

Heléne Berg (prev. Lundqvist)

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PERSONAL	Year of birth: 1982 Nationality: Swedish	
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Applied microeconometrics, Political economics, Public economics	
ACADEMIC POSITIONS	Assistant professor at the Department of Economics, Stockholm University	2012–
	Post-doctoral position at the Institute for International Economic Studies, Stockholm University	2011–2012
	Affiliate member of the CESifo, Munich	2012–
	Research fellow at the Uppsala Center for Labor Studies	2011–
	Research fellow at the Uppsala Center for Fiscal Studies	2011–
	Graduate student at the Department of Economics, Uppsala University	2006–2011
	Visiting graduate student at the Institute for International Economic Studies	2011
	Visiting graduate student at the Department of Economics, MIT	2008
NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS	Audit Director at the Swedish National Audit Office	2017–
EDUCATION	Uppsala University , Sweden Ph.D., Economics, Nov 2011 - Thesis title: “Empirical Essays in Political and Public Economics” - Advisor: Professor Matz Dahlberg Ph. Licentiate, Economics, 2009 M.A., Economics and Statistics, 2006	

- RESEARCH GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS, Full project funding for “Effects of Conscription on Human Capital, Social Capital and Political Preferences” awarded by The Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Research Foundation (main applicant), 2017–2019
- Grant for one year sabbatical at the University of California at San Diego awarded by The Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Research Foundation, 2017 (postponed)
- Grant for organizing the workshop “Empirical Political Economics and Political Science” awarded by The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences/Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (main applicant), June 2015
- Scholarship granted to young prominent researchers for full funding of 3 years’ research awarded by The Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Research Foundation, 2012
- The Benzelius Prize awarded by The Royal Society of Sciences in Uppsala, 2012
- The Distinguished CESifo Affiliate Award in Public Sector Economics, 2012
- Award for excellent performance in the economics Ph.D. program awarded by The Swedish Association of Economics in Memorial of Ingemar Carlsson, 2008
- Full scholarship for studies abroad Fall 2008 awarded by The Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Research Foundation, 2007
- PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS
- Dahlberg, M., K. Edmark and H. Berg (2017), “Ethnic Diversity and Preferences for Redistribution: Reply”, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, forthcoming
- Lundqvist, H. (2015), “Granting Public or Private Consumption? Effects of Grants on Local Public Spending and Income Taxes”, *International Tax and Public Finance* 22(1), pp 41–72
- Lundqvist, H., M. Dahlberg and E. Mörk (2014), “Stimulating Local Public Employment: Do General Grants Work?”, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 6(1), pp 167–192
- Dahlberg, M., K. Edmark and H. Lundqvist (2012), “Ethnic Diversity and Preferences for Redistribution”, *Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 120(1), pp 41–76
- CHAPTERS IN BOOKS
- Dahlberg, M. and Lundqvist, H. (2013), “Politikers egenskaper och privatisering av välfärdstjänster” in *Välfärdstjänster i privat regi: Framväxt och drivkrafter* (ed. Henrik Jordahl), 2013, SNS, Stockholm
- OTHER PUBLICATIONS
- Lundqvist, H. (2013), “Lönar det sig att vara kommunpolitiker?” (“Does It Pay Off to Be a Local Politician?”), *Ekonomisk Debatt (Journal of the Swedish Economic Association)* vol. 41(5), pp 27–36
- PH.D. THESIS
- Lundqvist, H. (2011), “Empirical Essays in Political and Public Economics”, *Economic Studies* 128, Uppsala University

PEDAGOGICAL
TRAINING,
ADVISING AND
TEACHING

Stockholm University, Sweden

Ph.D. advising in theory and practice,
2-week course, 2016

How to conduct appraisal talks with graduate students,
half-day course, 2014

Ph.D. main advisor
to Daniel Almén, expected graduation: 2018

M.A. thesis advisor
Spring 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

B.A. thesis advisor
Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015,
Spring 2016

Head teacher in Political Economics, Masters level,
Spring 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Uppsala University, Sweden

Guest lecturer in Political Economics, Masters level,
Fall 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

Head teacher in Public Economics, Intermediate level,
Spring and Fall 2010

Teaching assistant in Applied Econometrics, Masters level,
Spring 2008 and 2009

Pedagogy for university teachers, 5-week course, 2009

ADMINISTRATIVE
AND PROFESSIONAL
MERITS

Assistant Director of Graduate Studies at the Department of Economics, Stockholm University	2012–2016
Member of the scientific Program Committee for the Annual Meeting of the European Economic Association, to take place in Geneva in August 2016.	2016
Final seminar discussant of Linna Martén's Ph.D. thesis at the Department of Economics, Uppsala University	2015
Final seminar discussant of Lovisa Persson's Ph.D. thesis at the Department of Economics, Uppsala University	2015
Member of the Junior Job Market Recruiting Committee at the Department of Economics, Stockholm University	2013/14
Research Assistant at the Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy	2006
Research Assistant at the Department of Economics, Uppsala University	2005

REFeree SERVICE

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Journal of Political Science, Canadian Journal of Economics, CESifo Economic Studies, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, International Tax and Public Finance, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of European Economic Association, Journal of Politics, Journal of Public Economics, Political Science Research and Methods, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Social Choice and Welfare, World Development

WORKING PAPERS “Post-WWI Military Disarmament and Interwar Fascism: Evidence from Sweden” (with M. Dahlberg and K. Vernby), Department of Economics, Uppsala University, Working Paper No. 2016:16

“Ethnic Diversity and Preferences for Redistribution: Reply” (with M. Dahlberg and K. Edmark), Department of Economics, Stockholm University, Research Paper No. 2013:5 (this is an earlier and longer version of the reply forthcoming in *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*)

“Hur fördelas ökade generalla statsbidrag mellan personal i olika kommunala sektorer?” (“What is the Distribution of Increased General Intergovernmental Grants to Personnel in Different Municipal Sectors?”) (with M. Dahlberg and E. Mörk), IFAU (the Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy) Report No. 2008:14

WORK IN
PROGRESS

“Politicians’ Payments in a Proportional Party System”

Outline: Evidence from a limited set of countries—mostly the US or UK—suggests that returns to political office are large or even huge. In contrast, a few emerging studies point toward much smaller individual returns in typical parliamentary democracies where parties are the main political actors. The lesson from these latter studies is however limited, and this paper contributes by providing new and credible evidence on what the returns to political office really could be in this type of countries. Specifically, I apply a difference-in-difference strategy to rich data on candidates to the Swedish parliament, and estimate the causal return to holding political office. The results show that returns indeed can be large also in a party-driven democracy like Sweden; the average effect of being elected on disposable income is estimated to be around 20%. Compared to in much of the existing literature, the richness of the data also allows for a closer look at various mechanism, and it turns out that the estimated income boost most likely is due to relatively high parliamentary remuneration.

“Is it Worth it? On the Returns to Holding Political Office”

Outline: Despite the key role played by political payoffs in theory, very little is known empirically about the types of payoffs that motivate politicians. The purpose of this paper is to bring some light into this. I estimate causal effects of being elected in a local election on monetary returns. The claim for causality, I argue, can be made thanks to a research design where the income of some candidate who just barely won a seat is compared to that of some other candidate who was close to winning a seat *for the same party*, but ultimately did not. This research design is made possible thanks to a comprehensive, detailed data set covering all Swedish politicians who have run for office in the period 1991–2006. I establish that monetary returns are absent both in the short and long run. Instead, politicians seem to be motivated by non-monetary returns, and I show that being elected locally once (for exogenous reasons) can be an effective starting point for enjoying such payoffs.

“Migrating Natives and Foreign Immigration” (with Henrik Andersson and Matz Dahlberg)

Outline: In this project we study how the native population react after an inflow of immigrants into their neighborhood; do natives stay in, flee from or avoid neighborhoods attracting immigrants? To answer this question, we apply a shift-share instrument that exploits the interaction of previous immigrant settlements and the timing of contemporary immigrant shocks to comprehensive, Swedish register data.

WORK IN
PROGRESS,
CONT.

“The Emergence and Persistence of Right-Wing Extremism: A Research Program”
(with Matz Dahlberg and Kåre Vernby)

Outline: In this research program we explore the roots of right-wing extremism and how extreme right-wing values persist over time. The analysis is focused on the success of nazi-oriented parties in the 1930’s in Sweden, and on the formation and growth of extreme right-wing values and right-wing parties in the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. We focus on four research questions: (i) What explains the existence of Nazi parties in the 1930’s? (ii) Do extreme-right preferences persist over time? (iii) Which are the channels for the survival of right-wing extremism over time? (iv) What explains the geographical diffusion of recent right-wing party success?

PRESENTATIONS AT
CONFERENCES AND
WORKSHOPS

“*Migrating Natives and Foreign Immigration*”:

Meeting of the Uppsala Center for Labour Studies, Uppsala, Sweden, April 2015

“*Politicians’ Payments in a Proportional Party System*”:

Meeting of the Uppsala Center for Fiscal Studies, Uppsala, Sweden, October 2014

The 4th National Conference of Swedish Economists, Umeå, Sweden, September 2014

Meeting of the Uppsala Center for Labor Studies, Krusenberg, Sweden, August 2014

“*Is it Worth it? On the Returns to Holding Political Office*”:

Empirical Political Economics and Political Science Workshop, Helsinki, Finland, December 2013

The 7th Nordic Econometric Meeting, Bergen, Norway, June 2013

Workshop on Public Economics and Public Policy, Copenhagen, Denmark, January 2013

The 27th Annual Congress of the European Economic Association, Malaga, Spain, August 2012

The 68th Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance, Dresden, Germany, August 2012

The CESifo Area Conference on Public Sector Economics, Munich, Germany, April 2012

The 2nd National Conference of Swedish Economists, Uppsala, Sweden, September 2011

The 4th Workshop on Fiscal Federalism: Political Accountability, Corruption and Economic Outcomes, Barcelona, Spain, June 2011

“*Interwar Militarism and Fascist Mobilization*”:

Political Economy Workshop, Oslo, Norway, December 2012

“*Ethnic Diversity and Preferences for Redistribution*”:

Growth and Sustainability Policies for Europe (GRASP) Workshop on Social Policy and the Financial Crisis, Oslo, Norway, May 2012

Ph.D. Workshop in Public Economics, Uppsala, Sweden, June 2010

- PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS, CONT.
- “Granting Public or Private Consumption? Effects of Grants on Local Public Spending and Income Taxes”:*
- The 1st National Conference of Swedish Economists, Lund, Sweden, October 2010
 - The 66th Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance, Uppsala, Sweden, August 2010
- “Stimulating Local Public Employment: Do General Grants Work?”:*
- ESF Exploratory Workshop on Fiscal Policy at the Regional Level and Intergovernmental Relations, Barcelona, Spain, April 2012
 - The 65th Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance, Cape Town, South Africa, August 2009
 - The Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, US, April 2009
 - Ph.D. Workshop in Public Economics, Uppsala, Sweden, June 2008
 - New Perspectives on Fiscal Federalism: Intergovernmental Relations, Competition and Accountability, Berlin, Germany, October 2007
 - The 1st Summer School on Fiscal Federalism: Tax Competition and Urban Public Finance, Barcelona, Spain, June 2007
- INVITED TALKS
- “Politicians’ Payments in a Proportional Party System”:*
- Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics, Stockholm School of Economics, Sweden, May 2014
 - The Political Economics Seminar Group, Lund University, Sweden, April 2014
- “Is it Worth it? On the Returns to Holding Political Office”:*
- The Berlin Network of Labour Market Researchers, Germany, November 2013
 - The Stockholm School of Economics in Riga/BICEPS, Latvia, June 2013
 - The Swedish Institute for Social Research, Stockholm University, Sweden, March 2012
 - The Department of Economics, University of Mannheim, Germany, February 2012
 - The Department of Economics, Stockholm University, Sweden, February 2012
 - The Department of Economics, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, January 2012
 - The Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, Munich, Germany, July 2011
 - The Research Institute of Industrial Economics, Stockholm, Sweden, April 2011
- “Ethnic Diversity and Preferences for Redistribution”:*
- Högskolan Dalarna, Borlänge, Sweden, October 2010
 - The Ratio Institute, Stockholm, Sweden, May 2010
- “Granting Public or Private Consumption? Effects of Grants on Local Public Spending and Income Taxes”:*
- Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway, April 2010
- MISCELLANEOUS
- Captain of Team Uppsala competing in the Econometrics Game 2011 held in Amsterdam (top ten finalists)

Last updated: March 2017