

ELENA (OLENA) BESEDINA

Kyiv School of Economics

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EDUCATION

2003 – 2008, Milan, Italy

Ph.D. in Economics, Bocconi University

Fields: International Economics and Public Economics

Doctoral thesis: “Exporting and Productivity: Theory and Evidence from Ukraine”

September 2005 – January 2006, Washington, D.C., USA

Visiting scholar at Georgetown University, Department of Economics

Research topic: “Trade policy and Firm Performance in Developing and Transition Economies”

2001 – 2003, Cambridge, MA, USA

Master in Public Administration/International Development

Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Joint Japan and World Bank scholarship recipient

1998 – 2000, Kyiv, Ukraine

Master in Economics

EERC Master Program in Economics at the National University of “Kyiv-Mohyla Academy”

Master thesis “Nature of Barter: Case of Ukraine” (defended with grade *excellent*)

1991 – 1996 Kyiv, Ukraine

Specialist diploma in Foreign Languages with honor (Chinese and English)

Kyiv State Linguistic University

Thesis on “Past Tense Particles in Chinese and Ukrainian: Comparative Analysis” (defended with grade *excellent*)

WORK EXPERIENCE

August 2008 – present, Kyiv, Ukraine

Kyiv School of Economics / Kyiv Economics Institute

Assistant Professor / Senior Researcher

Courses taught: 1st year Master courses: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Econometrics; 2nd year

Master courses: Advanced Microeconomics II, International Trade and Policy, Policy Analysis II, Risk Management, and Research Workshop

December 2014 – October 2017, Kyiv, Ukraine

Leadership in Economic Governance (EEF/USAID)

Objective Coordinator: coordination of outreach activities (including workshops, trainings, round-tables) and export promotion of SMEs

Jan 2011 – May 2011, Kyiv, Ukraine

Public Policy Analysis Course for interns at the Ukrainian parliament

Coordinator and primary lecturer

February 2005 – July 2008, Milan, Italy

Bocconi University

Teaching assistant: Political Economics II (Ph.D.), Personnel Economics (Graduate), Economics of European Integration (Graduate), Microeconomics (Undergraduate)

September 2006 – December 2007, Milan, Italy

Fondazione ENI Enrico Mattei,

Researcher: firm-level econometric analysis within MICRO-DYN project (The competitiveness of firms, regions and industries in the knowledge-based economy)

April 2005 – June 2005, Milan, Italy

Innocenzo Gasparini Institute for Economic Research, Bocconi University

Research assistant to Prof. Guido Tabellini

September 2002 – May 2003, Cambridge, MA, USA

Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Teaching assistant (Jan – May 2003), Macroeconomic policy

Course assistant (Sept - Dec 2002), Macroeconomics

June – August 2002, Pristina, Kosovo

United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo,

Central Fiscal Authority, Macroeconomic Unit

Summer intern

Trade facilitation project jointly with Kosovo Business Support (KBS), USAID funded project: creation of foreign trade database, foreign trade administration (taxation, procedures, etc.)

January – July 2001, Kyiv, Ukraine

Center for Social and Economic Analysis (CASE)

Economist

- Quarterly Ukrainian Economic Outlook (“Foreign trade” and “Balance of Payment”)
- Economic monitoring (joint with Ministry of Economy)
- Macroeconomic modeling

July 2000 – December 2000, Kyiv, Ukraine

Harvard University Ukrainian Project (former Ukraine Macroeconomic Reform Project)

Consultant

Areas of work: demonetization (barter, arrears), tax system, foreign trade

Responsibilities: statistical analysis; data collection, quarterly monitoring of basic macroeconomic indicators, writing analytic notes on selected economic issues

September 1998 – June 2000, Kyiv, Ukraine

Ukraine Macroeconomic Reform Project, Harvard Institute for International Development

Intern-consultant

Areas of work: barter, privatization

Responsibilities: database maintenance, statistical analysis; data collection

September 1996 – August 1998, Kyiv, Ukraine

Ukraine Macroeconomic Reform Project, Harvard Institute for International Development

Translator/interpreter

- translated/interpreted from/to Ukrainian, Russian, English, Polish

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of Editorial Committee, *Baltic Journal of Economics* (since March 2019)

WORKING PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

- "Going beyond the first child: analysis of Russian mothers' desired and actual fertility Patterns" (joint with V. Levin and T. Aritomi), Policy Research Working Paper Series 7643, The World Bank
- "Technical barriers to trade and SPS measures and exports dynamics", NUPI Working paper 842
- "Beggar Thy Neighbor? Application of SPS measures by the Russian Federation and Case Study: The Impact of the Russian Import Ban on Ukrainian Confectionary Producers" (with Tom Coupe). NUPI Working Paper: 840.
- "The Political Economy of Labor Reform in Ukraine: Does Accountability Matter?", Final report for the project
- "Exporting, Productivity and Government Interventions: Is There a Link?", KSE/KEI Discussion paper #28
- "Exploring International Trade from Below: A Survey of Firm Heterogeneity and Productivity Dynamics", Micro-Dyn Working paper No 01/07.
- "Transactions in Transition: To Barter or Not To Barter?" (with Janusz Szyrmer) in *Ukraine: Monetizing a Transition Economy*, edited by Janusz M. Szyrmer, Kyiv: Alterpres, 2001

POLICY PROJECTS AND CONSULTANCY

Supporting Transparent Land Governance in Ukraine (WB and EU), July 2018 – February 2019

Senior Analyst: Monitoring and Evaluation, Cost-benefit analysis of interventions

Improving Transparency and Effectiveness of Public Procurement in Ukraine through Cooperation with Civil Society (EBRD/PTF), October 2016 – July 2018

Training Program Director: Procurement monitoring training for the CSOs

Labor & Migration Analysis for Moldova (World Bank), April – June 2016

Short-term consultant: Quantitative analysis of migration and labor outcomes in Moldova

Land Reform (World Bank), January – May 2015

Short-term consultant: Poverty and Social Impact Analysis of Land Reform in Lagos.

Aging (World Bank), April – June 2014

Short-term consultant: Quantitative analysis of household level data, production of a draft policy note on pro-natalist policies in Russia.

Non-tariff barriers, food safety and international food trade (NUPI/ Research Council of Norway), January 2013 – May 2015

Researcher: quantitative and qualitative analysis of the effect of the technical barriers to trade and sanitary and phytosanitary measures international trade

Public-Private Partnership Development in Ukraine (FHI360/USAID), October 2011 – July 2015

Principal Investigator: design and implementation of survey, evaluation and monitoring, stakeholder analysis in pilot projects

Political Economy of Labour Reform in Transition Countries (IZA/VW Foundation), Researcher, October 2008 – October 2012

Researcher: quantitative and qualitative analysis of the reforms in labour market in Ukraine from political economics perspective (in particular, using roll-call voting data from the Ukrainian Parliament)

Macroeconomic Assessment of Ukraine (BICEPS/Swedbank), September 2008 – January 2009

Consultant: Qualitative and quantitative analysis of macroeconomic and political situation in Ukraine, including foreign trade, labour market, regional development

APPEARANCE IN MASS MEDIA

- TV Interview about Ukrainian free trade agreements, First Business Channel, September 10 2021
- Interview about Ukrainian international trade and competitiveness quoted in „[Made in Ukraine“ ist wieder in](#) (by Peter Sawicki), November 2018
- Quoted in “Ukraine’s conflict with Russia is also financial”, Economist, Jan 18th 2017
- Comments on Swedish Economy (In Ukrainian «Капіталістичний Соцреалізм»), Novoje vremia (#20), Jun 23 2016
- How choices affect our lives (In Ukrainian, «Як вибір впливає на наше життя»), Novoje vremia, Mar 28 2016
- Comments on exports diversification for UA|TV Channel, Feb 5 2016
- Buy Ukrainian. Would protectionism help Ukraine? (In Ukrainian "Купуй українське". Чи допоможе Україні протекціонізм?), *Ekonomichna Pravda*, Sept 21 2015
- Non-tariff barriers: What do we know about them? (In Russian, “Нетарифные барьеры: что мы о них знаем”), BRIDGES, Russian edition, ICTSD, issue 5, September 2015
- Current economic situation in Ukraine/ Икономика под окупация (In Bulgarian), Капитал, May 2 2014
- TV interview on Unilateral EU trade liberalization: effect on Ukrainian exports, *First Business Channel UKR*, March 25, 2014
- Comments on EU-Ukraine Agreement, *Kommersant*, 29.11.2013
- Comments in "Russia or IMF: Investors need certainty", *Delo* Nov 25 2013
- “Default or not” (in Russian), *Delo*, Oct 7 2013
- Comments for on reforms Ukraine needs to foster its economic development, “*Krayina*”, May 16 2013
- “Devaluation will be beneficial for the Ukrainian economy”, *Forbes* (Ukrainian ed.), Oct 1 2012
- “For roads’ sake” (in Russian), *Investgazeta*, July 26, 2012
- Comments in “Shifted sight” (in Russian), *Investgazeta*, No6, February 13 2012
- Comments in “External shocks can hamper Belarus’ exports” (in Russian), *Tut.By*, December 20, 2011
- “On the Consequences of the Anti-inflationary Policy of the National Bank of Ukraine” (in Russian/ English), *Commentarii/Kyiv Weekly*, November 11, 2011
- “Ukraine needs Europe to avoid Belarus fate” (in Ukrainian), *Gazeta po-ukrainski*, July 3 2011
- TV Interview on currency crisis in Belarus, *First Business Channel*, May 31 2011
- Comments in “Free Trade Agreement with EU: Are We There Yet?” (in Ukrainian and Russian), *Den*, №197-198, October 29 2010
- “Capital Inflows: Blessing or Curse?” (in Ukrainian, joint with O. Shepotylo), *Ekonomichna Pravda*, June 14 2010

HONORS, FELLOWSHIP AND AWARDS

2008: Prize for the Best Paper on Trade and EU policy, European Trade Study Group, donated by Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL) and the research center LICOS

2008: Annual Research Fellowship, Department of Economics, Bocconi University

2001-2003: Joint Japan and World Bank scholarship

LANGUAGES

Native: Ukrainian, Russian

Fluent: English, Italian

Good: Polish

Fair: Spanish, Chinese

TECHNICAL SKILLS

MS Office, STATA

REFERENCES

Available upon request