

LUKE HEATH MILSOM

luke.heathmilsom@kuleuven.be • www.lukemilsom.com

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, KU Leuven Dept. of Economics	01.09.2024 -
Research Associate, The Institute For Fiscal Studies	2024 -
Postdoctoral Fellow, The Institute For Fiscal Studies	2023 - 2024
Stipendiary Lecturer, Corpus Christi College Oxford	2018 - 2023

EDUCATION

University of Oxford	2018 - 2023
<i>Doctor of Philosophy in Economics</i>	
- Visiting Student: UC Berkeley, 2022	
- Visiting Student: National University of Singapore, 2019	
University of Oxford	2016 - 2018
<i>Master of Philosophy in Economics</i>	
London School of Economics and Political Science	2013 - 2016
<i>BSc. Econometrics and Mathematical Economics</i>	

RESEARCH

Working Papers

- Connectivity and Local Opportunity. *(Submitted)* [pdf](#)
- Do Workers Sort to Firms or to Occupations? *(Submitted)* [pdf](#)
(With Shihang Hou)
- Doomsday to Today: 1,000 Years of Spatial Inequality in England. *(R&R, Journal of International Economics)* [pdf](#)
- The Long Shadow of a Sudden River. *(Submitted)* [pdf](#), [RAG appendix](#)
- The Gravity of Syndication Ties in International Equity Underwriting. *(Submitted)* [pdf](#)
(With Vladimir Pazitka, Isabelle Roland, Dariusz Wojcik)
- The Fragility of the Global Trading System. [pdf](#), [NZZ article](#)
(With Ferdinand Rauch & Stephan Maurer)
- Minimum Wages and the China Syndrome: Causal Evidence from US Local Labour Markets. [pdf](#)
(With Isabelle Roland)

Work in Progress

- Growing Services: Firm Dynamics Beyond Cities
(With Peter Wankuru Chacha, Benard Kipyegon Kirui, & Verena Wiedemann)
- Labors of Necessity, Labors of Love. Changing Life Priorities and Labor Market Outcomes.
(With Hannah Zillessen & Shihang Hou)
- Pace vs Place.
(With Hannah Zillessen, Justin Mutambeshya, & Heyi Zheng)

Publications

- Spatial Inequality of Opportunity in West Africa (2023). [Journal of Public Economics](#)
- The Epidemiological Impact of the NHS Covid-19 App (2021). [Nature](#)
(With Chris Wymant, Luca Ferretti, Daphne Tsallis, Marcos Charalambides, Lucie Abeler-Dörner, David Bonsall, Robert Hinch, Michelle Kendall, Mathew Ayres, Chris Holmes, Mark Briers, Christophe Fraser)
- Epidemiological changes on the Isle of Wight after the launch of the NHS Test and Trace programme: a preliminary analysis (2020). [The Lancet Digital Health](#)
(With Michelle Kendall; Lucie Abeler-Dörner; Chris Wymant; Luca Ferretti; Mark Briers; Chris Holmes; David Bonsall; Johannes Abeler; Christophe Fraser)
- Acceptability of App-Based Contact Tracing for COVID-19: Cross-Country Survey Study. (2020). [JMIR mHealth and uHealth](#)
(With Samuel Altmann; Hannah Zillessen; Raffaele Blassone; Frederic Gerdon; Ruben Bach; Frauke Kreuter; Daniele Nosenzo; Séverine Toussaert; Johannes Abeler)

Policy Work

- Spatial Agglomeration, Productivity, and Inequality (2024). [Social Mobility Commission Think Piece](#)
(With Monica Costa Dias & Robert Joyce)
- How Do the Last Five Years Measure Up on Levelling Up? (2024). [IFS Report](#)
(With Christine Farquharson, Imran Tahir, Bobbie Upton, & Gautam Vyas)

EXTERNAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

- 2025: Firms, Labor Markets, and Development Workshop Bari, Urban Economics Association Winter Meeting Berlin, University of Antwerp, Radboud University.
- 2024: PacDev Stanford, RES Belfast, EALE Bergen, EEA/ESEM Rotterdam, UEA Copenhagen, ULB Brussels.
- 2023: University of Bristol, University of Cologne, University of Durham, University of Edinburgh, University of Exeter, The Institute for Fiscal Studies, KU Leuven, Nottingham University, University of Oslo, University of Reading, The Stockholm School of Economics, Trinity College Dublin, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich.
- 2022: ES European Winter Meeting, NEUDC, LEAP, OxDev, CEP Junior trade workshop, American Urban Economics Association Summer Meeting, 7th Lindau Meeting on Economic Sciences, Infra4Dev, Development Economics Workshop ARE UC Berkeley, European Urban Economics Association Meeting, Royal Economic Society Young Economist Symposium, African Meeting of the Econometric Society, Warwick Ph.D. Conference, Royal Economic Society 2022 conference.
- 2021: Newcastle Ph.D. Economics Conference, CSAE conference, Warwick PhD conference.
- 2020: American Urban Economics Society Workshop.
- 2019: Applied Microeconomics Workshop at the National University of Singapore, CSAE Conference.

FUNDING

National Bank of Belgium, 15,780 euros <i>Grant</i>	2025 - 2026
KU Leuven, 318,018 euros <i>C1 Grant</i>	2025 - 2030
STEG, 15,400 GBP <i>Small Research Grant</i>	2024 - 2026
KU Leuven, 165,00 euros <i>Starting Grant</i>	2024 - 2027

Department of Economics, University of Oxford <i>George-Webb-Medley Endowment Grant</i>	2020 - 2022
Department of Economics, University of Oxford <i>Doctoral Bursary</i>	2020 - 2022
Oxford Radcliffe ESRC Scholarship, University of Oxford <i>Full scholarship partly funded by University College, Oxford.</i>	2016 - 2021
Chelgren Scholarship, Oxford	2016 - 2018

REFEREEING

Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organisation, Journal of Urban Economics, Fiscal Studies, Journal of the European Economic Association