

Personnel



Lise Pierrugues

Lise Pierrugues joined the Department of Economics as a new pre-doctoral researcher in April 2025. She completed her bachelor's degree in Grenoble, France and her master's degree in Economics at University of Graz.

Her master's thesis focused on the economics of the altering effects of technological advancement on income distribution and on the stability of democracy. She began her Ph.D. at the University of Graz in April, her research aims to investigate the effect of information partitioning on the income taxation schedule. Lise is looking forward to learning and contributing to the department and is eager to collaborate with everyone on this exciting journey. Lise is supervised by Maik Schneider.



Alberto Marchesi

Alberto Marchesi joined the project "Green Innovation and Export: Modelling and Assessing the Impact of Environmental Regulation for European and Austrian Firms" as a pre-doctoral researcher at the beginning of June. He holds a double master's degree in Economics from the University of Pavia and the University of Hohenheim (2021–2023). His master's thesis focused on the impact of economic policy uncertainty on Italian government bond's spread.

Previously, he completed an MSc in Economics, Finance and International Integration and a BSc in Management, both at the University of Pavia.

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Keynote

Keynote Robert Hill

On May 21-22, 2026 the "Training and Capacity Building Workshop on Housing Markets in Ukraine during Wartime" took place at the University of St. Andrews Business School. Robert Hill delivered the keynote there, which was focused on the paper "Real Estate Price Measurement since the Global Financial Crisis: Methods, Data and Policy Developments."

Events



2025 Graz Schumpeter Winter School and COLIBRI Focus Workshop on Modelling Opinion Dynamics and Social Change

The 2025 Graz Schumpeter Winter School and COLIBRI Focus Workshop on Modelling Opinion Dynamics and Social Change took place at the University of Graz from December 1st to 5th, 2025. The event combined keynotes from leading scholars in the field such as Professor Rainer Hegselmann with strong contributions from 18 junior fellows. The dense and interdisciplinary program featured models involving filter bubbles, social media platforms,

climate policy, socioeconomic dynamics, political polarization, behavioral macroeconomic models, evolutionary economic models with socio-political elements as well as consensus formation in honeybee systems. Complemented by a guided city walk, dinner and opportunities for exchange and networking, the Winter School became a successful event with over 40 engaged participants.



Workshop on Global Public Goods and International Cooperation

From February 26th to 28th, 2026, the workshop “International Cooperation for Providing Global Public Goods/Bads,” organized by Professor Michael Finus, brought together 12 leading researchers from across Europe to discuss current challenges and innovative approaches in the provision of global public goods, with a special focus on climate change and international environmental agreements. The workshop featured a diverse program covering topics

such as governance structures, solar geoengineering, mechanisms for promoting cooperation and compliance, and experimental evidence on individual versus collective climate action. Discussions also addressed neighborhood effects, asymmetric countries, and regulatory preferences. Participants engaged in lively exchanges and had the opportunity to network during social events and shared dinners. The workshop provided valuable insights and fostered new collaborations in the field of global public goods and international cooperation.



Historical Labor Markets in Text: Computational and Historical Perspectives on Labor Market Evolution

„The Historical Job Ads Team” at the University of Graz hosted the workshop “Historical Labor Markets in Text: Computational and Historical Perspectives on Labor Market Evolution” on April 24th to 25th, 2026.

The workshop brought together researchers from economic history, labour economics, sociology, and digital humanities working with historical textual sources such as job advertisements, biographical dictionaries, and digitized newspapers. Presentations and discus-

sions focused on the analysis of historical labour markets, occupational change, skill demand, gender inequality, and computational approaches to textual data.

We were delighted to welcome participants from several European universities and research institutions and would like to thank all speakers and participants for the stimulating discussions and inspiring exchange. The workshop concluded with an informal afternoon at a traditional Styrian Buschenschank, which provided a particularly enjoyable setting for continuing conversations beyond the formal sessions.

Given the many shared research interests that emerged during the workshop, we hope this meeting will be the beginning of a continuing exchange and are looking forward to follow-up workshops in the future.”



Hans Manner

Department Summer Party

On Wednesday, June 17th, 2026, the summer party of the Department of Economics took place. This year, Hans Manner generously opened his garden for the event and, in a truly magical fashion (see photo), took charge of the barbecue. The evening was filled with delicious food, drinks, and lively conversations in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

The occasion also provided an opportunity to bid farewell to Gerhard Wohlfahrt, who is now making a full transition to head the union of academic staff of the university. We wish him all the best and thank him for his contributions to the department!

It was a wonderful evening and we look forward to our next summer party!

Media Contributions

Jörn Kleinert

- 12.02.2026 ORF Radio, Punkt Eins: „Aktienkurs rauf, Dollarkurs runter“, talk on the topic of lead currency
- 04.05.2026 Die Presse: „Warum eine echte Pensionsreform so schwierig ist, und trotzdem nicht...“, Blog post on the reform of the Austrian pension scheme

New Editorial boards memberships

- Robert Hill: Associate Editor, International Review of Financial Analysis
- Ronald Wendner: Associate Editor, Journal of Public Economic Theory

Visiting Scholarships/Visiting Professorships

Robert Hill

Robert Hill was a visiting professor in the Hitotsubashi Institute of Advanced Studies (HIAS) Bridges Distinguished program at Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, Japan from February 9th to March 9th, 2026.

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Approval of New Third-Party-Funded Research Projects



Magdalena Rath, Theresa Hager and Patrick Mellacher

Economic Decision-MAking and Gender Norms: Investigating the Impact of the Familienbonus Plus (EDMAGEN)

Funding Agency: ÖAW

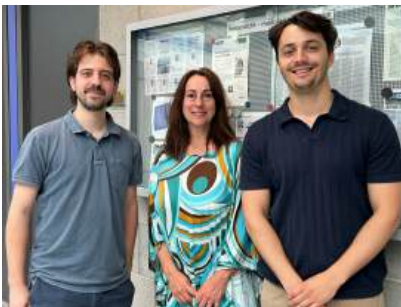
Researchers involved: Patrick Mellacher and Magdalena Rath from the Graz Schumpeter Centre (PIs) and Theresa Hager, University of Linz

Abstract: The project focuses on the Familienbonus Plus, introduced into Austria's tax system in 2019. The Familienbonus created economic incentives for some families to adopt a more traditional division of labor, with men primarily in paid employment. Because these incentives apply only to a clearly defined group of households, the reform provides a natural experiment. EDMAGEN uses this setting to examine how economic incentives affect intra-household labor division and interact with gender norms.

The project combines two approaches. First, it compares affected households over time with suitable control groups using difference-in-differences methods. Second, it uses an agent-based model to simulate the Familienbonus Plus and counterfactual reforms, capturing both direct effects and indirect effects through social influence. The model was developed and published before EDMAGEN and will now be calibrated for the first time with real empirical data. Both approaches use individual- and household-level microdata from the Austrian Micro Data Center, linking survey data such as time-use surveys with administrative data such as wage-tax statistics. The findings can inform future family tax policies that support equal labor-market participation and a fairer distribution of unpaid work.

Total project volume: € 350.000,00

Project duration: 2026-2028



Alberto Marchesi, Stefania Rossi and Dorian Müller

Green innovation and export - Modelling and assessing the impact of environmental regulation for European and Austrian firms

Funding Agency: FWF

Researchers involved: Stefania Rossi (PI), Alberto Marchesi and Dorian Müller

Abstract: Transitioning to a green economy is a major challenge for governments and businesses. Policies aimed at protecting the environment can reduce pollution and combat climate change, but they also influence how companies innovate and compete internationally. This project examines how strict environmental policies encourage companies to develop “green innovations” – environmentally friendly technologies and practices – and how these innovations affect productivity and the ability to export. The research focuses on three main questions: What factors encourage companies to invest in green rather than traditional innovations? How do these innovations impact productivity and exports? And which policies can best support green innovation and international competitiveness? To address these questions, the project analyzes data from thousands of companies across Europe and Austria, spanning

approximately the last two decades. It compares environmental policies across countries, sectors, and time periods, identifying how green innovations are incentivized and how they spread within business networks. For Austrian companies, detailed data also allow the team to study local spillover effects, showing how clusters of innovative companies support growth and international trade. This project is original because it combines aspects rarely studied together: environmental policies, green innovation, productivity, and exports. While previous research often relied on small or selective samples, this study uses large, comprehensive datasets to provide solid, reliable evidence. The results will help policymakers design strategies that encourage environmentally friendly innovation while promoting economic growth and international competitiveness.

Total project volume: € 402.000,00

Share Uni Graz: € 275.000,00

Project Partners: EcoAustria - Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung

Project duration: 2026-2029

Publications

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