

# MICHAEL SIEGENTHALER

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

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PHONE	(+41) · (0)44 · 633 93 67	OFFICE	KOF Swiss Economic Institute
CITIZENSHIP	Switzerland	ADDRESS	ETH Zurich,
DATE OF BIRTH	May 14, 1985		Room G301
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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Labor Economics, Migration, Macroeconomics

## EDUCATION

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AUG 2015	Visiting Scholar
– FEB 2016,	University of California, Berkeley, USA
Mar/Apr 2017	Department of Economics and Institute for Research on Labor and Employment Hosts: Jesse Rothstein & Emmanuel Saez
SEP 2014	Ph.D. in Economics (Dr. sc. ETH Zurich) ETH Zurich, Switzerland Committee: Jan-Egbert Sturm (main advisor), George Sheldon, Marko Köthenbürger The thesis was awarded the 2017 <a href="#">SIAF Award</a> Doctoral courses at the Zurich Graduate School of Economics and ETH Zurich
OCT 2010	M.Sc. in Economics ( <i>summa cum laude</i> ) University of Bern, Switzerland
FEB 2009	B.A. in History University of Bern, Switzerland

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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SEP 2019	KOF Swiss Economic Institute, ETH Zurich
–present	Head of the research division Swiss labor market (tenured) and lecturer
SEP 2014	KOF Swiss Economic Institute, ETH Zurich
–Aug 2019	Labor market specialist and lecturer
AUG 2016	University of Bern, Department of Economics
–FEB 2019	Lecturer
Nov 2010	KOF Swiss Economic Institute, ETH Zurich
–AUG 2014	Research assistant
OCT 2008	Research Institute for Leisure and Tourism (FIF), University of Bern
–FEB 2010	Student research assistant

## AFFILIATIONS

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Research Fellow	Institute for Labor Economics IZA, Bonn
Research Affiliate	Immigration Policy Lab, ETH Zurich and Stanford University

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

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Train drain? Access to foreign workers and firms' provision of training, *Labour Economics*, 2023, 85(12), 102436 (with Maria Esther Oswald-Egg).

The pass-through of minimum wages into US retail prices: Evidence from supermarket scanner data. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2022, 104(5), 890–908 (with Claire Montialoux and Tobias Renkin).

Short-time work and unemployment in and after the Great Recession, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 2021, 19(4), 2283–2321 (with Daniel Kopp).

The abolition of immigration restrictions and the performance of firms and workers: Evidence from Switzerland, *American Economic Review*, 111(3), 976–1012 (with Andreas Beerli, Jan Ruffner, and Giovanni Peri).

Intertemporal labor supply substitution? Evidence from the Swiss income tax holiday, *American Economic Review*, 2021, 111(2), 506–546 (with Isabel Martinez and Emmanuel Saez).

Monitoring hiring discrimination through online recruitment platforms, *Nature*, 2021, 589(7843), 572–576, lead article (with Dominik Hangartner and Daniel Kopp).

Do immigrants take or create residents' jobs? Evidence from free movement of workers in Switzerland, *The Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, 2019, 121(3), 994–1019 (with Christoph Basten).

The effect of policy uncertainty on investment plans. Evidence from the unexpected acceptance of a far-reaching referendum in Switzerland, *European Economic Review*, 2018, 104(5), 38–67 (with Klaus Abberger, Andreas Dibiasi and Jan-Egbert Sturm).

The skill-biased effects of exchange rate fluctuations, *The Economic Journal*, 2016, 126(592), 756–780 (with Boris Kaiser). Featured in the [LSE Business Review](#)

Dividing the pie: firm-level determinants of the labor share, *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 2015, 68(5), 1157–1194 (with Tobias Stucki).

Has Switzerland really been marked by low productivity growth? Hours worked and labor productivity in Switzerland in a long-run perspective, *Review of Income and Wealth*, 2014, 61(2), 353–372.

## SELECTED RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

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The Labor Market Effects of Restricting Refugees' Employment Opportunities (with Andreas Beerli, Dominik Hangartner, and Selina Kurer; [IZA DP No. 15901](#)). R&R at *American Economic Review*

How Ethnic Discrimination Varies across Recruiters and with the Candidate Pool: Evidence from Online Recruitment (with Dominik Hangartner and Daniel Kopp; draft available at request)

Host Country Citizenship Reduces Hiring Discrimination Against Immigrant Minorities (with Dominik Hangartner and Daniel Kopp; draft available at request)

Adapting to Scarcity: Job Search and Recruiting Across Occupational Boundaries (with Jeremias Kläui, Daniel Kopp, and Rafael Lalive; draft available at request)

Golden Shackles? The Effects of Pension Portability on Job Mobility and Wages (with Simon Jäger and Benjamin Schoefer)

The Value of Job Benefits (with Andreas Beerli, Andreas Gulyas, Masha Khoshnama, Daniel Kopp, and Stefano Fiorin; draft available at request)

Can Job Seekers Circumvent Discriminatory Recruiters? (with Dominik Hangartner, Daniel Kopp, and Kristina Schüpbach)

## POLICY-ORIENTED PUBLICATIONS IN REFEREED JOURNALS

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Covid-19 Financial Support to Small Businesses in Switzerland: Evaluation and Outlook, *Swiss Journal of Economics and Statistics*, 2020 (156:15) (with Marius Brühlhart, Rafael Lalive and Tobias Lehmann).

Characteristics and drivers of the Swiss “job miracle”, *Review of Economics*, 2016, 67(1), 53–89 (with Michael Graff and Massimo Mannino).

Can a standardised aptitude test predict the training success of apprentices? Evidence from a case study in Switzerland, *Empirical Research in Vocational Education and Training*, 2011, 3(2), 105–128.

## POLICY REPORTS

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Machbarkeitsstudie: Messung der Wirkungen und des Kosten-Nutzen-Verhältnisses der Kurzarbeit während der COVID-19-Krise, *Grundlagen der Wirtschaftspolitik*, 2024, 50, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO (with Kristina Schüpbach and Johannes Waschk).

Die langfristige Entwicklung von Arbeit, Freizeit und Produktivität in der Schweiz, *Grundlagen der Wirtschaftspolitik*, 2024, 45, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO (with Lukas Mergele, Boris Kaiser, Damian Wehrli, Tino Schönleitner, and Reto Föllmi).

Machbarkeitsstudie: Wirtschaftliche Auswirkungen der Haltung der EU im Zusammenhang mit den institutionellen Fragen CH–EU, KOF study commissioned by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, 2023 (with Klaus Abberger, Nina Mühlebach, Pascal Seiler, Stefanie Siegrist, Jan-Egbert Sturm, and Martin Wörter).

Welche Stellenprofile sind von Fachkräftemangel betroffen?, *Study* commissioned by the Swiss Employers' Association, 2023 (with Boris Kaiser).

Swiss Job Tracker: New Weekly Indices of Online Job Postings in Switzerland, *methodological note and source code*, 2022 (with Matthias Bannert, Jeremias Kläui, Daniel Kopp, and Severin Thöni).

Die Babyboomer gehen in Rente – das ist gut für die Lohnbezüger, in: *Lohnbuch Schweiz 2022*. Alle Löhne auf einen Blick, Amt für Wirtschaft und Arbeit des Kantons Zürich, Orell Füssli Verlag, 2022.

Methoden der Stellensuche und Stellensucherfolg, *Grundlagen der Wirtschaftspolitik*, 2022, 33, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO (with Patrick Arni, David Liechti, Mirjam Suri, and Thomas Möhr).

Kurzarbeit in der Schweiz während der Covid-19-Krise, *KOF Analysen*, 2021, 4, 41–55 (with Alexander Götz and Daniel Kopp).

Monitoring evaluation of the job vacancy notice obligation I, *Grundlagen der Wirtschaftspolitik*, 2021, 19, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO (with Justus Bamert, Andreas Beerli, Boris Kaiser, and Daniel Kopp).

Corona und Ungleichheit in der Schweiz. Eine erste Analyse der Verteilungswirkungen der Covid-19-Pandemie, *KOF Studies*, 2021, 161 (with Isabel Z. Martínez, Daniel Kopp, Rafael Lalive, and Stefan Pichler).

Die Schweizer Die Schweizer Selbständigerwerbenden im Covid19-Lockdown. Resultate der zweiten Befragungswelle im Oktober, 2020 (with Marius Brühlhart, Jeremias Kläui, and Rafael Lalive). [Report](#)

Wie Löhne und Arbeitsbedingungen die Jobzufriedenheit beeinflussen und was dies für Lohnunterschiede nach Geschlecht bedeutet, *KOF Analysen*, 2020, 3 (with Mahsa Khoshnama and Daniel Kopp).

Job Situation of ETH Alumni. Results of the ETH Alumni Survey, *KOF Studies*, 2020, 152 (with Mahsa Khoshnama, Andreas Beerli and Daniel Kopp).

Die Schweizer Stellensuchenden im Covid19-Lockdown, 2020 (with Rafael Lalive and Tobias Lehmann). [Report](#)

Die Schweizer Selbständigerwerbenden in der Covid19-Pandemie, 2020 (with Marius Brühlhart, Jeremias Kläui, Rafael Lalive, and Tobias Lehmann). [Report](#)

Situation, Entwicklung und Auswirkungen der Langzeitarbeitslosigkeit, Study on behalf of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO, 2020 (with David Liechti). [Report](#)

Erwerbsverläufe ab 50 Jahren in der Schweiz: Arbeitsmarktintegration von älteren Erwerbstätigen, Study on behalf of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO, *Grundlagen der Wirtschaftspolitik*, 2020, 14 (with Boris Kaiser and Thomas Möhr).

Reallöhne in der Schweiz: Auf fette folgten magere Jahre, in: O. F. (Hrsg.), *Das Lohnbuch 2019*, orell füssli Verlag, Zürich, 2019, 45–53 (with Alexander Rathke).

Wirkt das Schweizer Kurzarbeitsprogramm? (with Daniel Kopp). *KOF Analysen*, 2018, 1, 83–93.

The impact of real exchange rates on Swiss firms: innovation, investment, productivity and business demography (*Strukturberichterstattung* 56/6), Study on behalf of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO, 2017 (with Boris Kaiser, Andrin Spescha, and Martin Wörter). [Report](#)

Does short-time work prevent unemployment?, SECO Publikation Arbeitsmarktpolitik No. 49, 2017, Study commissioned by the Supervisory Committee of the Equilibration Fund of the Swiss Unemployment Insurance (with Daniel Kopp). [Report](#)

The productivity deficit of the knowledge-intensive business service industries in Switzerland (*Strukturberichterstattung* 54/3), Study on behalf of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO, 2015 (with Boris Kaiser). [Report](#)

Für wen erhöhte sich das Risiko in der Schweiz, arbeitslos zu werden? *KOF Studies*, 2015, 65 (with Thomas Bolli, Christian Breier and Ursula Renold).

Die Arbeitsmarkteffekte der Personenfreizügigkeit, in: KOF (eds.), *Der bilaterale Weg — eine ökonomische Bestandsaufnahme*, *KOF Studies*, 2015, 58, 28–47.

Wie beeinflusste das Personenfreizügigkeitsabkommen die Migrationsbewegungen in der Schweiz?, in: KOF (eds.), *Der bilaterale Weg — eine ökonomische Bestandsaufnahme*, *KOF Studies*, 2015, 58, 48–96 (with Thomas Bolli and Jörg Schläpfer).

The Swiss Mass Immigration Initiative: The impact of increased policy uncertainty on expected firm behaviour, *KOF Studies*, 2014, 53 (with Klaus Abberger, Andreas Dibiasi, and Jan-Egbert Sturm).

Was bestimmt die Einkommensverteilung zwischen Kapital und Arbeit und was lernen wir daraus für die Schweiz?, in: O. F. (Hrsg.), *Das Lohnbuch 2014*, orell füssli Verlag, Zürich, 2014, 45–50 (with Jan-Egbert Sturm).

Der Sonderfall Schweiz: Verlauf und Bestimmungsfaktoren der Lohnquote in der Schweiz, 1980–2012, *KOF Analysen*, 2014, 1, 79–88 (with Michael Graff).

Die neue Schätzung des schweizerischen Erwerbspersonenpotenzials an der KOF, *KOF Analysen*, 2013, 4, 45–56 (with Massimo Mannino and Michael Graff).

Die 1:12 Initiative – Ein Beitrag zur Sachlage aus heutiger Sicht, *KOF Studies*, 2013, 44.

Das Personenfreizügigkeitsabkommen Schweiz-EU/EFTA und das Wachstum des BIP pro Kopf in der Schweiz. Report for the Federal Office for Migration, *KOF Studies*, 2012, 36 (with Jan-Egbert Sturm).

A real time evaluation of employment forecasts in Switzerland, *KOF Working Paper Series*, 2012, 320 (with Michael Graff and Massimo Mannino).

Wie ausgeprägt war die Wachstumsschwäche der Arbeitsproduktivität in der Schweiz?, *KOF Analysen*, 2012, 2, 31–45.

## POPULAR WRITINGS

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Effizienzsteigerungen ermöglichen mehr Lohn und Freizeit, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2024 (with Lukas Mergel, Boris Kaiser, Damian Wehrli, Tino Schönleitner, and Reto Föllmi).

Diese Stellen sind besonders vom Fachkräftemangel betroffen, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2023 (with Boris Kaiser and Simon Wey).

Während der Corona-Krise kam es zu weniger, nicht mehr, Branchenwechsel, *Ökonomenstimme*, 2022 (with Leo Beeler and Daniel Kopp).

Online-Daten offenbaren Diskriminierung bei der Rekrutierung, in: *terra cognita*, 38, 2021 (with Dominik Hangartner and Daniel Kopp)

Stellenmeldepflicht: Potenzial für Verbesserungen in der Umsetzung vorhanden, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2021 (with Justus Bamert, Andreas Beerli, Boris Kaiser, and Daniel Kopp).

Grenzgänger: Wissensintensive Unternehmen profitieren am meisten, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2021 (with Andreas Beerli).

Langzeitarbeitslosigkeit hinterlässt Narben im Erwerbsverlauf, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2020 (with David Liechti).

“50 plus” arbeiten mehr als früher – dank den Frauen, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2020 (with Boris Kaiser and Thomas Möhr).

The myth of intertemporal labour supply substitution: Evidence from tax holidays, *VoxEU*, 2018 (with Isabel Martinez and Emmanuel Saez).

Die Kurzarbeit in der Rezession zeigte Wirkung, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2018 (with Daniel Kopp).

Starker Franken hemmt Investitionen und Innovation, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2017 (with Boris Kaiser, Andrin Spescha, and Martin Wörter).

Vom Nachkriegsboom zum Jobwunder: der starke Rückgang der Arbeitszeit in der Schweiz seit 1950, *Social Change in Switzerland*, No. 9, 2017.

Firmen – Die Gewinner der Personenfreizügigkeit, *Ökonomenstimme*, 2017 (with Jan Ruffner).

Der (zu) kleine Einfluss der Flüchtlingszuwanderung auf den Schweizer Arbeitsmarkt, *Ökonomenstimme*, 2016 (reprinted in *NZZ*, April 1, 2016).

Ist das Arbeitsproduktivitätswachstum der Schweizer Dienstleistungsunternehmen wirklich so schwach?, *Ökonomenstimme*, 2016 (with Boris Kaiser).

Im Dienstleistungssektor gibt es ein Messproblem, *Die Volkswirtschaft*, 2015 (with Boris Kaiser).

Wie beeinflusste das Personenfreizügigkeitsabkommen die Migrationsbewegungen in der Schweiz?, *Ökonomenstimme*, 2015 (with Thomas Bolli and Jörg Schläpfer).

Die “Erwerbslosenquote” ist die eigentliche Arbeitslosenquote, *Ökonomenstimme*, 2013.

## AWARDS

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|-----------|---|
| 2018–2020 | <b>NZZ Ökonomenranking:</b> Listed among the <b>30 most influential economists</b> in Switzerland   |
| 2017      | <b>SIAF Award:</b> Awarded annually to an outstanding PhD or master’s thesis at the University of Zurich or ETH Zurich                                |
| 2011      | <b>Alumni Bern VBW:</b> VBW Excellence Award Gold (1st price) for best Master thesis in Economics and Business Administration                         |
| 2011      | <b>Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, University of Bern:</b> Master’s graduation price (2nd price) for second highest GPA among all graduates |
| 2004      | <b>Gymnasium Thun-Schadau:</b> Graduation price (1st price) for highest GPA   |

## RESEARCH GRANTS

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- 2024–2028 **Swiss National Science Foundation:** Project grant for the project “Firms, Workers, and Collective Bargaining in Switzerland” (700 000 CHF, with Dina Pomeranz)
- 2024 **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs:** A ML-Based Job Recommender System for the Swiss Public Employment Service (98 000 CHF, with Dominik Hangartner and Elliott Ash)
- 2022–2026 **Swiss National Science Foundation:** NCCR on the move grant for the project “Hiring discrimination in times of crises” (600 000 CHF, with Dominik Hangartner)
- 2020–2021 **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs:** Research grant to evaluate the Swiss Job Registration Requirement (180 000 CHF)
- 2020–2024 **Swiss National Science Foundation:** NRP77 “Digital Transformation” grant for the project “What Workers Want: Determinants and implications of job search strategies on an online job platform” (580 000 CHF, with Rafael Lalive)
- 2019–2020 **Swiss National Science Foundation:** Digital Lives grant for the project “How online labor markets transform job search, hiring and labor market research” (180 000 CHF)
- 2019–2020 **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs:** Research grant to study employment trajectories of workers aged 50+ (80 000 CHF)
- 2018–2019 **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs:** Research grant to study the situation of the long-term unemployed in Switzerland (50 000 CHF)
- 2016–2017 **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs:** Research grant to study the impact of exchange rates on innovation activity (120 000 CHF)
- 2016–2019 **Swiss National Science Foundation:** Project grant for the project “Hiring and wage discrimination in the Swiss labour market” (270 000 CHF)
- 2016–2017 **Supervisory Committee of the Equalization Fund of the Swiss Unemployment Insurance:** Research grant to evaluate the Swiss short-time work scheme (27 500 CHF)
- 2014–2015 **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs:** Research grant to analyze the low service sector productivity growth in Switzerland (100 000 CHF)
- 2011 **Swiss National Science Foundation:** Postgraduate courses grant to attend Barcelona GSE Summer School

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- PhD Course “Identification and Causal Inference”, ETH Zurich (Spring 2023, Spring 2021, Spring 2019, Spring 2017)  
Colloquium “Writing and publishing research papers in Economics”, ETH Zurich (Spring 2024, Spring 2022, Fall 2020)
- Master Course “Labor Economics” (Fall 2021, Fall 2022), ETH Zurich  
Seminar “Labor and Public Policy”, University of Lucerne (Spring 2016)
- Bachelor Course “Labor Economics”, University of Bern (Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016)
- Miscellaneous CAS Applied Economic History (University of Zurich, Spring 2024, Spring 2021, Spring 2020, day course)

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

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- 2024 SKILS Seminar, SNoPE Conference
- 2023 Research Lunch State Secretariat for Migration, University of Copenhagen
- 2022 SKILS Seminar, LISER Institute, University of Constance, University of Linz, Workshop Job Search and the Labor Market, IZA Workshop: Labor Market Institutions, IZA Bonn, Workshop Future of Work Hamburg, Bocconi University
- 2021 Swiss Society for Economics and Statistics Conference, Swiss Network for Public Economics Conference, University of St. Gallen, SOFI Stockholm, Immigration Policy Lab (ETH/Stanford), University of Neuchatel
- 2020 CReAM Seminar (UCL), University of Lausanne, OECD Webinar on Short Time Work, SKILS Seminar, Tinbergen Institute
- 2019 Polish National Bank, University of Zurich, Copenhagen Business School, NBER Summer Institute, EALE Conference (invited session), University of Lausanne, University of Nuremberg, Swiss Network on Public Economics
- 2018 briq conference “Firms, jobs, and inequality,” EALE conference, Swiss National Bank, University of Zurich, Swiss Society for Economics and Statistics Conference
- 2017 University of Neuchatel, EALE Conference, IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting, Swiss Society for Economics and Statistics Conference, University of Lausanne, ETH Zurich
- 2016 University of Zurich, EALE Conference, EEA Annual Meeting, ESPE Conference, nccr on the move (Neuchatel)
- 2015 Labor Lunch Seminar (UC Berkeley), SOLE/EALE World Conference, Royal Economic Society Conference, Congress on Research in Vocational Education and Training
- 2014 Swiss Society for Economics and Statistics Conference, Young Swiss Economists Meeting, Conference on “International labor mobility and inequality across nations”
- 2013 CIRET Conference, Swiss Society for Economics and Statistics Conference, IZA European Labor Economics Summer School, Swiss National Bank Research Seminar