

# Roland Hodler

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– May 2018 –

## Personal Information

Born in Bern, Switzerland, 1975. Australian and Swiss citizen.

## Positions

Professor, Department of Economics and SIAW-HSG, University of St.Gallen, since 2014.

Visiting Professor, Department of Economics, University of Gothenburg, 2015–2016.

Professor, Department of Economics, University of Lucerne, 2011–2014.

Program Manager Doctoral Courses, Study Center Gerzensee, 2010–2011.

Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, 2009–2010.

Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, 2007–2009.

Post-Doctoral Researcher, Department of Economics, University of Bern, 2005–2006.

Visiting Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Economics, Harvard University, 2004–2005.

Visiting positions (1–3 months): CES/LMU Munich, 2012, 2015; Monash University, 2012, 2018;  
University of Melbourne, 2014; University of Oxford, 2010; WZB Berlin, 2018.

## Affiliations

Founding Member, Development Economics Network Switzerland, since 2017.

Research Fellow, Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), since 2016.

Affiliate, Centre for Development Economics and Sustainability, Monash University, since 2016.

Member of Swiss Board, Network of Swiss Economists Abroad, since 2015.

Member, AidData Research Consortium, since 2014.

Member, Development Economics Group, Verein für Socialpolitik, since 2014.

Research Fellow, CESifo Network, since 2012.

External Research Associate, OxCarre, University of Oxford, since 2009.

## Education

PhD in Economics (Dr.rer.oec.), University of Bern, 2004.

Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students, Study Center Gerzensee, 2002.

Master in Economics (lic.rer.pol.), University of Bern, 2000.

## Awards, Honors, and Major Grants

Discovery Projects Grant DP150100061, Australian Research Council, 2015–2019.  
Keynote Lecture, CESifo Workshop on Political Economy, 2016.  
Basic Research Grant, University of St.Gallen, 2015–2016.  
Excellence Award for Policy-Relevant Development Research, KfW Development Bank, 2014.  
Discovery Projects Grant DP120103492, Australian Research Council, 2012–2014.  
Certificates of Excellent Undergraduate Teaching, University of Melbourne, 2007, 2008, 2009.  
Dean’s Outstanding Lecturer Award, University of Melbourne, 2008.  
Fellowship for Prospective Researchers, Swiss National Science Foundation, 2004–2005.  
Knut-Wicksell Prize, European Public Choice Society, 2004.

## Main Journal Articles

De Luca, G., Hodler, R., Raschky, P.A., Valsecchi, M., 2018. “Ethnic favoritism: An axiom of politics?” *Journal of Development Economics*, 132, 115–129.

Hodler, R., 2018. “The political economics of the Arab Spring.” *Economic Inquiry*, 56(2), 821–836.

Hodler, R., Luechinger, S., Stutzer, A., 2015. “The effects of voting costs on the democratic process and public finances.” *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 7(1), 141–171. Media coverage: Basler Zeitung, Swissinfo.

Hodler, R., Raschky, P.A., 2014. “Regional favoritism.” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129(2), 995–1033. Listed in: *QJE* highly cited articles published in 2014. Media coverage: CBS, France 24, Huffington Post, La Razón, NBC, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Quartz, Wired.

Hodler, R., Dreher, A., 2013. “Development (paradigm) failures.” *Journal of Development Economics*, 101, 63–74.

Hodler, R., Yektaş, H., 2012. “All-pay war.” *Games and Economic Behavior*, 74(2), 526–540.

Hodler, R., Loertscher, S., Rohner, D., 2010. “Inefficient policies and incumbency advantage.” *Journal of Public Economics*, 94(9–10), 761–767.

Bhattacharyya, S., Hodler, R., 2010. “Natural resources, democracy and corruption.” *European Economic Review*, 54(4), 608–621. Listed in: Ten most cited *EER* articles published in the last five years, 2014, 2015.

Hodler, R., 2009. “Industrial policy in an imperfect world.” *Journal of Development Economics*, 90(1), 85–93.

Hodler, R., 2006. “The curse of natural resources in fractionalized countries.” *European Economic Review*, 50(6), 1367–1386. Listed in: Ten most cited *EER* articles published in the last five years, 2010, 2011. Reprinted in: Van der Ploeg, F., Venables, A.J., 2015, *The Economics of Resource Rich Economies*, Edward Elgar.

## Other Journal Articles

- Hodler, R., 2018. "The economic effects of genocide: Evidence from Rwanda." *Journal of African Economies*, forthcoming.
- Hodler, R., Raschky, P.A., 2017. "Ethnic politics and the diffusion of mobile technology in Africa." *Economics Letters*, 159, 78–81.
- Bhattacharyya, S., Hodler, R., 2015. "Media freedom and democracy in the fight against corruption." *European Journal of Political Economy*, 39, 13–24.
- Hodler, R., Raschky, P.A., 2014. "Economic shocks and civil conflict at the regional level." *Economics Letters*, 124(3), 530–533.
- Bhattacharyya, S., Hodler, R., 2014. "Do natural resource revenues hinder financial development? The role of political institutions." *World Development*, 57, 101–113.
- Hodler, R., Loertscher, S., Rohner, D., 2014. "Persuasion, binary choice, and the costs of dishonesty." *Economics Letters*, 124(2), 195–198.
- Hodler, R., Knight, D.S., 2012. "Ethnic fractionalisation and aid effectiveness." *Journal of African Economies*, 21(1), 65–93.
- Hodler, R., Rohner, D., 2012. "Electoral terms and terrorism." *Public Choice*, 150(1), 181–193.
- Hodler, R., 2011. "Institutions, trade, and the political economy of financial development." *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, 167(3), 445–464.
- Hodler, R., 2011. "Elections and the strategic use of budget deficits." *Public Choice*, 148(1), 149–161.
- Fum, R.M., Hodler, R., 2010. "Natural resources and income inequality: The role of ethnic divisions." *Economics Letters*, 107(3), 360–363.
- Hodler, R., 2009. "Redistribution and inequality in a heterogeneous society." *Economica*, 76(304), 704–718.
- Herger, N., Hodler, R., Lobsiger, M., 2008. "What determines financial development? Culture, institutions or trade." *Review of World Economics*, 144(3), 558–587.
- Hodler, R., 2008. "For the student: Political Economics" (by invitation). *Australian Economic Review*, 41(3), 330–335.
- Hodler, R., 2008. "Specialization and welfare in the presence of imperfectly integrated capital markets and learning-by-doing." *Open Economies Review*, 19(3), 391–402.
- Hodler, R., 2008. "Leisure and redistribution." *European Journal of Political Economy*, 24(2), 354–363.
- Hodler, R., 2007. "Rent seeking and aid effectiveness." *International Tax and Public Finance*, 14(5), 525–541.
- Hodler, R., Schmidheiny, K., 2006. "How fiscal decentralization flattens progressive taxes." *FinanzArchiv*, 62(2), 281–304.

## Recent Working Papers

- Ackermann, K., Angus, S., Hodler, R., Raschky, P.A., 2018. "Internet and protests." Mimeo (accepted for presentation at the 2018 NBER Summer Institute on IT and Digitization).
- Amarasinghe, A., Hodler, R., Raschky, P.A., Zenou, Y., 2018. "Spatial diffusion of economic shocks in networks." CEPR Discussion Paper 12854.
- Hodler, R., Valsecchi, M., Vesperoni, A., 2017. "Ethnic geography: Measurement and evidence." CEPR Discussion Paper 12378.
- Bruederle, A., Hodler, R., 2017. "The effect of oil spills on infant mortality: Evidence from Nigeria." CESifo Working Paper 6653. Media coverage: BBC, CBC Radio, Daily Monitor, Daily Times of Nigeria, Deutsche Welle, El País, France Info, Guardian, Guardian Nigeria, Le Monde, National Daily Nigeria, Newsweek, OZY, This Day, Voice of America. Public statements: Amnesty International, Global Citizen, Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People.
- Bruederle, A., Hodler, R., 2017. "Nighttime lights as a proxy for human development at the local level." CESifo Working Paper 6555.
- Dreher, A., Fuchs, A., Hodler, R., Parks, B.C., Raschky, P.A., Tierney, M.J., 2015. "Aid on demand: African leaders and the geography of China's foreign assistance." CEPR Discussion Paper 10704. Media coverage: ABS, BBC, Economist, Financial Times, Guardian, L'Agefi, National Interest, Radio Taiwan International, Reuters, Sun, Washington Post, World Finance.
- Hentschel, F., Hodler, R., Yektaş, H., 2015. "Wars of conquest and independence." University of St.Gallen Discussion Paper 2015-16.

## Media Contributions

- Hodler, R., Matter, U., 2018. "Transparenzinitiative: Wie viel sollen Wähler wissen?" Neue Zürcher Zeitung.
- Hodler, R., 2017. "Nigeria oil spills double risk of infant mortality, research shows" (interview). Voice of America.
- Hodler, R., 2017. "Study links oil spills to increased rate of infant mortality in Niger Delta" (interview). CBC Radio.
- Hodler, R., 2017. "Enkeltaugliche Demokratie" (letter to the editor). Neue Zürcher Zeitung.
- Parks, B.C., Hodler, R., Dreher, A., Fuchs, A., Raschky, P.A., Tierney, M.J., 2016. "Chinese aid is helping African economies, but not in the places that need it most." Washington Post.
- De Luca, G., Hodler, R., Raschky, P.A., Valsecchi, M., 2016. "Ethnic favouritism: Not just an African phenomenon." VoxEU.
- Hodler, R., 2016. "Flat Tax: Weder Individuen noch Paare bestrafen." Neue Zürcher Zeitung.
- Hodler, R., 2016. "Why African leaders like Chinese aid." World Finance.
- Dreher, A., Fuchs, A., Hodler, R., Parks, B.C., Raschky, P.A., Tierney, M.J., 2015. "Are African leaders misusing Chinese development finance? The price of country ownership." IGC Blog.
- Hodler, R., 2014. "Making it easier to vote may backfire" (interview). Swissinfo. Translations: French, German, Italian.
- Hodler, R., Raschky, P.A., 2014. "Regional favouritism across the world." VoxEU.

- Hodler, R., Röllin, J., 2013. “Mit Transparenz gegen den Ressourcenfluch.” Neue Zürcher Zeitung.
- Bhattacharyya, S., Hodler, R., 2009. “Natural resources and corruption: Is democracy the missing link?” VoxEU.
- Hodler, R., Ryser, S., 2007. “Menschenrechtsverletzungen werden in der Entwicklungshilfe belohnt: Ein quantitativer Blick auf die Schweizer Entwicklungszusammenarbeit von 1980 bis 2004.” Neue Zürcher Zeitung.

## **Presentations**

- Annual meetings: Australasian Development Economics Workshop (2007, 2008), Australasian Economic Theory Workshop (2010), CESifo Conference on Public Sector Economics (2015), CESifo Workshop on Political Economy (2016), Development Economics Network Switzerland (2017), Econometric Society (2007, 2009, 2015), European Economic Association (2004, 2006, 2010, 2011, 2016), European Public Choice Society (2004, 2005, 2013), International Institute of Public Finance (2012), Nordic Conference in Development Economics (2008), Norwegian-German Seminar on Public Economics (2005), Public Choice Society (2005), Royal Economic Society (2006), Silvaplana Workshop in Political Economy (2006, 2010, 2013), Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics (2004, 2010, 2011, 2015), Verein für Socialpolitik (2010), VfS Development Economics Group (2006, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017).
- Specialized workshops: TU Braunschweig (2018), U Konstanz (2015), UC Louvain (2017), Monash (2008, 2018), NES Moscow (2017), U Navarra (2017), U Namur (2011), U Otago (2007), U Siegen (2014), U Wageningen (2013), U Zurich (2017).
- Research seminars: U Adelaide (2008), ANU (2007), U Auckland (2007), IEB Barcelona (2016), U Basel (2006, 2009), CMI Bergen (2016), NHH Bergen (2014, 2016), U Bergen (2014), WZB Berlin (2006), U Bern (2009, 2010), Deakin (2008, 2018), U Frankfurt (2010), U Fribourg (2015), U Glasgow (2012), U Gothenburg (2016), U Hamburg (2013), U Hannover (2015), Harvard (2005), U Heidelberg (2008, 2010, 2013), La Trobe (2008), U Lucerne (2010), U Lugano (2016), U Melbourne (2006, 2014, 2018), Monash (2009, 2012, 2018), BI Oslo (2015), U Oxford (2010), Pompeu Fabra (2011), U Regensburg (2013), U St.Gallen (2009, 2013), U Tasmania (2008), U Tilburg (2006), NTNU Trondheim (2012), U Wageningen (2011), U York (2015), ETH Zurich (2012, 2014, 2016), U Zurich (2006, 2011, 2017).
- Policy conferences and seminars: Conference on Policy Evaluation in Development Cooperation (2015, organized by ministries of Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (2014).

## **Teaching and Supervision**

- Bachelor courses: Competition and Strategy (U Melbourne 2007–2009), Growth and Development (U Lucerne 2011–2013), International Trade (U Lucerne 2011–2013), Public Economics/Public Finance (U St.Gallen since 2014).
- Master courses: Development Assistance (U Lucerne 2012–2014), Microeconomics (U Lucerne 2012–2014), Political Economics (U Melbourne 2008–2009, U St.Gallen since 2014).
- PhD courses: Economics and Politics of Resource-Rich Economies (U Gothenburg 2015), Political Economics of Development (U St.Gallen since 2016), Topics in Political Economics (LMU Munich 2012, U St.Gallen 2014–2016), Topics in Public Policy (U St.Gallen 2014–2015).

PhD supervision: Anna Bruederle (2017), Friedhelm Hentschel (2016), Philine Widmer (in progress), Noémie Zurlinden (in progress).

External member of PhD committees: U Bern (2011, 2016), Deakin (2014), U Melbourne (2012).

### **Professional Services**

Policy evaluation: Swiss Parliament (Parlamentarische Verwaltungskontrolle, 2017).

Conference organization: Australasian Development Economics Workshop (2009), Swiss Economists Abroad Conference (2010, 2012).

Reviewing activities: Annual meetings (e.g., Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics), funding agencies (e.g., Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Swiss National Science Foundation), prize committees (e.g., KfW Development Bank), and more than 40 journals (e.g., *American Economic Review*, *American Political Science Review*, *Econometrica*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*).

Responsibilities at the University of St.Gallen: Academic director of Bachelor in Economics (2015–2018), member of departmental junior hiring committee (since 2014), member of research committee (since 2018).