Joseph Enguehard

joseph.enguehard@ens-lyon.fr ⋄ www.enguehard.tf

PhD Candidate in economics, École normale supérieure de Lyon & CERGIC   2021 –
Research fellow, Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna.   2024 –
Dissertation project: *Essays on long-run Growth and State Capacity.*
Fields: political economy, economic history, growth, development.

EDUCATION

Master's Degree in Economics (APE), Paris School of Economics.	2020
Bachelor in Philosophy, Pantheon-Sorbonne University.	2017
École normale supérieure scholar, Paris. Major in Economics.	2016-2021

RESEARCH VISITS

LMU, Munich. Reference: Davide Cantoni.	April-July 2024
University of Oxford. Reference: Steve Broadberry.	March 2023
Harris School, University of Chicago. Reference: Scott Gehlbach.	September 2022

RESEARCH

The Political Costs of Taxation (draft), with Eva Davoine and Igor Kolesnikov. Presented at EHA 2022 (single-authored poster), SDU HEDG Workshop 2024, EHS 2024, FRESH Louvain 2024, ASREC Europe 2024, LSE EH graduate seminar.

> *We examine the impact of a tax evasion crackdown on conflict in early modern France. We focus on the salt tax, which was heterogeneous across regions and led to salt smuggling from low-tax to high-tax regions. Specifically, we analyze the impact of a reform in the mid-eighteenth century aimed at curbing this illicit trade. Exploiting geographic variation in tax rates and temporal variation in the legal environment, we use a spatial difference-in-discontinuities design to compare municipalities just inside the high-tax region with those just outside, before and after the reform. First, we find that the crackdown on tax fraud led to a tenfold increase in conflicts between taxpayers and the state in municipalities in the high-tax region. Second, we find suggestive evidence that this effect persists until the French Revolution, consistent with the idea that the enforcement of the salt tax had significant political costs. Third, we document that this effect increases with the tax differential. This last result allows us to derive the highest conflict-free tax rate. This parameter is used to run fiscal counterfactuals and derive an upper bound on the political costs of increased tax enforcement.*

Early Modern Tax Technology: Local Evidence from the French Gabelle (WIP), with Eva Davoine, Victor Gay and Igor Kolesnikov. Presented at ENCHOS 2024.

> *This paper describes the construction of a parish-level database of salt taxation in early modern France and uses the resulting local variation in legal price levels to explain how tax design is determined given the institutional and geographic constraints facing the early modern state.*

The Race between Lewis and Malthus (draft). Early stages presented at ADRES 2023, Oxford ESH Graduate Seminar, Lewis Lab Graduate Workshop, LORDE 2023, ENS Lyon-Bologna Workshop 2023, LAGV 2023, World Clio 2023, INET Mumbai 2024.

Is a delayed fertility transition a barrier to structural change? This paper explores a mechanism based on differential demographic behavior between sectors. If the fertility transition is less advanced among households in the traditional sector and there are frictions in intersectoral mobility, then the traditional sector has a "demographic advantage" over the modern sector. In particular, if there are spillovers from the income of the modern sector to households in the traditional sector, which occurs especially when the rise of the modern sector takes place through temporary migration, then the rise of urban productivity fuels rural demographic growth. The early process of development is thus the result of two contradictory forces: the Lewisian absorption of excess rural labor in productive industries and its Malthusian regeneration. This paper develops a novel model of "structural stationarity" that explains the slow pace of structural change observed in various contexts, and estimates the model on Indian data.

Malthus in the Raj (draft). Presented at WEHC 2022, AHEC 2022, poster at EHS 2023.

This paper studies the Malthusian constraint on local living standards in a large agricultural economy, colonial South Asia. I build subsistence ratios at the district level. A one percent increase in population density implies a one percent decrease in real wages, including two-ways fixed effects and controls. In a colonial setting of limited state, under-investment in agriculture leads to stagnating wages under population pressure. At the same time, local economies are not at the same stage of convergence to the Malthusian steady-state, implying large regional heterogeneity in living standards.

OTHER RESEARCH WORKS

I4R Replication Report (undisclosed paper), with C. Chambru, T. Mirabel & B. Tourenc

L'impôt *abc* : un outil pour la délibération fiscale, with G. Giraud, É. Levieil and M. Salin. Note de l'Institut Rousseau (policy paper). Presented at the Georgetown EJP Seminar. 2021

The Measure of Disorder: Population, State-Building and Rebellion in Old Regime France, master's thesis. 2020

ORGANIZATION OF SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

WEHC 2025 session: Advanced Data Collection Methods, with C. Chambru	July 2025
WEHC 2025 session: Political Economy of the French Revolution, with P. Maneuvrier-Hervieu	July 2025
ENS Lyon Advanced Methods Workshop	May 2024
ENS Lyon Advanced Methods Workshop	September 2023
ENS Lyon Graduate Lunch Seminar in Economics (fortnightly)	2022-2024

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

IXXI Workshop Organization Grant (€1000)	2024
ENS Lyon Junior Grant (€5000)	2024
CERGIC Research Grant (€6000)	2023
ENS Lyon Workshop Organization Junior Grant (€4200)	2023
IXXI Research Grant (€3600)	2022
École normale supérieure (Paris) PhD 3-year full scholarship.	2021–2024
Borsista, Scuola normale superiore (Pisa), 3-month full visiting scholarship.	2019
École normale supérieure (Paris) 4-year full scholarship, nationally ranked 2.	2016–2021
Concours général First Prize in History (nationwide competition)	2013

RESEARCH TRAINING

RIDGE Summer School (IEA Congress)	December 2023
I4R Replication Games, ENS de Lyon	October 2023
Oxford Large Language Models for Social Science Workshop	September 2023
Spetses Summer School (Causal Inference and DiD, Jeff Wooldridge)	July 2023

TEACHING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Internship Supervision of ENS Lyon master's students in economics: Quentin Verrier (May-June 2023), Maddalena Bruscagin (May-June 2024)

Fundamentals of micro- and macroeconomics (graduate business students), main instructor. Mathematics for economists (3rd year), teaching assistant. École normale supérieure, Lyon. 2021-2024

French Lector, Lady Margaret Hall and St Anne's College, Oxford. 2020-2021

Oral Examiner in *classe préparatoire* (undergraduate program), 1st and 2nd year, in Mathematics (Lycée Lakanal, 2016-2019) and Economics (Lycée Henri IV, 2020).

Chair 'Energy and Prosperity' (French Development Agency), RA. 9/2018 - 2/2019

SKILLS

Languages	French (native), English (academic), Italian (advanced), German (intermediate).
Softwares	*Regular use:* R, Python, Stata, QGIS, Latex, Office, Unix. *Occasional use:* Mathematica, SageMath, Markdown, SQL.

REFERENCES

Jean-Pascal Bassino (ENS Lyon)	jean-pascal.bassino@ens-lyon.fr
Mathieu Couttenier (ENS Lyon)	mathieu.couttenier@ens-lyon.fr
Thomas Piketty (PSE, EHESS)	thomas.piketty@psemail.eu
Camille Hémet (PSE, Pantheon-Sorbonne University)	camille.hemet@psemail.eu
Steve Broadberry (University of Oxford)	stephen.broadberry@economics.ox.ac.uk