

Hannes Mueller

Institut d'Anàlisi Econòmica, CSIC
Campus UAB
08193 Bellaterra, Barcelona
Spain

Date of Birth: 22.02.1978

Nationality: German

Tel. +34 935 929 780

E-mail: hannes.mueller@iae.csic.es

Degrees

July 2008	Ph.D. Economics, London School of Economics (LSE) Supervisors: Professors Timothy Besley and Maitreesh Ghatak
July 2004	MSc in Economics (Research), LSE, Distinction
March 2002	Diploma in Economics, University of Mannheim, Grade 1.8

Research Fields

Conflict Studies, Political Economy, Economic Development, Machine Learning, Organizational Economics, Remote Sensing

Academic Positions

2020 –	Program Director of the M.Sc. Data Science for Decision Making, Barcelona School of Economics (BSE)
2019 –	BSE Associate Research Professor
2018 –	Tenured Researcher, Top 1% tenure evaluation within CSIC. Institute for Economic Analysis (CSIC)
Winter 2011 – Winter 2017	Researcher <i>Ramon y Cajal</i> , Successful I3 Evaluation in 2016 Institute for Economic Analysis (CSIC)
Fall 2008 – Winter 2011	PostDoctoral Fellow (<i>Juan de la Cierva</i>), Institute for Economic Analysis (CSIC)
Fall 2006 – Summer 2008	Tutorial Fellow, LSE

Teaching Experience

Spring 2017 –	Lecturer in Text Mining for MSc students in Data Science at the Barcelona School of Economics (BSE)
Spring 2010 –	Lecturer in Applied Public Economics for IDEA and QEM students, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Winter 2023	IMF course: “Fragility, the Cost of Armed Conflict and how to Integrate Foresight into Policy Making”
Summer 2021	Training seminar for Catalan Government: “An Introduction of Machine Learning for Policy Problems”
Winter 2020	IMF training seminar: “Building Fiscal Institutions in a Fragile Environment”
Spring 2012 – Summer 2021	Lecturer in Political Economy for MSc students at the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (GSE)

Present Affiliations

Research Fellow at the Center for Economic Policy Research (CEPR)

Journal Publications

(joint with Sandra Garcia-Urbe and Carlos Sanz) Economic Uncertainty and Divisive Politics: Evidence from the "dos Españas". Forthcoming at *Journal of Economic History*.

(joint with Christopher Rauh) The Hard Problem of Prediction for Conflict Prevention. *Journal of the European Economic Association*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeea/jvac025>.

(joint with Christopher Rauh) Using Past Violence and Current News to Predict Changes in Violence. *International Interactions*, 48:4, 579-596.

(joint with Dominic Rohner, David Schönholzer) (2022) Ethnic Violence Across Space. *The Economic Journal*, 132(642), 709–740.

(joint with Andre Groeger, Jonathan Hersh, Andrea Matranga and Joan Serrat) (2021) Monitoring War Destruction from Space Using Machine Learning. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118 (23).

(joint with Lúdia Farré and Francesco Fasani) (2018) Feeling Useless: the Effect of Unemployment on Mental Health in the Great Recession. *IZA Journal of Labour Economics*, 7(8).

(joint with Dominic Rohner) (2018) Can Power-sharing Foster Peace? Evidence from Northern Ireland. *Economic Policy*, 33(95), pp. 447-484.

(joint with Christopher Rauh) (2018) Reading Between the Lines: The Prediction of Political Violence Using Newspaper Text. *American Political Science Review*, 112(2), pp. 358-375.

(joint with Tim Besley) (2018) Predation, Protection and Productivity: A Firm-Level Perspective. *American Economic Journal: Macro*, 10(2), pp. 184-221.

(joint with Tim Besley) (2018) Institutions, Volatility and Investment. *Journal of the European Economic Association*. 16(3), pp. 604-649.

(2016) Growth and Violence: Argument for a Per Capita Measure of Civil War. *Economica*, 83(331), pp. 473-497.

(joint with Rafael Hortala-Vallve) (2015) Primaries: The Unifying Force. *Public Choice*, 163(2), pp. 289-305.

(2015) Insulation or Patronage: Political Institutions and Bureaucratic Efficiency. *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy*. 15(3), pp. 961-996.

(joint with Tim Besley and Thiemo Fetzer) (2015) The Welfare Cost of Lawlessness: Evidence from Somali Piracy. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 13(2), pp. 203–239.

(joint with Esther Hauk) (2015) Cultural Leaders and the Clash of Civilizations. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 59(3), pp. 367-400.

(2012) Growth Dynamics: The Myth of Economic Recovery – Comment. *American Economic Review*, 102(7), pp. 3774-3777.

(joint with Tim Besley) (2012) Estimating the Peace Dividend: The Impact of Violence on House Prices in Northern Ireland. *American Economic Review*, 102(2), pp. 810-833.

(joint with Maitreesh Ghatak) (2011) Thanks for Nothing? Not-for-Profits, Labor Donations, and Motivated Agents. *Journal of Public Economics*, 95, pp. 94-105.

(2007) Pourquoi la Russie n'a-t-elle pas suivi la voie polonaise? Quelques leçons pour les économistes. *Revue d'études comparatives Est-Ouest*, 38, pp. 143-166.

Other Publications

(joint with Tim Besley) (2021) Fiscal Capacity and State Fragility. In: Ralph Chami, Raphael Espinoza, Peter Montiel (Eds.) *Macroeconomic Policy in Fragile States*. Oxford University Press.

(joint with Chanon Techasunthornwat) (2020) Conflict and Poverty. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 9455. Background paper for the World Bank report: *Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020*.

(joint with Gary Milante, Robert Muggah, Katherine Aguirre, Caitriona Dowd, Clionadh Raleigh, Jacob N. Shapiro, Carlos Vilalta) Forecasting the Dividends of Conflict Prevention from 2020-2030. Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies. SDG16.1 Notes Vol. 1.

(joint with Zoubir Benhamouche, Bruno Conte Leite and Thiemo Fetzer) (2019) Quality of Institutions and Structural Transformation: Distortions and Resource Allocation in North Africa. UN Economic Commission for Africa. United Nations, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

(joint with Lúdia Farré) (2019) ¿El Desempleo Daña la Salud Mental?, La Caixa Observatory.

(joint with Tim Besley) (2018) Cohesive Institutions and the Distribution of Political Rents: Theory and Evidence. In: *Institutions, Governance and the Control of Corruption*. Springer International.

(2017) How Much is Prevention Worth? Background note for the joint United Nations and World Bank report: *Pathways to Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict*.

(joint with Lavinia Piemontese and Augustin Tapsoba) (2017) Recovery from Conflict: Lessons of Success. Policy Report for the World Bank published as Policy Research Working Paper, WPS7970.

(joint with Julia Tobias) (2016) The Cost of Violence: Estimating the Economic Impact of Conflict. IGC Growth Brief.

Working Papers

(joint with Tim Besley and Thiemo Fetzer) How Big is the Media Multiplier? Evidence from Dyadic News Data. *Revise and Resubmit at The Review of Economics and Statistics*.

(joint with Christopher Rauh) Building Bridges to Peace: A Quantitative Evaluation of Power-Sharing Agreements. *Revise and Resubmit at Economic Policy*.

(joint with Marina Diakonova, Luis Molina, Javier J. Pérez, Christopher Rauh) The Information Content of Conflict, Social Unrest and Policy Uncertainty Measures for Macroeconomic Forecasting. Bank of Spain Working Paper, 2232. *Reject and Resubmit at International Journal of Forecasting*.

(joint with Chanon Techasunthornwat) Conflict and Poverty. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, WPS9455.

(joint with Tim Besley) Executive Constraints as Robust Control. Barcelona GSE Working Paper, 1054.

(joint with Tim Besley) Volatility and Political Institutions: Theory and Application to Economic Growth. CEPR Discussion Papers, 10374.

(joint with Augustin Tapsoba) Access to Power, Political Institutions and Ethnic Favoritism. Barcelona GSE Working Paper, 901.

The Economic Cost of Conflict. IGC Working Paper.

Research Grants

2022 – ARTificial Environment for ML and Innovation in Scientific Advanced (Aretmisa) Access grant. PI

2022 –	“ANTICIPATE”. Advanced ERC Sub-project. Co-PI.
2020 – 2022	Google GCP Research Credit Grant. PI
2019 – 2022	“Political Risk” Banco de España Research Agreement. PI
2017 – 2019	“Analysing Conflict from Space” La Caixa Research Grant. PI
2017 – 2018	“Quantifying Diplomatic Action” Seed Grant, BSE. PI.
2016 – 2018	“Tourism and Terrorism: Evidence from North Africa” Research Grant (IGC). PI.
2016 – 2017	Ayudas Fundación BBVA, Research Grant. PI.
2016 – 2018	“Culture and Social Conflict” Research Grant ECO2015-66883-P (Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation). Co-I.
2015 – 2016	“Predicting Political Violence with Newspaper Text” Seed Grant, Barcelona GSE. PI.
2014 – 2016	“Economia Política” Research Grant 2014 SGR 1064 (AGAUR-Generalitat de Catalunya). Co-I.
2014 – 2015	“Civil War Risk and Weapon Imports” Seed Grant, BSE. PI.
2013 – 2016	“Coping Strategies of Young People in the Midst of the Spanish Crisis” Research Grant (RecerCaixa). PI.
2013 – 2015	“Advances in the Political Economy of Democratic Institutions” Research Grant ECO2012-37857 (Spanish Ministry of Economics and Competition). Co-I.
2011 – 2012	“Foreign Direct Investment and Conflict” Research Grant RA-2011-08-013 (International Growth Centre (IGC)). PI.
2011 – 2012	“The Economic Costs of Piracy” Research Grant RA-2011-08-012 (International Growth Centre (IGC)). PI.
2010 – 2012	“New Developments in Political Economy” Research Grant ECO2009-08820 (Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation). Co-I.
2009 – 2013	“Economia Política” Research Grant 2009 SGR 1126 (AGAUR-Generalitat de Catalunya). Co-I.

Research Contracts

2023 –	“AI for Fragility Measurement and Decision Making Support”, Research Grant, German Foreign Office. PI
2022 –	“Evaluating Intervention Options for Nigeria”, Research Grant, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office. PI
2022	“Economic Cost of Conflict”. Open Philanthropy. PI.
2021 – 2022	“Dynamic Early Warning and Action Model” , Research Grant, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office. PI.
2021 – 2022	“Power Sharing Agreements: A Quantitative Evaluation”. German Foreign Office. PI.
2020	“Conflict and Poverty”. World Bank. PI
2018 – 2019	“Human Rights Atrocity Prevention”. Universal Rights Group. PI
2018	“Revenue Mobilization and State Fragility”. IMF. PI

2017 – 2018	<i>“Governance, Institutional Change and Structural Transformation in Northern Africa”</i> . UN/ECA. PI
2017	<i>“Growth in Fragile States”</i> . UK Government (IGC). PI
2016 – 2017	<i>“How Much is Prevention Worth?”</i> , World Bank. PI
2015	<i>“Recovery from Conflict: Lessons of Success”</i> , World Bank. PI
2013	<i>“Economic Costs of Conflict”</i> , UK Government (IGC) PI

Scientific Evaluations

2019	European Research Council, Remote Referee for Consolidator Grants.
2018	Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI): Programa Estatal Proyectos de I+D+i Retos Investigación (type B)
2015	Israel Science Foundation (ISF): Individual Research Grant
2014	Agencia Nacional de Evaluación y Prospectiva (ANEP): Plan Estatal Excelencia i+d (type B)

Referee Service For

Econometrica, Review of Economic Studies, American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Public Economics, Economic Journal, American Economic Journal: Applied, American Economic Journal: Macro, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Economic Inquiry, Public Choice, Games and Economic Behavior, Economica, International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation, World Development

Recent Conferences

77th Economic Policy Meeting, Stockholm April 2023. *ANTICIPATE Workshop*, Oslo March 2023. *G7 Expert Working Group "Supporting and Sustaining Peace"*. October 2022, Germany Berlin. *AI+Economics*. October 2022, ETH Zurich. *Policies for Peace Incubation Space*, Germany Berlin (online), March 2022. *LACEA/LAMES (invited Banco de España session)*, Colombia Medellin (online), October 2021. *Conflict Early Warning/Early Action Workshop*, NYU/CIC (online), July 2021. *Future of Peacekeeping Operations Roundtable*, United Nations, New York (online), December 2020. *CEPR Workshop on Preventing Conflict*, CEPR (online), December 2020. *Methodological Frontier to Estimate Past and Future Climate Change Impacts on Conflict*, Berlin Climate and Security Conference (online), September 2020. *CETText as Data Workshop*, CAGE, Warwick University, June 2019. *CIREQ Workshop on Political Economy of Development*, Montreal, April 2019. *ISA Annual Convention*, Toronto, March 2019. *PREVIEW Workshop*, German Foreign Office, Berlin, January 2019. *IMF Workshop on Macroeconomic Policy in Fragile States*, Oxford, December 2018. *Madrid Political Economy Workshop*, CUNEF, Madrid, October 2018. *ViEWS Workshop*, Uppsala University, October 2018. *RIDGE-LACEA Political Economy conference*, Montevideo, May 2018. *Post-Conflict Stabilization*, ESOC (Princeton) Meeting, Washington DC, May 2018. *Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development*, SIPRI, May 2018. *PEPS*, Santiago de Chile, December 2017. *Expert Meeting*, UN/ECA, Marseille, September 2017. *CEPR/PODER/IGC*, London School of Economics, June 2017. *Conflict Workshop*, IGIER, Bocconi University, Milan, May 2017. *Catalan Economic Society Conference*, Barcelona, May 2017. *Barcelona GSE 10th Anniversary Research Workshop*, 31 March 2016. *Social Interactions, Norms, and Development*, New Economic School, Moscow, October 2016. *Elections, Policymaking and Uncertainty*, Becker Friedman Institute, Washington DC, September 2016. *Engaging*

Fragile States. ESOC (Princeton) Meeting, Washington DC, May 2016. European Network of Conflict Research (ENCoRe) Meeting, Barcelona, October 2015. ENCoRe Meeting, Bonn, March 2015. European Economic Association Annual Meeting (Invited Speaker), Toulouse, August 2014. World Congress of the International Economics Association, Dead Sea (Jordan), June 2014. IGC Workshop (Economic Cost of Conflict), London, April 2013. Royal Economic Society Meeting, London, April 2013. NGO Workshop (Non-Profits, Governments, and Organizations), London, May 2012.

Recent Seminar Presentations

University of Pittsburgh, 28 March 2023. Louvain, 15 February 2023. IAE (CSIC) Internal Seminar, 9 February 2023. UNHCR Webinar *Is Conflict on the Horizon?*, 19 January 2023. Banco de España, 14 October 2022. University of Vienna. United Nations (UN): The Group of Friends of Mediation, 12 July 2022. University of Vienna, 24 November 2021. Bologna University, 16 November 2021. German Foreign Office, 5 October 2021. Bocconi, Peacetalk Series, 9 September 2021. IFIT, 21 April 2021. Crisis Group, 12 April 2021. Sveriges Riksbank, AMLEDS Seminar Series, 19 March 2021. E&F Research Talk Series at Brunel University London, 10 June 2020. Bank of Spain, 14 November 2018. CIRJE, Tokyo University, 2 April 2018. ISER, Osaka, 23 March 2018. GRIPS, Tokyo, 14 February 2018. IBEI, Barcelona, 23 October 2017. Violence Early-Warning System (ViEWS), Uppsala, 17 October 2017. London School of Economics, 2 February 2016. Toulouse School of Economics, 10 December 2015. Queen Mary University, 19 March 2015. IBEI Barcelona, 27 February 2015. University Duisburg, 7 January 2015. CEMFI Madrid, Internal Seminar, 17 October 2013. NYU Abu Dhabi, Political Science Seminar, 8 May 2013. IAE Barcelona, Internal Seminar, 3 May 2013. HEC Lausanne, External Seminar, 5 December 2012. UPF Barcelona, Labour/Development/Public Economics Seminar, 27 November 2012. ETH Zurich, KOF Research Seminar, 4 July 2012. DIW, Development and Security Seminar, Berlin, 5 March 2012.

Supervision

Currently: Chanon Techasunthornwat, Luis Ignacio and Joseph Emmens at the IDEA program at UAB.

Bruno Conte Leite, “Essays on Economic Geography, Development, and Climate Change”, Ph.D. Thesis, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, defended in 2021.

Augustin Tapsoba, “Essays on Economics of Inequality: Early Childhood Development and Ethnic Favoritism”, Ph.D. Thesis, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, defended in 2019.

Lavinia Piemontese, “Essays on Organised Crime and Internal Conflicts”, Ph.D. Thesis, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, defended in 2019.

Rajesh Ramachandran, “Essays on Education, Discrimination and Development”, Ph.D. Thesis, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, defended in 2013.

IDEA MSc Thesis: Luis Ignacio (2021), Joseph Emmens (2021), Jesús Estévez (2020), Abhinav Khemka (2020), Szymon Wiecezorek (2020), Chanon Techasunthornwat (2019), Ghizlen Ouasbaa Azzouani (2019), Olga Starchikova (2018), Bruno Conte Leite (2017), Hadar Gafni (2017), Aldo Lo Presti (2017), Thomas Pfeiffer (2017), Simon Dagrain (2016), Lavinia Piomentese (2015), Pawel Rachel (2015), Gema Lax Martínez (2015), Koustuv Lahiri (2012), Asuman Kemiksiz (2012), David Jiménez Gómez (2010), Andrea Martin (2010).

Tutoring of PostDocs: Stefano Falcone

Participation in Ph.D. Thesis Committees

Dijana Zejcirovic (UPF), July 2018. Florence Nimoh (UAB), July 2018. Ricardo Maertens (UPF), July 2017. Alejandra Ramos (UAB), June 2017. Mónica Oviedo (UAB), December 2015. Simón Planells (UB), May 2015. Roberto Ramos (CEMFI), March 2014. Marian Meller (UPF), July 2011.

Workshop and Seminar Organization

Complex Data in the Study of Politics and Conflict (2021)

Agriculture in a Changing Climate: The Case of Algeria (2021)

Applied Bellaterra Seminar Series (2015-2021)

Forecasting Political and Economic Crisis, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum, 17-18 June 2019

INFER, Goettingen, 6 September 2018 (special session)

Advances in Prediction for Prevention, Barcelona 18 December 2017

Prediction for Prevention, Barcelona 15-16 May 2017

ENCoRe Meeting, Barcelona, 1-2 October 2015

Understanding Conflict, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum, 18-19 June 2014

Media Attention and Dissemination

The webpage conflictforecast.org is online since 2021 and provides monthly updates of internal armed conflict risk. It receives a lot of media coverage which we cannot track consistently. Some examples are shown below.

21 March 2023 Speaker at roundtable on “La transformación digital un pilar para la transición energética” in the Barcelona Supercomputing Center.

15 September 2022 MIT Technology Review. Wie KI Kriege vorhersagen soll

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/421v939nHuTJFlruYIJ5hM?si=a51984c842914746>

15 November 2021 RTVE, radio5, cinco continentes, “¿Cómo evaluar los riesgos de conflicto en todo el mundo?”

11 June 2021, Radio Aragon, Agora. “Inteligencia Artificial para evaluar los daños materiales provocados por la guerra.” <https://www.cartv.es/aragonradio/podcast/emision/agora-11-06-2021-inteligencia-artificial-para-evaluar-los-danos-materiales-provocados-por-la-guerra>

8 June 2021, *Conocer la destrucción provocada por una guerra en tiempo real*, Catalunya Vanguardista

8 June 2021, *Un nuevo algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción causada por las guerras a partir de imágenes de satélite*, AQUÍ

8 June 2021, *Un nuevo algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción causada por las guerras a partir de imágenes de satélite*, DiCYT

7 June 2021, *Españoles crean un algoritmo que permite monitorizar la destrucción que causan las guerras*, Republica.com

7 June 2021, CIENCIA - *Un equipo del CSIC desarrolla un algoritmo que permite monitorizar la destrucción causada por las guerras a partir de imágenes satélite*, El periódico de aquí

7 June 2021, *Un nuevo algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción causada por las guerras a partir de imágenes de satélite*, SIGLO

7 June 2021, *Un nuevo algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción causada por las guerras a partir de imágenes de satélite*, Servimedia.es

7 June 2021, *Un algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción que causan las guerras*, Yahoo! España

7 June 2021, *Un algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción que causan las guerras*, Eldiario.es

7 June 2021, GUERRA INVESTIGACIÓN - *Un algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción que causan las guerras*, EFE

7 June 2021, *Un algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción que causan las guerras*, Cope

7 June 2021, *Un algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción que causan las guerras*, La Vanguardia

7 June 2021, *Un nuevo algoritmo permite monitorizar la destrucción causada por las guerras a partir de imágenes de satélite*, CSIC

15 March 2021, La Vanguardia, *¿Se puede pronosticar el riesgo de conflicto armado en el mundo?*

8 January 2021, Nada Es Gratis (Spanish Economics Blog), *“Las dos Españas”*

15 March 2018, “The business case for prevention” Development for Peace, World Bank Blog.

14 May 2018, Video Published by the American Economic Association (AEA), *“Protection from predators, What are the economic consequences when governments don't keep law and order?”*

22 January 2018, VoxEU (CEPR policy portal), *“Shared power as a way to reduce violence”*, 3239 reads online

22 September 2017, SIPRI blog, *“Ounces of prevention, pounds of cure”*

21 September 2017, Press release by the World Bank President J.Y. Kim, *“United Nations and World Bank Leaders Call for Stronger International Efforts to Prevent Violent Conflict.”*, key figures provided in report: How Much is Prevention Worth?

12 July 2017, VoxEU (CEPR policy portal), *“The local dynamics of complex warfare”*, 6037 reads online

12 January 2017, Barcelona GSE Research Focus, *“Those eating the biggest slice: Institutions can restrict the abuse of political power”*

20 October 2016, VoxEU (CEPR policy portal), *“Why We Fail to Prevent Civil Wars: A Forecaster’s Perspective”*, 5608 reads online

5 August 2016, Radio Onda Cero (Spanish National Radio), *“Hemos desarrollado un algoritmo que predice guerras civiles un año antes de que ocurran”*, Interview

20 January 2016, Barcelona GSE Research Focus, *“Does unemployment lead to a decrease in mental health?”*

26 November 2015, Nada Es Gratis (Spanish Economics Blog), *“Suicidios en España, ¿un fenómeno de la crisis?”*

16 February 2014, VoxEU (CEPR policy portal), *“Foreign Intervention and the Economic Costs of Conflict”*, 21326 reads online

28 February 2013, VoxEU (CEPR policy portal), *“The Welfare Cost of Lawlessness: Evidence from Somali Piracy”*, 19267 reads online

18 January 2013, Financial Times Magazine, *“Lessons for pirates – from tax collectors”* discussion of article *“The Welfare Cost of Lawlessness: Evidence from Somali Piracy”*

Winter 2012, CentrePiece (Magazine of the Centre for Economic Performance), *“Stop fighting and wealth will follow”*