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## EDUCATION

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Ph.D. in Economics, Tilburg University  | 2019-2024 |
| M.Sc. Economics, Tilburg University<br><i>with Distinction</i>                                | 2017-2019 |
| M.Sc. Specialized Economic Analysis, Barcelona School of Economics<br><i>with Distinction</i> | 2013-2014 |
| M.Sc. Management, Pompeu Fabra University   | 2012-2013 |
| B.A. Economics, Boğaziçi University   | 2007-2011 |

## REFERENCES

Prof. Bilge Erten  
Northeastern University  
[b.erten@northeastern.edu](mailto:b.erten@northeastern.edu)

Prof. Burak Uras  
Williams College  
[bu1@williams.edu](mailto:bu1@williams.edu)

Prof. Christoph Walsh  
Tilburg University  
[cibtwalsh@uvt.nl](mailto:cbtwalsh@uvt.nl)

## VISITING POSITIONS

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|---|------|
| Department of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, September–December<br><i>Visiting Scholar</i> | 2023 |
| Department of Economics, Harvard University, January–July<br><i>Visiting Scholar</i>                          | 2022 |

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Labor Economics, Macroeconomics, and Development Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

### **Convicts and Comrades: Coerced Labor's Impact on Early Labor Unions**

#### ***Job Market Paper***

*Tilburg University CentER Best Graduate Student Paper Award, 2023*

*Abstract:* What role did coerced labor play in establishing early labor unions? This paper introduces a model where certain firms employ convict labor, reproducing the empirical patterns observed in the data. As a result, workers face reduced wages and migrate to other firms, while firms see heightened profits, exacerbating income inequality. In response, workers organize, form unions, and initiate strikes. The calibrated model highlights the role of unions in narrowing income disparities. I use an instrumental variable approach to demonstrate that, at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, predominantly Black convict labor significantly boosted predominantly white union growth, strikes, and membership. My empirical findings further suggest that this influence has persisted as regions with a history of heavy dependence on convict labor continue to display higher rates of union membership in the present day.

## **The Legacy of School Shootings: The Long-Term and Intergenerational Effects** (*Submitted*)

*Tilburg University CentER Best Graduate Student Paper Award, 2022*

*Abstract:* In recent decades, countless US students have been on school grounds during shootings. This paper examines the long-term and intergenerational effects of school shootings on earnings, educational attainment, and geographic mobility. I find that exposure to a school shooting decreases survivors' hourly wage by 20.8% and that this effect persists over their lifetime. Furthermore, I show that the effect of school shootings lasts beyond the initially treated and has detrimental effects on their children. I find that having shooting-exposed parents decreases children's hourly wage by 18.8%.

## **SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS**

### **Unions and Firms**

*with Burak Uras*

*Abstract:* How do labor unions and firm size dynamics co-evolve in the context of institutional and technological change? This paper offers the first quantitative macro analysis to explain this interplay, focusing on the interactions between firm growth, innovation, industry wages, and unionization. A dynamic general equilibrium model reveals that innovation in general-purpose technology by firms increases both their size and wages. Consequently, this boosts the surplus (rents) that workers can extract in union negotiations, promoting union growth. This simultaneous growth in firms and unions continues until firms reach a certain size threshold. Beyond this threshold, firms' innovation focus shifts toward labor-substituting automation. While firm size still expands after this shift, wages and union-extractable rents begin to decrease due to automation, making labor substitutable, thus reducing the benefits of unionization. This theoretical model explains the historical patterns observed in firm growth and unionization.

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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| Tilburg University CentER Best Graduate Student Paper Award | 2023 |
| NWO-TISEM Incentive Grant                                   | 2023 |
| Tilburg University CentER Best Graduate Student Paper Award | 2022 |
| TISEM International Research Visit Scholarship              | 2022 |

## **SKILLS**

**Programming/Statistics:** R, STATA, Python

**Languages:** Turkish (Native), English (Bilingual Proficiency), Dutch (Limited Working Proficiency), Spanish (Elementary Proficiency)

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **Seminar and Conference Presentations**

*2024 (scheduled):* Wageningen University

*2023 (incl. scheduled):* Massachusetts Institute of Technology, European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society, Boston University, Northeastern University, Applied Young Economist Webinar, Williams College Brown Bag Seminar, Tilburg University Economics Seminar, LSE/Bocconi Economic Analysis Seminar, Development & Economic History Research Group (Tilburg University), Cologne FRESH Meeting 2023, ECONtribute WIMLEEH Workshop (Bonn University), Warwick PhD Conference, ENTER Jamboree (Mannheim University), HEC Paris Economics PhD Conference, Workshop on the Economics of Crime (LSE/Northeastern)

*2022:* North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society; Harvard University (Seminar in Labor Economics), IZA Summer School in Labor Economics, Toulouse University (Applied Microe-

economics Seminar), Tilburg University (Applied Microeconomics Seminar and Graduate Students' Society Seminar Series)

2021: Barcelona School of Economics (Labor Economics Summer School), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (ENTER Network Seminar), Tilburg University (Economics Department Internal Seminar and Behavioral and Experimental Group Seminar), Université Libre de Bruxelles ECARES (Economics Department Internal Seminar)

2020: Successfully Navigating Your Economics PhD Mentoring Workshop organized by Jennifer Doleac and Maya Rossin-Slater, Tilburg University (Graduate Students' Society Seminar Series)

## Referee Service

Journal of Macroeconomics

Review of Economics of the Household

## Services

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| Co-founder, <a href="#">Development Economics and Economic History Research Group</a><br><i>Formerly Economic History and Political Economy Reading Group</i> | 2021 - 2024 |
| Faculty Council Member, TiU International   | 2021 - 2022 |
| Seminar Organizer, European Network for Training in Economic Research   | 2020 - 2022 |
| Seminar Organizer, Graduate Students' Society   | 2020 - 2022 |
| Ph.D. Representative, Graduate Students' Society  | 2019 - 2020 |
| Mentor, Graduate Students' Society  | 2019 - 2023 |
| Student Representative, Graduate Students' Society  | 2017 - 2019 |

## TEACHING

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|---|-------------|
| Ph.D. Microeconomics 3, Tilburg University        | 2020 - 2023 |
| B.Sc. Public Sector Economics, Tilburg University | 2020 - 2023 |
| B.Sc. Macroeconomics for EOR, Tilburg University  | 2020 - 2021 |
| Ph.D. Microeconomics 1, Tilburg University        | 2019 - 2020 |
| B.Sc. Thesis Supervision, Tilburg University      | 2019 - 2024 |

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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| Business Analyst, Sharp Electronics                                  | 2014 - 2017 |
| Research Assistant for Gabrielle Fack, Barcelona School of Economics | 2013 - 2014 |