

Max Posch

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APPOINTMENTS

University of Exeter, Department of Economics, Lecturer (Assistant Professor). since 2022
Harvard University, Department of Human Evolutionary Biology, Research Associate. since 2022
University of Chicago Booth School of Business, Stigler Center Affiliate Fellow. since 2025

PAST APPOINTMENTS

Harvard University, Department of Human Evolutionary Biology, Postdoctoral Fellow. 2020-2022

EDUCATION

University of Zurich, Ph.D. in Economics. 2014-2020
Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, M.Sc in Economics. 2013
University of St. Gallen, Bachelor's Degree in International Affairs. 2012
University of St. Gallen, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. 2012

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economic Development, Political Economy, Economic History, Cultural Evolution.

PUBLICATIONS AND ACCEPTED PAPERS

How Cultural Diversity Drives Innovation: Surnames and Patents in U.S. History. (with Jonathan Schulz and Joseph Henrich). **Journal of Political Economy**, 2026; 134 (4): 1245-1305.

The Political Economy of Propaganda: Evidence from U.S. Newspapers. (with Sebastian Ottinger). **Journal of the European Economic Association**, Accepted

WORKING PAPERS

On the Importance of African Traditional Religion for Economic Behavior. (with Lewis Dunia Butinda, Aimable Amani Lameke, Nathan Nunn, and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra). **Econometrica**, Reject and Resubmit

Doux Commerce: Markets, Culture and Cooperation in 1850-1920 U.S. (with Tzachi Raz)

Do Disasters Affect the Tightness of Social Norms?

WORK IN PROGRESS

Cultural Change: Evidence from 300 Years of U.S. Local Newspapers.

Surname Relatedness and the Diffusion of Innovation. (with Jonathan Schulz and Joseph Henrich)

Innovation and the Medieval Church. (with Slava Savitskiy, Jonathan Schulz and Joseph Henrich)

TEACHING

Economics of Culture and Institutions (undergraduate) since 2023

Lecturer, University of Exeter

Microeconomics II (undergraduate) since 2022

Lecturer, University of Exeter

<i>Programming Practices for Research in Economics (graduate)</i>	2016, 2017
Lecturer, University of Zurich	
<i>Program Evaluation and Causal Inference (graduate)</i>	2016, 2017
Teaching Assistant for Prof. Pietro Biroli, University of Zurich.	
<i>Development Economics (undergraduate)</i>	2015
Teaching Assistant for Prof. Joachim Voth, University of Zurich.	

GRANTS AND AWARDS

British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant. £10,000	2024
Templeton Religion Trust Mini Grant. \$10,000	2023
Mind Brain Behavior Initiative award, Harvard University. \$50,000	2022
Dissertation Fellowship, University of Zurich.	2019-2020
SNF Doc.Mobility Grant.	2018-2019
Swiss Study Foundation Scholarship.	2014-2019

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Scheduled: ASREC Europe conference; Stigler Center Affiliate Fellows Conference; WZB conference on migration and diversity. 2026: Belfast workshop; Birmingham workshop; BSE Forum; Koç; NICEP Conference; Oxford; Queen Mary U; SIOE conference; U. of Southern Denmark; York. 2025: ASREC Thematic Conference; Bristol Meeting on Development Economics; Brown (Deep-Rooted Factors in Comparative Development Conference); Cambridge; CEPR Workshop Ethnicity, Identity and Conflict; King's College London; Lugano; PPE Society Annual Meeting; Stigler Center Affiliate Fellows Conference; Transatlantic Political Economy Conference; TU Munich (Workshop on Cultural Economics and Economic History); Université Paris 1; Uppsala (Workshop in Economic History). 2024: AFE conference; ASREC Europe conference; Bristol; BSE Forum; Calgary Workshop; Copenhagen; ESEM conference; ERINN workshop; Leicester; Lund; Lyon; NBER Summer Institute; NICEP Conference; Newcastle; Odense; SIOE conference, Warwick. 2023: Prague; NBER Summer Institute; CEPR Media, Technology, Politics, and Society Conference; CEPR Big Counterfactuals of Macro-Political History Conference; NICEP Conference; ASREC US Conference; Ifo Media Bias Workshop; SPSP Pre-Conference; ASSA Conference. 2022: GMU seminar; NYU seminar; ASREC US Conference; EEA-ESEM conference. 2021: Bonn; Brown; Cliometrics; EEA-ESEM; ETH; New South Wales; NOBEC; Nottingham. 2020: EHA; Florida State; Harvard. 2019: ASREC US; Brown; ETH; Harvard.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Refereeing: American Economic Review; Quarterly Journal of Economics; Review of Economic Studies; Journal of the European Economic Association; Economic Journal; Journal of Economic History; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization; Experimental Economics; Journal of Urban Economics; Nature Human Behavior; Nature Climate Change; PNAS Nexus; Evolutionary Human Sciences.