

Gustav Pirich

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Education

PhD Economics UZH	starting August 2025 Zurich, Switzerland
M.Sc. in Economics (Science Track) WU Vienna	September 2022 - September 2024 Vienna, Austria
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPA and rank: 1.07, Ranked 6th among 72 students of the cohort• Specializations: Environmental Economics (excellent), Natural Resource and Energy Economics (excellent), Gender Economics (award for outstanding academic performance), and Spatial Economics (excellent)• Exchange Semester: Stockholm School of Economics• Thesis: From Mines to Minds: The Impact of Artisanal Mining on Human Capital Formation	
B.Sc. in Business, Economics and Social Sciences WU Vienna	September 2019 – July 2022 Vienna, Austria
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPA and rank: 1.1, Ranked in the top 1% of the cohort• Major: Economics• Exchange Semester: The University of Edinburgh• Thesis: The Impact of China's 'Stadium Diplomacy' on Local Economic Growth in Africa	
Matura Haizingergasse · Graduated with Merit	June 2018 Vienna, Austria

Research

Mines - Rivers - Yields: Downstream Mining Impacts on Agriculture in Africa with Nikolas Kuschnig, Maximilian Heinze, Lukas Vashold <i>Journal of Development Economics</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presented at 14th Geoffrey J.D. Hewing Regional Economics Workshop	
The Local Economic Impact of China's Stadium Diplomacy in Sub-Saharan Africa with Valentin Lindlacher <i>World Development</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presented at Annual Conference of the Royal Economic Society 2023 in Glasgow, United Kingdom, 8th, DENEb PhD Workshop 2023 Berlin, 12th Geoffrey J.D. Hewing Regional Economics Workshop, 11th Workshop on Regional Economics ifo Dresden, 2023 German Development Economics Conference in Dresden	

Professional Experience

Research Assistant Prof. Kai Gehring at the Wyss Academy for Nature / University of Bern	since October 2024 Bern, Switzerland
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducting a set of information provision experiments• Using LLMs for text-data classification and simulation of survey experiments	
Project Research Assistant Department of Economics, WU Vienna	March 2024 – October 2024 Vienna, Austria
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparing remotely sensed agricultural productivity indicators using Google Earth Engine• Conducting econometric analyses for a paper on <i>Health and Pollution Impacts of Metal and Mineral Mining</i>	
Teaching Assistant for Advanced Macroeconometrics (M.Sc. Level) Department of Economics, WU Vienna	March 2024 – October 2024 Vienna, Austria
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting first-year Master's level courses in Advanced Macroeconometrics with a focus on Bayesian Econometrics• Conducting tutorial sessions and assisting students with the implementation of empirical projects in R	
Intern Austrian Federal Chamber of Commerce	June 2023 – August 2023 Beijing, China
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyzed industry trends and consumer preferences for market research• Facilitated cross-cultural communication for Austrian companies in China	
Teaching Assistant for Economic Policy (B.Sc. Level) Department of Economics, WU Vienna	September 2022 – February 2023 Vienna, Austria

- Created and graded homework assignments for lecturers
- Conducted tutorial sessions covering mathematical and econometric fundamentals, as well as R programming sessions

Research Assistant Internship

January 2022 – March 2022

ifo Munich, Center for New Technologies and Digitization

Munich, Germany

- Prepared and cleaned data in R for research projects on the impact of social media on mental health in Germany

Scholarships and Awards

Best Master's Thesis at WU Vienna Department of Economics

2024

Merit-based Scholarships

- 2023/2024
- 2021/2022
- 2019/2020

WU Rector's List

2021

Member of WU Top League:

2020 – 2022

- Program for high potential undergraduate students

Skills and Interests

Languages: German (Native), English (Proficient), French (Basic)

Software: R, Python, Google Earth Engine, Stata, Qualtrics, \LaTeX , QGIS (Basics), Git, MATLAB (Basics), Microsoft Office

Research interests: Environmental Economics, Development Economics, Experimental Economics