

# Dimitria Freitas

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## EDUCATION

### Ph.D. in Economics, TU Dresden, Germany

Apr 2021 – ongoing

- Cumulative Ph.D. thesis 'Essays on Economic Aspects of Challenges to Democracy'
- Advisor: Prof. Dr. Alexander Kemnitz

### Visiting Ph.D. Student, Dpt. of Economics, University of Barcelona

Oct 2023 – Nov 2023

- Invited by Prof. Jordi Jofre-Monseny

### M.A. in International Relations (Interdisciplinary), TU Dresden, Germany

Oct 2016 – May 2019

Specialization: Political Economy and International Economics

- Graduated with a grade of 1.3 (4.0 GPA equivalent)
- Master thesis: 'The rise of Populism – What is the role of globalization?' supervised by Prof. Dr. Philipp Richter at the Chair of International Economic Policy
- Relevant coursework: Data Science and Statistics for Social Sciences, Econometrics, (Advanced) Political Economy, International Economics, International Trade, Economics of Regional Integration, Economics of Migration

### Exchange Student (French Track), Sciences Po Bordeaux, France

Sep 2017 – Dec 2017

### B.A. in Business, DHBW Mannheim, Germany

Oct 2013 – Sept 2016

- Graduated with a grade of 2.0 (3.3 GPA equivalent)
- Relevant coursework: microeconomics, macroeconomics, exchange rates, economic policy, environmental economics, public economics, mathematics for economics sciences, financial mathematics, statistics

## WORKING PAPERS

- Public Sector Relocation and Regional Development in Germany (Single-authored)  
*We examine the effect of public sector relocations on regional economic development and the local labor market, focusing on the state of Bavaria. The study employs a comprehensive research design, including regression discontinuity analysis, event-study analysis on the district level, and generalized synthetic control method on the municipal level. Preliminary findings indicate no significant impact on private employment at the district level, but at the municipal level, we find a crowding-out effect on employment and no effect on unemployment rates.*
- Disentangling the Drivers of Populism: A Model Selection Approach for Western Democracies (joint with Patrick Zwerschke, University of Konstanz)  
*The rise of far-right populism in Western democracies is a topic of increasing academic focus. With numerous potential drivers identified, yet remaining unclear, our research employs Bayesian Model Averaging (BMA) and Bayesian Additive Regression Trees (BART) to uncover the strongest correlates of right-wing populism. We assess the predictive power of 26 economic, cultural, and institutional drivers across 24 countries from 1990 to 2020. Preliminary findings suggest that economic factors related to globalization and trade, especially imports from low-wage countries, along with cultural factors like religiosity and democratic values, significantly impact populist voting.*

## OTHER RESEARCH WORK IN PROGRESS

- The Electoral Consequences of Relocating Public Sector Workers in Germany (joint with Luisa Doerr and Florian Dorn, ifo Munich)
- 25 Years Fox News: The Impact on the Social Sciences (joint with Patrick Zwerschke, University of Konstanz)

## POLICY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Freitas, D., Syga, S., 2022. "35 cents less for gasoline and 17 cents less for diesel - The fuel tax reduction was passed on to consumers – on average." ifo Dresden berichtet 29, 13–18.

*We employ a difference-in-differences analysis to study the pass-through effect of the tax reduction of 35 cents per liter for gasoline and 17 cents per liter for diesel enacted by the German government between June and August in 2022. We find that particularly, in the initial weeks following its introduction and in the last weeks prior to its removal, only a partial share of the tax relief passed through to consumers. On the other hand, the price relief experienced a few weeks into the program exceeded the tax reduction of 35 cents for gasoline and 17 cents for diesel per liter.*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

• Economics of Inequality exercise class (Bachelor level)	ST 2023
• Current Topics in Economic Policy seminar (Bachelor level)	ST 2022
• Fake News, Media Bias and Voting Behavior seminar (Master level)	WT 2021/2022
• Microeconomics exercise class (Bachelor level)	ST 2021
• Economics of Populism seminar (Master level)	WT 2020/2021
• Introduction to International Institutions seminar (Bachelor level)	WT 2020/2021
• Supervision of 11+ bachelor and master theses	ongoing

## RELEVANT PH.D. COURSEWORK

• <b>Development Economics, Oxford University</b>	<b>Sep 2022</b>
• <b>Introduction to the Foundation of Machine Learning, Oxford University</b>	<b>Sep 2022</b>
• <b>Treatment Effects: Beyond the Basics, Oxford University</b>	<b>Sep 2022</b>
• <b>Probability and Statistics for Economics and Econometrics, LSE</b> Grade: A+	<b>July 2022</b>
• <b>Causal Inference, TU Dresden</b>	<b>May – Jul 2022</b>
• <b>Migration and Local Labor Markets, IWH Halle</b>	<b>Mar 2022</b>
• <b>Advanced Microeconomics, IWH Halle</b> Grade: 93/100	<b>Oct 2021 – Mar 2022</b>
• <b>Labor Economics, Life-Cycle Dynamics, IWH Halle</b> Grade 86/100	<b>Oct 2021</b>
• <b>Advanced Econometrics, IWH Halle</b> Grade: 83/100	<b>Oct 2020 – Mar 2021</b>

## CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS

<b>13th ifo Dresden Workshop on Regional Economics, Dresden Germany</b>	<b>Sep 2023</b>
• Presenting research on public sector relocations and regional development	
<b>10th CGDE Doctoral Workshop, Jena Germany</b>	<b>Mar 2023</b>
• Presenting research on public sector relocations and regional development	
<b>12th ifo Dresden Workshop on Regional Economics, Dresden Germany</b>	<b>Sep 2022</b>
• Discussant on paper on labor market effects of EU enlargement	

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

TU Dresden Graduate Academy Travel Grant for Summer Schools Abroad (1.000€)	Jul 2022
Award for best bachelor thesis in collaboration with SAP (1.000€)	Dec 2016
German National Academic Foundation scholarship (21.000€)	Oct 2013 – Oct 2016

## WORK EXPERIENCE OUTSIDE ACADEMIA

<b>Progressive roles, SAP SE, Germany and Singapore</b>	<b>Sept 2013 – Aug 2021</b>
• Advanced from a Working Bachelor Student position to Senior Solution Specialist, demonstrating consistent growth and increased responsibilities over eight years in the software industry. Highlights:	
○ Establishing a sustainability strategy for the global public services business for the top 5 key markets	
○ Developing and leading the strategy for SAP's public services business in China	
○ Defined key performance indicators for procurement processes at the Procurement Office Singapore	

## SKILLS

- **IT:** Advanced MS Office user; proficient with R and Latex, basic knowledge of STATA, Python, Web programming with HTML5, CSS, and SQL
- **Languages:** German-Portuguese bilingual, English (C2), French (C1), Russian (A2), Spanish (A1/A2)

**SOCIAL COMMITMENT / VOLUNTARY WORK****Editorial board chair of the student journal PolisReflects****Jan 2020 – Dec 2022**

- Leading a double-blind peer review process and helping students to familiarize themselves with research work during their studies and connecting them with senior scholars