Methodology and Results](#)”, Environmental Economics Series, Paper Number 57, Washington, DC: World Bank (with Arundhati Kunte, Kirk Hamilton, and John Dixon).

Teaching

- 2026 | **Short Course on the Economics of Immigration and Innovation** (PhD), Institute for Progress
- 2023–present | **Economic Problems and Public Policies** (Undergrad.), George Mason University
- 2022 | **How Migration Policy Shapes Economies, Local and Global** (Master’s), Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy and Walsh School of Foreign Service
- 2003–2010 | **Macroeconomics** and **Thesis Advising** (Master’s), Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy
- 2005 | **Foreign Aid Effectiveness** (Ph.D.), University of Copenhagen
- 2002 | Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching & Learning, Harvard Univ.
- 2001–2002 | **Economic Development in East Asia** (Undergrad.), Harvard Univ. Dept. of Economics
- 2001 | **Globalization and History** (Undergrad.), Harvard Univ. Dept. of Economics

Education

- 2002 | **Ph.D., economics**, Harvard University Dept. of Economics, Cambridge, MA
 ▷ *NSF Graduate Research Fellowship; Derek Bok certificate of distinction in teaching*
 ▷ *Fields: Economic history, development economics, public economics*
- 1997 | **M.S., econ. & environmental management**, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
 ▷ *Abel Wolman Merit Scholarship*
- 1994 | **B.S., engineering and applied science**, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA

Honors

- 2013 | [Royal Economic Society Prize](#) for best paper published in the *Economic Journal* in 2012 (with co-authors Steven Radelet, Rikhil Bhavnani, and Sami Bazzi).
- 2010 | Invited for 15th [Sir Arthur Lewis Memorial Lecture](#), Eastern Caribbean Central Bank.
- 2010 | Devex.com “[40 young leaders shaping the way international relief and development assistance are being delivered](#)”.

Honors, *continued*

1996–2000 | National Science Foundation [Graduate Research Fellowship](#).

Peer Reviews

Referee reports for *American Economic Review*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Economic Literature*, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *ILR Review*, *Labour Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Science*, *Science Advances*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of Economic History*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Journal of International Economics*, *World Development*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *World Bank Economic Review*, *Journal of Politics*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Public Choice*, *European Economic Review*, *The Lancet*, *International Migration Review*, *Population and Development Review*, *Journal of Globalization and Development*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, *European Economic History Review*, *Journal of Development Effectiveness*, *Review of World Economics*, *Journal of Iberian and Latin American History*, *Journal of International Money and Finance*, *Economic Notes*, National Science Foundation, World Bank Research Committee, Princeton University Press, Oxford University Press, MIT Press, Stanford University Press, Zed Books, *Journal of Economics and Growth of Developing Areas*, *Health Affairs*, *Human Resources for Health*, *Financial History Review*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Georgetown University Public Policy Review*, numerous external academic tenure reviews.

Influence

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| <i>Research</i> | <p>Academic citation statistics at: Google Scholar SSRN RePEc IDEAS ResearchGate</p> <p>Invited to IOM Migration Research Leaders Syndicate, 2017</p> <p>Top 0.57% of academic economists on RePEc IDEAS citations (398 out of 70,287 economists), for publications in the last ten years: Jan. 2015–Jan. 2025</p> <p>Replication data and code: https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/mclem</p> <p>“Six Vital Voices on the Economics of Migration”, by <i>NewsDeeply</i></p> |
| <i>Social media</i> | <p>“20 most influential think tank experts on Twitter, 2017” by ESGlobal.</p> <p><i>Foreign Policy</i> magazine “Who’s who of the foreign policy Twitterverse” 2012 and 2013.</p> |

Personal

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| Languages | <p>English (native); Spanish (advanced)</p> <p>Portuguese, French, Turkish (intermediate)</p> |
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