

# Kristína Hrehová

PhD candidate at CERGE-EI

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**Research interests** labor economics, applied microeconomics, econometrics, family economics

## Doctoral studies

CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic, 2015 - current.

**Thesis Title:** "Essays in empirical economics of the family"

**Expected Completion Date:** March 2021

## Thesis advisor and References:

Štěpán Jurajda (Advisor),

Mellon Endowment Professor with Tenure at CERGE-EI, [stepan.jurajda@cerge-ei.cz](mailto:stepan.jurajda@cerge-ei.cz)

Randall K. Filer,

Professor of Economics at Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, [rfiler@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:rfiler@hunter.cuny.edu)

Mariola Pytlikova,

Assistant professor at CERGE-EI, [mariola.pytlikova@cerge-ei.cz](mailto:mariola.pytlikova@cerge-ei.cz)

Erika Sandow,

Associate professor at Umeå University, Sweden, [erika.sandow@umu.se](mailto:erika.sandow@umu.se)

## Pre-Doctoral studies

2015 – 2017 MA in Economics, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic

2013 – 2015 Magister studies (MSc equivalent) in Economic and Financial Mathematics, summa cum laude, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia

2010 – 2013 Bachelor studies (BSc equivalent) in Economic and Financial Mathematics, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia

## Research experience

2018 - 2020: Research assistant for Mariola Pytlikova

## Visiting research stays

2019 Umeå University, Sweden, analyzing Swedish administrative data.

2018 DIW Berlin, Germany, analyzing GSOEP using county-level indicators

## Professional activities

2018: Administrative Assistant for the CERGE-EI Teaching Fellows Program

2016 – 2018: Ph.D. Student representative

2015 – 2016: Teaching assistant, PhD course of Microeconomics I, II

2014 – 2015: founded student platform [Žipomat](#) for connecting alumni with current students.

## Awards and scholarships

2018 Brinson Fellowship

2016 Research Fellowship (CERGE-EI)

2016 Brinson Fellowship

2013 Best bachelor thesis in Economic and financial mathematics (Comenius University)

## Erasmus

2014 – 2015

WFI - Ingolstadt School of Management, Catholic University of Eichstätt - Ingolstadt, Germany

## Presentations

- 2019 Research seminar, Department of Geography and economic history, Umeå, Sweden  
PhD Workshop in Microeconometrics, Bolzano, Italy  
Young Economist Meeting, Brno, Czech republic
- 2018 Presentation at Trexima Seminar of employment statistics, Prague.  
Poster presentation at GSOEP User Conference, Berlin
- 2015 “*Identification of poverty by DEA*” Czechoslovak Student Scientific Conference, Bratislava
- 2013 “*Gambler’s fallacy as a mathematical problem*” Czechoslovak Student Scientific Conference, Bratislava

## Policy papers

Ekonomická kríza a straty na životoch, *IDEA anti COVID-19*, 2020, Authors: Kristína Hrehová, Štěpán Jurajda. <https://idea.cerge-ei.cz/vystupy/ekonomicka-kriza-a-straty-na-zivotoch>

## Extracurricular achievements and courses

- 2017 HackPrague hackathon, semifinal with a project Behind the Hat, fostering trust relations on the street between fundraisers and donors
- 2015 Summer school of Slovak Economists  
INESS School of Austrian Economics, Mojmirovce, Slovakia

**Languages** English (fluent), Slovak (native), Czech (fluent), German (conversational)

**Programming** R, Stata, Python, LaTeX

## Volunteer activities

- 2020 Presentations for high school students at Summer school of mathematics (Trojsten, Comenius University)
- 2015 – present *Supervisor of essays* in moral and political philosophy, *referee* in high school essay competition SOFIA  
Ladislav Hanus Fellowship (SLH) Academic program
- 2014 – 2015 *Student representative* in the Chamber of the Academic Senate of Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Informatics (Comenius university), Mandate committee, Pedagogical committee
- 2011 – 2014 *Volunteer*, Correspondence Seminar of Mathematics, Trojsten  
Co-organizer of Naboj.org math international competition

## **JOB MARKET PAPER**

### **Firm Relocations, Commuting and Relationship Stability**

**(with Erika Sandow and Urban Lindgren)**

In this paper, we study the impact of firm relocation on commuting distance and the probability of married and cohabiting couples with children separating. We use Swedish register data for 2010-2016 and select employees of relocating firms with one workplace and more than 10 employees. Focusing on this sample allows us to use plausibly exogenous variation in the commuting distance arising from the relocation. We extend the literature on the effect of commuting on the stability of relationships by reducing the possibility for unobserved time-variant factors to bias our estimates. While previous literature has focused on the difference between short- and long-distance commuting, we focus on changes in the commuting distance that are externally induced by firm management. We find a small but statistically significant negative effect of increased firm relocation distance on family stability. A 10 km change in the commuting distance leads to a 0.09 percentage point higher probability of separation if the commuter stays with the firm for the next 5 years.

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

### **Persuasive Campaigns, Abortions and Fertility**

Abortion rates have declined dramatically since 1990 in developed countries and this has been in some part due to state abortion policies. The state is not the only actor attempting to shape abortion behavior. Both pro-choice and pro-life NGOs believe their campaigns are effective. Research in this area must deal with the selective nature of activist location and intensity, and also with the relatively rare nature of abortion. In this paper, I provide the first empirical evaluation of a pro-life leaflet mailing campaign based on one that operated in Slovakia during 2016-2017. The leaflet employs widely used pro-life frames, including information about fetal development and arguments supporting the notion that abortion hurts women. To identify the effect of the campaign, I use a difference-in-differences estimate of the effect of the campaign on abortion and conception rates in the treated municipalities. The preliminary results suggest that the campaign had a positive, statistically significant effect on conception rates and no statistically significant effect on abortion rates.

### **Intergenerational Transmission of Grit (with Mariola Pytlikova)**

Grit can be a meaningful predictor of mastery and professionalism. Parents with grit may also have high aspirations for their children. To what extent can parents transmit grit values to their children? Most studies of grit cannot answer this question because they use selective samples and usually do not include children together with their parents. In this explorative study of a Czech Household Panel ( $N \geq 798$ ) which is a representative survey of Czech households, we find that aspects of grit in children are more likely to correlate significantly with the mother's values than with the father's. Grit correlates with mothers' values positively and significantly even after controlling for age, gender and the Big 5 personality indicators.

## **Free Legal Help, Bankruptcy and Unemployment (with Stefan Domonkos)**

Personal bankruptcy laws aim at a fresh start for debtors in the labor market. However, overindebtedness and unemployment may be linked in a poverty cycle which creates an endogeneity problem. In this paper, we study the impact of personal bankruptcy on regional unemployment. We avoid endogeneity by focusing on external increase in the number of bankruptcy proposals coming from increased availability of legal help. We combine a distance matrix of Slovak municipalities with opening dates of legal service offices and publicly available bankruptcy data. Our results verify the influence of legal services on bankruptcy rates and quantify the impact of additional bankruptcies on local unemployment rates.

In Prague, September 17 2020

Kristína Hrehová