

# PATRIZIA MASSNER

✉ [patrizia.massner@iies.su.se](mailto:patrizia.massner@iies.su.se) | 🌐 <https://patriziamassner.com>

## ADDRESS

Johns Hopkins Carey Business School  
100 International Drive  
Baltimore MD 21202

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: Germany  
Born in 1994

## RESEARCH FIELDS

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Primary: Labor Economics  
Secondary: Public Economics, Health Economics

## CURRENT POSITION

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Johns Hopkins Carey Business School  
Postdoctoral Scholar

August 2025–

## EDUCATION

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Institute for International Economic Studies, Stockholm University      2019 – 2025  
PhD in Economics

Harvard University      2022 – 2023  
Visiting Student, Host: Claudia Goldin

University of Bonn      2016 – 2019  
MSc in Economics, Exchange semester: Korea University

University of Mannheim      2012 – 2016  
BSc in Economics, Exchange semester: Tsinghua University

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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**Should Elder Care be Subsidized? Theory and Evidence from Sweden** (with Jens Wikström) [[pdf](#)]

*Abstract:* This paper examines how subsidies for formal elder (long-term) care services impact the economic and health outcomes of both seniors and their adult children, who often function as informal caregivers to their old-age parents. We exploit a reform in Sweden in 2002 lowering the fee for elder care services by 40% on average across two-thirds of Sweden's municipalities. Using new data on these fees, combined with administrative data in a difference-in-differences design, we find that increases in the take-up of formal elder care go along with both reductions in hospitalizations among affected seniors and increases in the labor supply of their adult children. Seniors benefit from significant improvements in morbidity, due to fewer hospitalizations for conditions preventable or treatable outside of the hospital. At the same time, adult children increase their annual earnings, which suggests a trade-off between informal caregiving

and working depending on the price of formal care. We show that these effects are persistent as adult children keep working in less flexible, but higher-paying jobs, also after the parental care responsibilities have ended. To assess the welfare implications, we build a stylized model that incorporates formal and informal caregiving. We show that the implicit optimal subsidy balances the value created from insuring parents against substantial permanent health shocks and the costs on the children of raising taxes to finance the subsidy. Combining the theory with the empirical results, we find that subsidizing elder care becomes self-financing within a decade of implementation. This demonstrates that the benefits of improved health management and spillovers on adult children can outweigh the direct costs of subsidizing elder care.

## WORKING PAPERS

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### **Who Can Have It All? The Invisible Cost of Upward Mobility** (with Arash Nekoei)

*Abstract:* The standard definition of intergenerational mobility—correlation of outcomes across generations—ignores the costs of achieving these outcomes. We show that cost dependence on parental background creates a gap between outcome and welfare mobility. In our theoretical model, agents spend their time at work or with their families. The cost of a career is thus the option value of time due to a career-family tradeoff. We show that if the tradeoff is more severe for those from disadvantaged backgrounds, income mobility overestimates welfare mobility. Empirically, Swedish administrative data shows that, indeed, to reach higher income, individuals with low-income parents sacrifice more of their family life. They have fewer children and spend less time with them than those with high-income parents. The mechanism is hard-earned vs. guided success: To reach high income, those from lower-income backgrounds typically study longer but in less lucrative fields, possess higher cognitive and non-cognitive skills, and start their careers later at lower-paying firms but more frequently change jobs and make larger leaps on the job ladder.

### **Employer Labor Market Power and Working Hours: Evidence from Swedish Layoffs** (with Jakob Beuschlein) [\[pdf\]](#)

*Abstract:* Many part-time workers report a preference for increasing their working hours at the current wage rate. This paper analyzes the role that firm labor market power plays in shaping this involuntary part-time employment in Sweden. We use an identification strategy based on part-time workers who experience an increase in local labor market concentration caused by a large layoff event at another firm within the same labor market. We compare these workers to unaffected colleagues in different occupations within the same plant. Our findings reveal that increased labor market concentration substantially reduces wages and working hours. At the same time their employers increase employment on the extensive margin. To explain these findings, we present evidence that, unlike full-time workers, part-time workers' productivity falls in weekly working hours. Thus, employers face incentives to increase production by expanding employment on the extensive margin, rather than by raising hours of part-time workers. These findings suggest that firm labor market power contributes to involuntary part-time employment.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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- **Perceived Abilities & Career Sorting** (with Shubhaa Bhattacharyya, Andrew Proctor)
- **Remote Work**

- **Fewer Kids, More School: Evidence from the Early 20th Century U.S. Birth Control Movement** (with Savannah Noray)

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

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<b>ECB Forum</b>	2025
Finalist of the ECB Young Economist Prize	
<b>Policy Impacts</b>	2023
Early-Career Scholars Research Grant with Jens Wikström (USD 20,000)	
<b>Carl Mannerfelt Foundation</b>	2023
Research & travel grant (SEK 24,000)	
<b>Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy (IFAU)</b>	2022
Research grant with Shubhaa Bhattacharyya and Andrew Proctor (SEK 448,000)	
<b>Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Stiftelse</b>	2020
Research stipend for one academic year abroad (SEK 500,000)	
<b>University of Bonn</b>	2018
Award for outstanding teaching performance	
<b>Bain &amp; Company</b>	2017
Scholarship for an exchange semester	

## TEACHING

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<b>Econometrics, Stockholm University</b> (MSc Banking & Finance)	2020
Evaluation result: 4.2/5	
<b>Statistics B, University of Bonn</b> (BSc Economics)	2018
Evaluation result: 1.2/1	

## PRESENTATIONS

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- 2025:** Humboldt University Berlin, LMU Munich, CERGE-EI, Johns Hopkins Carey Business School, Imperial College London, NBER Spring Meetings: Public Economics\*, *Inequalities and opportunities: insights into wealth, income and education disparities* workshop, ECB Forum in Sintra (poster), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Finnish Health Economics Seminar Series (FINHESS)
- 2024:** CEPR Economics of Longevity and Ageing, Policy Impacts Annual Conference, University of Mannheim, LTC seminar OECD
- 2023:** NBER Summer Institute: Aging, Harvard University Labor Lunch, Harvard University PE Tea, LMU Munich Public PhD Workshop, PhD workshop SUDSWEC, UCL, Nordic Public Policy Symposium, CEPR Paris Symposium (*Poster*)
- 2022:** ENTER Jamboree Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (*discussant*), Harvard University PE Tea

*\*presented by coauthor*

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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**Refereeing:** Journal of Public Economics

**Departmental service:** Co-organizer of the seminar series *Labor Fika* 2021/22

## REFERENCES

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**Arash Nekoei (Main Advisor)**

[arash.nekoei@iies.su.se](mailto:arash.nekoei@iies.su.se)

Associate Professor of Economics

Institute for International Economic Studies

Stockholm University

**Torsten Persson**

[torsten.persson@iies.su.se](mailto:torsten.persson@iies.su.se)

Swedish Research Council Distinguished Professor

Institute for International Economic Studies

Stockholm University

**Claudia Goldin**

[cgoldin@harvard.edu](mailto:cgoldin@harvard.edu)

Henry Lee Professor of Economics

Department of Economics

Harvard University

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Institute for Applied Microeconomics, University of Bonn**

2019

Research assistant for Thomas Dohmen

**Institute of Labor Economics (IZA)**

2016 – 2019

Research assistant for Ulf Rinne

**Deutsche Bundesbank**

2016

Intern, Department of Payment and Settlement Systems

**Center for European Economic Research (ZEW)**

2015 – 2016

Research assistant, Department of International Distribution and Redistribution

## OTHER EMPLOYMENT

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**Bain & Company**

2018

Consultant intern

**European Parliament**

2014

Intern, Department of Economic & Monetary Affairs

**Commerzbank**

2014

Intern, Department of Corporates & Markets

## COMPUTER SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

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Programming and software: Stata, Python, R, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Git

Languages: German (Native), English (Fluent)

Last updated: July 19, 2025