

# YUCHEN HUANG

Office R4-72, 48 Boulevard Jourdan, 75014 Paris, France

+33 6 80 85 28 65 ◊ yuchen.huang@psemail.eu; yuchen.huang@sciencespo.fr

## EDUCATION

---

<b>Paris School of Economics</b> Ph.D., Analysis and Policy in Economics. Supervision: Claudia Senik	<i>Oct. 2020-now</i> <i>Paris, France</i>
<b>Paris School of Economics</b> M.A., Analysis and Policy in Economics, Cum Laude	<i>Sep.2018- Jul.2020</i> <i>Paris, France</i>
<b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.)</b> Non-degree Exchange in Political Sciences Department	<i>Sep.2017- Jul.2018</i> <i>Cambridge, MA, U.S.</i>
<b>Sciences Po Paris</b> B.A., Public Policy and Social Sciences, Cum Laude	<i>Sep.2015- Jul.2018</i> <i>Reims, France</i>

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Applied Microeconomics; Political Economy; Behavioral Economics; Real Estate Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

---

- **The Far-right Donation Gap** *With Julia Cagé (Sciences Po) and Moritz Hengel (Sciences Po)*

We document a widespread decline in the share of donors to charities in Western countries in the past decade, and show that this can be in part explained by a lower propensity to donate of far-right voters. Focusing on France, we first run a large-scale survey (N = 12,600) and show that far-right voters are significantly less likely to report a charitable donation than the rest of the population, conditional on a rich set of characteristics. Second, using administrative tax data for the universe of French municipalities (N = 33,000) combined with electoral results, we find that the negative relationship between vote shares for the far-right and charitable donations holds both in cross-section and when we control for municipality fixed effects. Third, we exploit unique geo-localized donation data from several charities and document similar patterns. All evidence points towards a drop in the propensity to donate driven by a shift in social norms which threatens the general acceptance of the charitable sector by a broad base of society; we provide consistent evidence using data from Germany.

- **Meritocracy as a WEIRD Phenomenon** *With Fred Zhexun Mo (PSE)*

Meritocratic redistributive preferences - where people regard it as more unfair and demand more redistribution, when the income difference is due to luck rather than effort - is often used as an implicit assumption in previous studies of redistributive preferences. We provide ample evidence from representative international survey datasets to demonstrate that meritocratic redistributive preference is a phenomenon particular to the Western, Educated, Rich, Industrialized and Democratic (WEIRD) countries, and to a narrower sense only Anglo-Saxon and Protestant European countries. We show that first of all, a robustly significant negative correlation between demand for redistribution and the perceived importance of efforts in determining income inequalities exists only in WEIRD countries. Secondly, not all sources of income inequalities out of human control are considered unfair: gender, racial and religious hierarchies are often considered fair inequalities which do not require redistribution in non-WEIRD countries, while family-wealth-based inequalities are universally denounced and should be redistributed. Finally, we also discuss the reasons

on the formation of non-meritocratic preferences from two perspectives: heterogeneities in fairness views and government responsibilities across the world.

- **Money is Justice: Experimental Evidence on Non-meritocratic Redistributive Preferences in China** *With Fred Zhexun Mo (PSE) and Nora Yuqian Chen (Harvard)*

This paper explores the factors that influence redistributive preferences in the context of sustained economic expansion, focusing on luck and growth. Using an online survey experiment with a nationally representative sample from China, we find that priming getting rich by non-meritocratic means reduces redistributive support, specifically for policies that aim to take from the rich and the belief in the government's duty to redistribute, indicating the presence of non-meritocratic fairness views in China. Heterogeneous treatment effects analysis reveals that such non-meritocratic fairness views are a general phenomenon and self-interest in the form of subjective economic pressure only seems to serve as a secondary concern. While people feel that the rich are more deserving and demand less redistribution after being primed with stories of getting rich by luck regardless of subjective economic pressure, only those under less economic pressure exhibit decreased support for policies that aim to help the poor. Priming China's growth story does not result in statistically significant changes in redistributive support. Additionally, we rule out the influence of three relevant confounders: low tax salience, preference falsification under authoritarianism, and misperceptions about relative income positions and intergenerational occupational mobility. We argue that non-meritocratic fairness views are rooted in a high-growth economic environment, where economic fortunes are abundant and random.

- **Green Infrastructure, Home Values, Land Value Capture, and Equitable Property Assessment** *With Jeffrey Cohen (University of Connecticut) and Michael Dietz (University of Connecticut)*

Climate change has necessitated innovative approaches to financing storm water mitigation in coastal communities throughout the world. We study how adding bioswales near residential properties in New Haven, CT would impact property values. New Haven has extensively implemented bioswales and maintains an excellent geospatial dataset on their locations and dates of installation. We show that there is approximately an 8.8 percent increase in residential property prices due to the presence of nearby bioswales. We also explain that the incremental property value increases from additional bioswale proximity can be used in a reassessment leading to a value capture type of approach for financing the additional bioswales, with the potential for raising \$1.43 million if the full increase in property values due to adding additional bioswales were to be captured. Finally, we use International Association of Assessing Officers (2013) standards to determine that the proposed reassessment would be non-regressive. Our approach could be useful to planners, engineers, and assessors in New Haven and other cities considering green stormwater infrastructure as one way to combat climate change.

- **Firms' Births, Relocations, Deaths, and Rental Time on the Market: A Quasi-experiment with German Commercial Real Estate** *With Carolin Schmidt (Cambridge) and Jeffrey Cohen (University of Connecticut)* *Working paper available at request.*

## WORK IN PROGRESS

---

- **Non-Meritocrats or Conformist Meritocrats? A Redistribution Experiment in China and France** *With Fred Zhexun Mo (PSE) and Margot Belquise (Warwick)*
- **Can Fairness Flow In Philly? Real Estate Assessment Equity for Green Stormwater Infrastructure Finance** *With Jeffrey Cohen (University of Connecticut) and Daniel McMillen (University of Illinois Chicago)*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

**Co-founder and Financial Officer***SAS V.E.R.A*

Sep. 2021- June 2023

*Reims, France*

- Co-founding the start-up **V.E.R.A**, a start-up that specializes in valorising coffee co-products (such as used coffee ground, coffee fruit) with coffee specialist Vera Chamarande and scientist Florent Allais (AgroParisTech). As responsible of finance, I help raised the first 200,000 in the form of public grants and interest-free loans, and also qualified for the investment-matching program by the French Public Bank of Investment. Paused activities in the start-up to focus on finishing my thesis.

**Course Coordinator and Lecturer***Sciences Po Paris*

Jul. 2021-Present

*Paris and Reims, France*

- Coordinating and teaching the first-year compulsory course *The Economy* in the Reims campus of Sciences Po Paris.

**Mandarin Translator***World Inequality Lab*

Aug. 2021-Present

*Paris, France***Graduate Research Assistant***Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research in Mannheim*

Jul. 2019 - Aug. 2019

*Mannheim, Germany***Undergraduate Research Assistant***M.I.T*

Feb. 2018- Jun. 2018

*Cambridge, MA, U.S.***Assistant to Mr. Benoît SEVCIK, the Counsellor of Health, Social affairs and Work of the French Embassy In Beijing***French Embassy in Beijing*

Jun. 2017- Aug. 2017

*Beijing, China***GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

---

**2023**

Lincoln institute research grant for the project "Can Fairness Flow In Philly? Real Estate Assessment Equity for Green Stormwater Infrastructure Finance"

Travel grant from the German Association for Real Estate Economic Research (GiF)

**2022**

CEPREMAP and EUR Grant for the project "Multidimensional Redistributive Preferences and Reasoning of Redistribution: Online Experiments in Contemporary China"

Lincoln institute research grant for the project "Green Infrastructure, Home Values, Land Value Capture, and Equitable Property Assessment"

**2021**

EUR Grant for the project "The Libertarian that Demands Redistribution: An Online Experiment on Redistributive Preference In Contemporary China"

**LANGUAGE SKILLS**

---

Native: **Chinese Mandarin** · Fluent: **English, French, German** · Beginner: **Italian, Arabic**

**TECHNICAL SKILLS**

---

Data Collection, Analysis and Visualization with **Python, R and Stata** and  $\text{textbf{\LaTeX}}$

Spatial data analysis with **QGIS**