

**Contact Information**

Department of Economics  
University of Mannheim  
L7, 3-5, Room P02  
68161 Mannheim, Germany

Phone: +49 621 181-1854

E-mail: [philipp.ager@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:philipp.ager@uni-mannheim.de)

Personal Website: [www.philippager.com](http://www.philippager.com)

**Current Position**

Professor of Economics (fixed-term 5-years), August 2021 –  
University of Mannheim, Department of Economics

Research Affiliate, Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), December 2018 –

**Previous Positions**

Associate Professor of Economics, April 2017 – April 2022  
Department of Business and Economics, University of Southern Denmark

Visiting Associate Professor, January 2018 – June 2018,  
Harvard University, Department of Economics

Assistant Professor of Economics, August 2013 – March 2017  
Department of Business and Economics, University of Southern Denmark

**Education**

PhD in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 2013  
MRes in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 2009  
Diplom in Economics, University of Mannheim, 2007

**Research Fields**

Economic History, Demography, and Labor Economics

**Published and Forthcoming Papers**

“*The Effect of Immigration Restrictions on Local Labor Markets: Lessons from the 1920s Border Closure*”,  
with Ran Abramitzky, Leah Boustan, Elior Cohen, and Casper Worm Hansen. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, forthcoming.

“Killer Incentives: Rivalry, Performance and Risk-Taking among German Fighter Pilots, 1939-45”, with Leonardo Bursztyn, Lukas Leucht, and Joachim Voth. *Review of Economic Studies*, forthcoming.

“School Closures during the 1918 Pandemic”, with Katherine Eriksson, Ezra Karger, Peter Nencka, and Melissa Thomasson. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, accepted.

“The Intergenerational Effects of a Large Wealth Shock: White Southerners after the Civil War”, with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson. *American Economic Review*, 2021, vol. 111 (11), pp. 3767-94.

“Structural Change and the Fertility Transition”, with Benedikt Herz and Markus Brueckner, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2020, 102(4), pp. 806-822.

“How the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake Shaped Economic Activity in the American West”, with Katherine Eriksson, Casper Worm Hansen, and Lars Lønstrup, *Explorations in Economic History*, 2020, vol. 77 (July), pp. 101342.

“Agricultural Risk and the Spread of Religious Communities”, with Antonio Ciccone, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 2018, 16 (2), pp. 487-521.

“Fertility and early-life mortality: Evidence from smallpox vaccination in Sweden”, with Casper Worm Hansen and Peter Sandholt Jensen, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 2018, 16 (4), pp. 1021-68.

“Immigrants’ Genes: Genetic Diversity and Economic Development in the US”, with Markus Brueckner, *Economic Inquiry*, 2018, vol. 56 (April), pp. 1149-64.

“The Boll Weevil Plague and its Effect on the Southern Agricultural Sector, 1889-1929”, with Markus Brueckner and Benedikt Herz, *Explorations in Economic History*, 2017, vol. 65 (July), pp. 94-105.

“Cultural Diversity and Economic Growth: Evidence from the US during the Age of Mass Migration”, with Markus Brueckner, *European Economic Review*, 2013, vol. 64 (November), pp. 76-97.

“The accuracy and efficiency of the Consensus Forecast: A further application and extension of the pooled approach”, with Marcus Kappler and Steffen Osterloh, *International Journal of Forecasting*, 2009, vol. 25 (1), pp. 167-181.

### **Working Papers**

“How the Other Half Died: Immigration and Mortality in US Cities”, with James Feigenbaum, Casper Worm Hansen, and Hui Ren Tan. *NBER Working Paper 27480. Revise and Resubmit at the Review of Economic Studies*

“Church Membership and Social Insurance: Evidence from the Great Mississippi Flood of 1927”, with Casper Worm Hansen and Lars Lønstrup. *Reject and Resubmit at the Economic Journal*

“Froebel’s Gifts: How the Kindergarten Movement Changed the American Family”, with Francesco Cinnirella. *CEPR Discussion Paper 15146*.

“Bank Deregulation and Financial Development: The US Free Banking Experience”, with Fabrizio Spargoli.

“The Persistence of de Facto Power: Elites and Economic Development in the US South, 1840-1960”

### **Work in Progress**

“The Making of an American: Public Kindergartens and the Assimilation of Immigrant Children”, with Francesco Cinnirella, Katherine Eriksson, Ezra Karger and Viktor Malein.

“Gender-biased Technological Change and Structural Transformation: Evidence from the Diffusion of Milking Machines in Norway”, with Marc Goni, and Kjell G. Salvanes.

"The Urban Penalty during the Historical Mortality Transition: New Insights from Massachusetts' Annual Vital Statistics, 1880-1930", with Casper Worm Hansen and Viktor Malein)

### **Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships**

Danish Council for Independent Research, 2018: Project: “Institutions of Care: The Role of Early Childhood Investments for Historical Development” (PI, amount: DKK 4,488.160 (~ 710.000 USD))

Danish Council for Independent Research, 2015: Project: “Diversity and Development: Evidence from Immigration Quotas” (joint with Casper Worm Hansen, amount: DKK 1,502.967 (~ 225.000 USD))

### **Conference Presentations**

ECONtribute Workshop (Bonn, 2021), AEA Annual Meetings (San Diego, 2020), Simposio of the Spanish Economic Association (Alicante, 2019), SSHA Annual Conference (Chicago, 2019), FAIR CELE Workshop (Bergen, 2019), RES Annual Conference (Warwick, 2019), Migration, Refugees, and the Stateless Conference (Kellogg School of Management, Evanston, 2019), LSE 4<sup>th</sup> Interwar Workshop (London, 2018), EHA Annual Conference (Montreal, 2018), World Economic History Conference (Boston, 2018), Deep-rooted Factors in Comparative Development Workshop (Providence, 2018), Economic Demography Workshop (Denver, 2018), AEA Annual Meetings (Philadelphia, 2018), ASREC Conference (Boston, 2017), 2nd Annual Meeting of the Danish Society for Economic and Social History (Copenhagen, 2016), NBER SI 2016 DAE (Boston, 2016), Zeuthen Workshop (University of Copenhagen, 2016), 3rd SDU Workshop on Applied Microeconomics (Odense, 2016), PAA Meeting (Washington DC, 2016), Economic Demography Workshop (Washington DC, 2016), RES Annual Conference (University of Sussex, 2016), AEA Annual Meetings (San Francisco, 2016), Simposio de la Asociación Española de Economía (Girona, 2015), FRESH Meeting (Universitat de Barcelona, 2015), 11<sup>th</sup> European Historical Economics Society Conference 2015 (Pisa, 2015), Historical Economics of Religion Workshop (Queens University Belfast, 2015), EBHS Conference (La Crosse, WI, 2015), Simposio of the Spanish Economic Association (Palma de Mallorca, 2014), SSHA Annual Conference (Toronto, 2014), EHA Annual Conference (Columbus, Ohio 2014), FRESH Meeting (University of Kent, 2014), Danish Public Choice Workshop (Copenhagen, 2014), AEA Annual Meetings (Philadelphia, 2014), Simposio of the Spanish Economic Association (Santander, 2013), Swedish Economic History Meeting (Lund, 2013), FRESH Meeting (Humboldt University of Berlin, 2013), 4th Workshop on Growth, History and Development (Odense, 2013), Simposio of the Spanish Economic Association (Vigo, 2012), Royal Economic Society (Royal Holloway, 2011), EHS Annual Conference (Cambridge, 2011)

### **Conference Attendances**

NBER DAE (Boston 2020, 2018, 2015), NBER Cohort Studies (Los Angeles, 2017, 2016), AEA Annual Meetings (Atlanta, 2019; Chicago, 2017), EHA Annual Conference (Atlanta, 2019; San Jose, 2017; Bolder, 2016; Nashville, 2015)

## **Invited Presentations**

University of Konstanz (scheduled 2022), University of Groningen (scheduled 2022), London School of Economics Epstein Keynote Lecture (2022), University of Warwick (2022), University of Mannheim (2021), Stanford University (2021), Aarhus University (2021), Brown University (Providence, 2021), Dartmouth (Hanover, 2021), IFN (Stockholm, 2020), CSEF (Naples, 2019), Parthenope University of Naples (Naples, 2019), NYU Stern, (New York, 2018), Harvard University, (Cambridge, 2018), Brown University (Providence, 2018), Norwegian University of Science and Technology, (Trondheim, 2017), Humboldt University of Berlin (Berlin, 2017), Fed Chicago (Chicago, 2017), WU Vienna (Vienna, 2017), SFI (Copenhagen, 2017), University of Bonn (Bonn, 2016), UC Davis (Davis, 2016), University of Bayreuth (Bayreuth, 2016), LMU (Munich, 2016), CBS (Copenhagen, 2015), University of Exeter (Exeter, 2015), University of Copenhagen (Copenhagen, 2014), University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (Modena, 2014), Lund University (Lund, 2014), Universitat de Barcelona (Barcelona, 2013), University of Southern Denmark (Odense, 2013), UAB (Barcelona, 2013)

## **Editorial Service**

*Referee for academic journals:* American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, British Journal of Political Science, Demography, Economic History Review, Economic Journal, Economics of Education Review, European Economic Review, Explorations in Economic History, European Journal of Population, European Review of Economic History, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Law, Economics and Organization, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Labour Economics, Oxford Economic Papers, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Development Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Scandinavian Economic History Review, Social Science History

*Referee for funding agencies:* Agence National de la Recherche (France), Israel Science Foundation, National Science Foundation (United States)

## **Professional Memberships**

American Economic Association, Economic History Association

## **Teaching Experience**

*University of Mannheim (since 2021):* Applied Economics (undergraduate), Macroeconomics (undergraduate), Historical Economic Development (graduate), Topics in Economic Demography (graduate)

*Harvard University (2018):* Comparative Historical Economic Development (PhD)

*University of Southern Denmark (2013-2021):* Applied Economics (undergraduate), Macroeconomics (undergraduate), Development Economics (undergraduate), Advanced Economic History (graduate), Long-Run Determinants of Economic Outcomes (graduate), Historical Perspectives on Current Economics Issues (graduate)

*University of Copenhagen (2017-2021):* Economic History of Europe (Summer School, undergraduate)

## **PhD Supervision**

Viktor Malein (SDU, Supervisor), Xanthi Tsoukli (SDU, Co-Supervisor)

Frederikke Frehr Kristensen (SDU, External Evaluator), Lena Sperling (CBS, External Evaluator), Melissa Rubio (Gothenburg University, External Evaluator), Christian Vedel Sørensen (SDU, External Evaluator)

### **Departmental Service**

Co-organizer of MAS seminar series (University of Mannheim, since Fall 2021)

Recruiting Committee (SDU, AEA Annual Meetings, 2016-2019)

Co-organizer of HEDG seminar series (SDU, 2015-2017)

Co-organizer of Annual Workshop on Growth, History and Development (SDU, 2015)

Organizer of HEDG Mini-Workshop (SDU, 2016-2020)

### **Media**

Articles featured in Bloomberg, Citylab, Econimate, Forbes, Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, Los Angeles Times, NBER Digest, Pro Market, The Conversation, The Economist, The Times, Videnskab, Voxeu, Vox Talks, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal.

Mannheim, March 2022