

Short Professional Biography: Yoto Valentinov Yotov

Career and Education. I am a Professor at Drexel University (Philadelphia), a Research Professor at the ifo Institute (Munich), and a member of the Council for Economic Analysis (CEA) of Bulgaria. I received a Bachelor of International Economic Relations from the “D.A. Tsenov” Academy of Economics (Bulgaria, 2000), and B.A. & B.S. degrees in Economics from Truman State University (USA, 2002). I completed a Master of Science (2004) and a Ph.D. (2007), with an award for best dissertation, from Boston College (USA). My first academic job was at Drexel (2007), where I earned tenure and promotion to Associate Professor (2013), and then became Full Professor (2018).

Research. My research is in international trade, and my best-known scholarly contributions are related to modeling and estimation with the gravity model of trade and quantifying the effects of trade and trade policies on various economic outcomes. My most important contribution to the literature is to motivate and promote the theory-consistent use of domestic trade flows for gravity estimations, as summarized in [this survey](#). Since 2017, I developed a research agenda on sanctions. I also have papers on foreign direct investment, growth, and political economy. My work was published in the *American Economic Review*, the *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, the *Journal of International Economics (JIE)*, the *Economic Journal*, the *International Economic Review*, the *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, and the *European Economic Review (EER)*, etc. I have published more than 50 peer-reviewed articles, and some of them are among the most cited papers at the JIE, the EER, the *Canadian Journal of Economics*, and several other journals. More details on my research, impact, and rankings, can be found at my [google scholar page](#), [RePEc profile](#), and the [RePEc rankings](#).

Public Goods. I have co-authored the book “[An Advanced Guide to Trade Policy Analysis: The Structural Gravity Model](#)”, and co-developed and/or tested the [International Trade and Production Database for Estimation](#), the [Global Sanctions Database](#), the [Domestic and International Common Language](#), the [Granular Trade and Production Activities Database](#), the [International Trade and Production Database for Simulation](#), and the [International Patent and Citations Across Sectors](#).

Teaching. [I enjoy teaching](#) and find it very rewarding (except for grading). In fact, I decided to pursue a Ph.D. because I wanted to teach. I have taught at Drexel, Princeton, LMU Munich, the University of Tübingen, and Boston College, and I held visiting positions at many other universities. The highlights of my teaching career are (i) teaching principles of Microeconomics to my freshmen at Drexel, (ii) teaching Ph.D. empirical trade at Drexel and Princeton, and (iii) my gravity course, which I have taught to hundreds of students, researchers, and policy makers from more than 130 countries. I have served as a Fellow at Center for Academic Excellence and as a Distinguished Fellow of the Center for Teaching Excellence at Drexel, and I have been honored to receive several teaching awards.

Service. I am a Senior Associate Editor at *Economics Letters* and an Associate Editor at *The Review of International Economics (RoIE)*. I have also been a Guest Editor for four special issues at the *EER* and *RoIE*. I am on the Board of Directors of the Midwest International Economics Group. During 2019-21, I completed my “[Gravity with Gravitas for Autism](#)” initiative. I was a Fulbright Specialist (2019-22) and a Fulbright Scholar (2022). Since 2022, I am a member of the CEA of Bulgaria.

Consulting. I have done many [consulting, advising, and training](#) projects for international organizations (e.g., *WTO*, the *World Bank*, the *European Commission*, *UN*, *OECD*, *IMF*, etc.), national governments (e.g., *Austria*, *Azerbaijan*, *Bulgaria*, *Canada*, *Germany*, *Spain*, *U.K.*, *U.S.*, etc.), think tanks and research institutes (e.g., the *ifo Institute*, the *Kiel Institute*, etc.). My research has been funded by the *Bertelsmann Foundation*, the *London School of Economics*, the *University of Oxford*, among others.

Next to family and economics, I enjoy football(soccer) and fishing. For further professional details visit my web site at yotoyotov.com.