

ALPASLAN AKAY

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Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA)
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Education

- 2007-2008 **Post-Doctoral Fellow**, September, 2007, Göteborg University.
(Adlerberska stipendiefonden)
- 2003-2008 **Ph.D in Economics**, Göteborg University, Department of Economics.
Title of thesis: "*Essays on Microeconometrics and Immigrant Assimilation*".
- 1999-2003 **Ph.D candidate in Econometrics**, Istanbul University, Department of
Econometrics, Istanbul, Turkey.
- 1998-1999 **M.Sc. Istanbul University**, Department of Economics, Econometrics
Master, Istanbul, Turkey. Title of thesis: "*Spectral Analysis of Time Series in
Economics and Mathematica Applications*".
- 1993-1998 **BA, Istanbul University**, Department of Economics, Istanbul, Turkey

Research Interest

- Microeconometrics and Monte Carlo Simulations
- Labour Economics and Migration
- Experimental and Behavioral Economics
- Economics of Happiness
- Software Design, Econometric Programming

Working Experience

- 2009- IZA Deputy Program Director of Environment and Development, August
2009, IZA, (Institute for the Study of Labor)
- 2008- Research Associate, September, 2008, IZA, (Institute for the Study of
Labor)
- 2007-2008 Research Associate, SIDA (Swedish International Development
Cooperation Agency)
- 2003-2007 Research Assistant, Göteborg University, Department of Economics,

1998-2003 Sweden
Teaching Assistant, Istanbul University, Department of Economics, Unit of
Econometrics, Istanbul, Turkey

Teaching Experience

Graduate Level

2006-2007 Microeconometrics, (simulation based estimation), Göteborg University,
Department of Economics.

Undergraduate and Master Level

2010 Health Economics II, Göteborg University
2002-2003 Mathematical Statistics, Istanbul University, Department of Economics,
Unit of Econometrics, Istanbul, Turkey
2001-2003 Geometrical Approach to Regression, (tutorials),
1999-2003 Mathematics for Economists, (tutorials),
1999-2003 Decision Making Techniques, (tutorials)

Fellowships and Awards

2007-2008 Adlerbertska Forskningsstiftelsen Research Grant
2005-2007 Doktorandanställning Fellowship, Göteborg University
2003-2005 Utbildningsbidrag Scholarship, Göteborg University

Research Visits

December,2010 University of Navarra Pamplona, Spain
October,2010 University of Gothenburg, Sweden
June,2009 University of Gothenburg, Sweden
May,2009 University of Navarra Pamplona, Spain
2007-2008 EDRI (*Ethiopian Development and Research Institute*), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Publications and Working Papers

“*The Effect of Religion on Cooperation and Altruistic Punishment*”, (with Gökhan Karabulut and Peter Martinsson), IZA Discussion Paper Series, 2011, nr: 6179.

“*The Effect of Religiosity and Religious Festivals on Positional Concerns: An Experimental Investigation of Ramadan*”, (with Gökhan Karabulut and Peter Martinsson), IZA Discussion Paper Series, 2011, nr: 6172.

“Relative Concerns of the Rural-to-Urban Migrants in China” (with Klaus F. Zimmermann and Oliver Bargain), forthcoming in *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2012.

“Persistence of Informality: Evidence from Panel Data”, (with Melanie Khamis), forthcoming in *Research in Labor Economics*, 2012.

“Does Relative Concerns Matter in Poor Societies? Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Rural Ethiopia,” (with Peter Martinsson and Haileselassie A. Medhin), forthcoming in *World Development*, 2012.

“Finite Sample Comparison of Alternative Methods for Estimating Dynamic Panel Data Models”, forthcoming in *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 2011.

“Attitudes Toward Uncertainty Among the Poor: Evidence from Ethiopia”, (with Stefan T. Trautmann, Peter Martinsson and Haileselassie A. Medhin), published in *Theory and Decision*, 2011.

“The Effect of Power Outages and Cheap Talk on Willingness to Pay to Reduce Outages”, (with Peter Martinsson and Fredrik Carlsson), published in *Energy Journal*, 2011.

“Does Relative Income Matter for the Very Poor? Evidence from Rural Ethiopia”, (with Peter Martinsson), published in *Economics Letters*, 2010.

“Asymptotic bias reduction for a conditional marginal effects estimator in sample selection models”, (with Elias Tsakas), published in *Applied Economics*, 2008.

“Wooldridge Method for the Initial Values Problem is Simple. What about Performance? Evidence from Dynamic Random-Effects Probit and Tobit Models”, IZA Discussion Paper Series, 2009, nr: 3943.

“Dynamics of the Employment Assimilation of First-Generation Immigrant Men in Sweden Comparing Dynamic and Static Assimilation Models with Longitudinal Data” IZA Discussion Paper Series, 2009, nr: 4655.

“Sundays Are “Blue”: Are Not They?” – The day-of-the-week-effect on Subjective well-being”, (with Peter Martinsson), IZA Discussion Paper Series, 2009, nr: 4563.

“Local Unemployment and the Earnings-Assimilation of Immigrant Men in Sweden: Evidence from Longitudinal Data, 1990-2000” (with Kerem Tezic), 2008.

“Dynamics of Employment and Earnings Assimilation of First-Generation Immigrant Men in Sweden, 1990-2000”, University of Gothenburg, Working Paper, nr: 279, 2008

“Monte Carlo Investigation of the Initial Value Problem in Censored Dynamic Panel data Models”, University of Gothenburg, Working Paper, nr: 278, 2008

“Second Order Approximation for the Average Marginal Effect of Heckman's Two Step Procedure”, (with Elias Tsakas) University of Gothenburg, Working Paper, nr: 240, 2007

“*Economic Performance of Turkish Immigrant Men in the European Labor-Market: Evidence from Sweden*”, (with Gokhan Karabulut and Kerem Tezic). University of Gothenburg, Working Papers, nr 239, 2007

Books and book chapters

“Mathematics for Economists”, Filiz Kitapevi, Istanbul, 2003 (Book in Turkish, with Enis Siniksaran and Aylin Aktukun).

Work in Progress

“What's Mine is Yours? Estimating Collective Models using Traditional versus Subjective Data” (with Olivier Bargain).

“Can We Remember Our Happiness”(with Peter Martinsson)

“Religious Heterogeneity and Social Capital in Rural Ethiopia”, (with Peter Martinsson and Haileselassie A. Medhin).

“Subjective Well-Being of the Very Poor: The Rural Ethiopian Situation” (with Peter Martinsson)

Conference Presentations

ASEPELT, International Association Applied Economics, “*Sundays Are “Blue: Are Not They? – The day-of-the-week-effect on Subjective well-being,”* (with Peter Martinsson), Santander, Spain, June, 2011.

6th IZA/World Bank Conference on Employment and Development, “*Relative Concerns of the Rural-to-Urban Migrants in China*” (with Klaus F. Zimmermann and Oliver Bargain), Mexico City, May-June, 2011.

RUMICI conference, February, 2010, (Java, Indonesia). “*Relative concerns of Rural-to-Urban Migrants in China: Status or Signal?*” (with Klaus F. Zimmermann and Olivier Bargain)

6th IZA Prize Conference on Frontiers in Labor Economics: The Economics of Well-Being and Happiness (Washington DC), October, 2009: “*Sundays Are “Blue”: Are Not They?” – The day-of-the-week-effect on Subjective well-being,* (with Peter Martinsson).

Economic Science Association World Meeting (Luiss University, Rome), June, 2007, Experimental economics annual meeting. *Is there a Ramadan Effect on Cooperation? Experimental Evidence (with Gokban Karabulut and Peter Martinsson)*

Second Nordic Workshop in Behavioral and Experimental Economics, October, 2007. *Does Relative Income Matter on Happiness for Poor? Evidence from Rural Ethiopia (with Peter Martinsson)*

Invited Presentations, Discussions and Workshops

IZA Workshop: Sources of Well-Being, “What's Mine is Yours? Estimating Collective Models using Traditional versus Subjective Data”, (with Olivier Bargain), October, 2011

IZA/World Bank Workshop: Institutions and Informal Employment in Emerging and Transition Economies, “*The Persistence of Informality: Evidence from Panel Data*”, (with Melanie Khamis), May, 2011

Workshop on Happiness, (University of Navarra Pamplona), December, 2010.

IZA, DIW Berlin, DIW DC and World Bank, German Day on Development, October, 2010. *Positional Concerns of Rural-to-Urban Migrants: Is it status or Signal? (with Klaus F. Zimmermann and Olivier Bargain)*, Washington DC.

2nd CIER/IZA Annual Workshop: Research in Labor Economics, October, 2010. *Positional Concerns of Rural-to-Urban Migrants: Is it status or Signal? (with Klaus F. Zimmermann and Olivier Bargain)*

Paris School of Economics, *Economics and Psychology Seminars*, December, 2009. “*Sundays Are ‘Blue’: Are Not They?*” – *The day-of-the-week-effect on Subjective well-being, (with Peter Martinsson)*.

1st CIER/IZA Annual Workshop: Research in Labor Economics, September, 2009. *Employment Assimilation of Immigrant Women in Sweden -Comparing Dynamic and Static Assimilation Models*. Renmin University of China, Beijing

Behavioral Labor Economics Conference, (IZA, Bonn-Germany), October, 2008. *Does Relative Income Matter for the Very Poor? Evidence from Rural Ethiopia (with Peter Martinsson)*

Workshop on Happiness, (University of Navarra Pamplona), May, 2009. *Causality and Happiness (with Peter Martinsson)*

3rd Annual Meeting on the Economics of Risky Behaviors (AMERB), April, 2011, Bonn

IZA/Volkswagen Foundation Workshop: Genes, Brains, and the Labor Market, November, 2009, Bonn

IZA, DIW Berlin, DIW DC, World Bank: German Day on Development, October, 2009, World Bank, Washington DC

IZA/ Volkswagen Foundation Topic Week: The Political Economy of Labor Market

Reform in Transition and Emerging Economies, October, 2009

6th IZA Migration Meeting (AM²), May, 2009

2nd IZA Workshop: Child Labor in Developing Countries, May, 2009

IZA Workshop (Transition and Emerging Economies Using Large Micro-Data Sets),
November, 2008

Organization of Research Workshops and Conferences

3rd Child Labor Workshop: Mexico City, Mexico, June, 2011 (Scientific committee member
and Organizer)

6th IZA/WB Employment and Development Conference: Mexico City, Mexico, May-June,
2011 (Scientific committee member and Organizer)

5th IZA/WB Employment and Development Conference: Cape Town, South Africa, May,
2010 (Scientific committee member and Organizer)

IZA/World Bank Workshop: Evaluation of Labor Market Programs in Developing
Countries, February, 2009, (Organizer)

Projects

2008- IFPRI-IZA

2008- *Study on Active Inclusion of Immigrants* (European Commission Economic and
Social Research Institute (ESRI), University Collage Dublin and IZA)

2008- *Happiness and Environment* (Göteborg University, University of Navarra,
Dublin University), European Union funding.....

Refereeing

Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization

Journal of Socio-Economics

Journal of Economic Psychology

Migration Letters

Journal of Population Economics

Research in Labor Economics

Labor Economics

International Journal of Manpower