



VARDAN BAGHDASARYAN

OFFICE ADDRESS, TELEPHONE & E-MAIL:

40 Marshal Baghramyan Ave.
Yerevan 0019, Republic of Armenia
Tel. (+374 60)612567
vbaghdasaryan@aua.am

Web: <https://vardanbaghdasaryan.ucraft.site/>

WORK EXPERIENCE (General)

July 2017 – date	Program Chair	MS in Management and Analytics, American University of Armenia
July 2020 – date	Associate Professor	American University of Armenia
September 2014 – June 2020	Assistant Professor	American University of Armenia
September 2012 – August 2014	Senior Lecturer	Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University
September 2012 – August 2014	Senior Consultant	AVAG Solutions Ltd, Consulting Yerevan, Armenia
March 2005 – August 2009 (full time since April 2008)	Consultant (Economist)	AVAG Solutions Ltd, Consulting Yerevan, Armenia
October 2006 – March 2008 (full- time)	Local Expert, Deputy Director at the Centre of European Law and Integration	GOPA Consultants, Project ECEILAW - EU funded project, Yerevan, Armenia

ACADEMIC RECORD

DOCTORAL STUDIES

2009 - 2014	PhD in Economics Title: "Essays on Political Economy" Awarded on 28 th of May, 2014	Graduate School in the Economics and Finance of Public Administration (DEFAP) Catholic University of Milan, Italy
Apr – May 2013	Visiting PhD Student	New Economic School, Moscow, Russia
Apr – July 2012	Visiting PhD Student	Centre for Operations Research and Econometrics (CORE), Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium

2004 - 2007	PhD in Economics (Aspirantura) Title: "Foreign Direct Investments and Development of Corporate Governance in Armenia"	Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University, Yerevan, Armenia
-------------	--	---

PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES

1999 - 2004	Diploma of Manager-Economist (with honorary distinction) Specialization: Management	Yerevan State Institute of Economy, Department of Management Yerevan, Armenia
-------------	---	---

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

2004-2010	ACCA exams completed	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), UK
-----------	----------------------	--

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Baghdasaryan, V., & Sarikyan, A. (2023). Location-Based Tax Incentives for Non-Farm Rural Enterprises in Armenia. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 1-21.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2023.2286894>
2. Baghdasaryan, V., & Barseghyan, G. (2023). Child care fee abolition and female labor supply: Quasi-experimental evidence from a developing country. *Economics of Transition and Institutional Change*, 1– 40. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ecot.12379>
3. Antinyan A., Baghdasaryan V., Grigoryan A., (2022) "Charitable giving, social capital and positional concerns", *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*,
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socec.2022.101929>
4. Baghdasaryan V., Davtyan H., Sarikyan A., Navasardyan Z., (2022), Improving tax audit efficiency using machine learning: the role of taxpayer's network data in fraud detection, *Applied Artificial Intelligence* DOI:[10.1080/08839514.2021.2012002](https://doi.org/10.1080/08839514.2021.2012002)
5. Baghdasaryan V., Grigoryan H., Davtyan H., Khachatryan K. (2021), Comparison of econometric and deep learning approaches for credit default classification, *Strategic Change*, 30(3): 257-268,
<https://doi.org/10.1002/jsc.2408>
6. Baghdasaryan V., (2021), Non-benevolent Government And Rule Of Law In Transition Economies, *Armenian Economic Journal*, volume 6
7. Baghdasaryan V., Iannantuoni G. and Maggiani V., (2019) "Electoral Fraud and Voter Turnout: Experimental Study", *European Journal of Political Economy*,
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpoleco.2018.12.001>
8. Baghdasaryan, V, Manzonni, E. (2019) Set them (almost) free: Discretion in electoral campaigns under incomplete information. *Journal of Public Economic Theory*. 1– 28. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jpet.12363>
9. Barseghyan G. & Baghdasaryan V. (2019): Optimum currency area theory: evidence from post-Soviet countries and implications for Eurasian Economic Union, *Post-Communist Economies*,
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14631377.2018.1537734>

10. Khachatryan, K, Baghdasaryan, V, Hartarska, V. (2019) Is the model “loans-plus-savings” better for microfinance in Eastern Europe and Central Asia? A propensity score matching comparison. *Review of Development Economics*. 00: 1– 22. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.12589>

SUBMITTED PAPERS

1. Baghdasaryan, V., Burduli, A., Papava, G., Diverging integration paths of Armenia and Georgia: consequences for export sophistication and diversification
2. Baghdasaryan V., Mersland R., Strom O., Multibanking improves the small entrepreneur’s performance: Evidence from a developing country (Revise and Resubmit)
3. Chiappero-Martinetti, E., Spreafico, A., Baghdasaryan, V., A capability approach-based framework for measuring women empowerment in rural Kenya

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Electoral outcomes in citizen candidate model with ideology and competence signals, jointly with Elena Manzoni (University of Bergamo) and Michela Cella (University of Milan-Bicocca)
- Own and Neighbor Audit Spillover Effects on Tax Compliance Behavior using population of Armenian taxpayer data, jointly with Arsine Sarikyan (American University of Armenia)

TEACHING PROFILE

2014 – date

Microeconomics (undergrad and graduate)	Consumer behavior and choice, Technology and Profit maximization, Game Theory, Behavioral Economics	American University of Armenia, College of Business and Economics
Industrial Organization (graduate)	Theory of the Firm, Static and Dynamic Imperfect competition, Theory of Competition Policy	
Introduction to Econometrics	OLS, Binary choice models, Intro to data analysis, Time series models for business with python	
Research Methods	Experimental and quasi-experimental methods of policy evaluation, organizing research process	
Capstone course	Final year research thesis supervision (Bachelor in Business, Master of Science in Economics)	

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Short term visiting professorship (June-July 2023), University of Bergamo, Italy

Afeyan Family Foundation Research Grant, 2023-2024, Principal Investigator

Graduate teaching fellowship 2021-2022 for returning scholars, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic

Graduate teaching fellowship 2020 – 2021 for returning scholars, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic

Policy Development Research Fund grant, Principal Investigator

Manoogian Simone Research Fund grant, Principal Investigator

Faculty Research Award 2018, American University of Armenia

ISTC Foundation Research Grant, 2018

ANSEF 2018 Research Grant for the Project on “Female participation in the labor market and gender wage gap in Armenia: what do modern evaluation methods tell us?”

Faculty Research Award, 2016, American University of Armenia

Career Integration Fellowship 2017 – 2019, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic;

Career Integration Fellowship 2014 – 2016, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic;

Graduate teaching fellowship 2012 – 2013 for returning scholars at Russian-Armenian University, provided by CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic;

Full scholarship for studies at Graduate School in the Economics and Finance of Public Administration (DEFAP), Catholic University of Milan, Italy (2009-2012);

Best PhD student (aspirant) award for academic year 2006-2007 at Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University, awarded by Scientific Council;

Full scholarship for graduate studies at Russian-Armenian (Slavic) University, awarded by Ministry of Education of Russian Federation jointly with Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia (2004 – 2007);

Full Public scholarship for undergraduate studies in the Republic of Armenia (1999-2004).

PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

ISSET Policy Institute Roundtable Discussion, Diverging integration paths of Armenia and Georgia: consequences for export sophistication and diversification, December 12, 2023, ISSET, Tbilisi, Georgia

Research Seminar within the frames of Short-term Visiting Professor Program, June 22, 2023, University of Bergamo, Department of Economics

International Conference on Econometrics and Business Analytics (iCEBA), Yerevan, September 2022

World Finance Conference, Budapest, December 2021

World Finance Conference, online, August 2021

Armenian Economic Association 2021 Annual Meeting, online June, 2021

Online International conference on tax compliance: new methodological and empirical approaches, November 2020 (Italy)

Stockholm FROGEE Workshop: Gender Economics – Theory and Practice, Stockholm School of Economics, December 17-18, 2019

International gender economics conference "Removing Obstacles to Gender Equality and Women's Economic Empowerment", Tbilisi, Georgia, November 15-16, 2019

Armenian Economic Association 2019 Winter Workshop

8th International Research Workshop in Microfinance, "Microfinance and Financial Inclusion: A Promising Banking Model?" OsloMet – Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway, 27-28 September 2018 (Presentation on whether "loans-plus-savings" model is a better for microfinance in Eastern Europe and Central Asia)

Armenian Economic Association 2018 Annual Meeting, Yerevan, Armenia, June, 2018

ECOMOD Annual Conference 2017, July 5 – 7, Ljubljana, Slovenia (Presentation on Agent Based Income tax model for Armenia)

Good Jobs for Inclusive growth in Central and West Asia, Study Finalization Conference, Kuala Lumpur 12-15 December 2016, Asian Development Bank (Presentation on Armenian Labor Market and Policy Recommendations)

Armenian Economic Association 2016 Annual Meeting, Yerevan, Armenia, June 17-19, 2016

Good Jobs for Inclusive Growth in Central and West Asia, Study Inception Workshop, Bangkok, 14-16 December, 2015, Asian Development Bank (presentation on Armenian Labor market)

Training on Computable General Equilibrium Models with GAMS, June 29 – July 03, 2015 Prague, ECOMOD

Armenian Economic Association 2015 Annual Meeting, Yerevan, Armenia, June 19-21, 2015 (Armen Alchian Best Paper Award)

Catholic University of Milan, 2014 Political Economy Workshop, 12-13 May, 2014 (discussant);

College of Business and Economics Seminar Series at American University of Armenia, Yerevan, Armenia, 7th of February, 2014 (presentation);

University of Milan-Bicocca, Work in progress seminar. Milan, Italy, October, 2013 (presentation);

ECORE Summer School, "Governance and Economic Behaviour", Leuven, Belgium, May 2013 (presentation);

European Public Choice Society Annual Meeting 2013, 3-6 April, Zurich, Switzerland (presentation);

Blackboard Workshop in Welfare Economics, CORE – Catholic University of Louvain, April 2012 (presentation);

Economics Education and Research Consortium (EERC) 30th Workshop, Kiev School of Economics, Kiev, Ukraine, July 2011 (presentation of research project proposal);

SELECTED CONSULTANCY/RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **Labor Market Expert**, International Labor Organization, Report on Platform Work Status in Armenia (June 2024)
- **Behavioral Science Expert**, Agence Française de Développement (ADF)/Expertise France (EF), for “technical assistance to integrate climate issues and strengthen Public Finance & Financial Sector Management in Armenia” project (December 2023)
- **Human Capital Development Expert**, DMI France / European Training Foundation (November – December 2023)
- **Researcher, Labor Market**, World Bank / Minimum wage and its implications for the Armenian Labor market (September 2022 – February 2023)
- **Applied Behavioral Scientist**, SDG Innovation Lab / UNDP Armenia (Since August, 2021)
- Taxpayer clustering and tax fraud identification with non-structured transaction level data using natural language processing /Afeyan Family Foundation Research Grant / AUA (**Role: Principal Investigator, July 2023 – August 2024**)
- Study on Skills for the Green Transition in Armenia / PPMI (Lithuania) / European Training Foundation (**Role: Country expert**, August - October 2022)
- Alternative Methods of Detecting Tax Fraud: Machine learning application in improving product tracking and spatial analysis of taxpayers’ behavioral response to audits /MSRF / AUA (**Role: Principal Investigator, June 2021 – March 2022**)
- Study on Crafts and skills in Armenia / PPMI (Lithuania) / European Training Foundation (**Role: country expert** (February 2021 – January 2022)
- Study on Platform Work in EAP countries / PPMI (Lithuania) / European Training Foundation (**Role: Labor Market expert** (August 2020 – February 2021)
- Alternative Methods of Detecting Tax Fraud /MSRF / AUA (**Role: Principal Investigator, August 2019 – July 2020**)
- Business Consultations Mechanisms Assessment Project / AVAG Solutions / USAID (**Role: Coordinating Consultant (July – August 2017)**)
- Study on Trade Facilitation in South Caucasus / ISET Policy Institute (ISET-PI) / UNDP (**Role: Armenia Country Expert**) (March – July 2017)
- The Court Users’ Satisfaction Survey; Strengthening the Independence, Professionalism and Accountability of the Justice System in Armenia /Council of Europe/Europe Union (**Role: Individual Consultant: Data Analyst/Economist**) (July-September 2016)
- Assistance to Tax code development for Armenia, AVAG Solutions/Deloitte Consulting/USAID/Ministry of Finance (**Role: Consulting on Excise taxation reforms and Personal Income Tax deductions in Armenia**) (July-August 2015)
- Social-economic assessment of the projected contribution of the Amulsar Gold Project (Role: Responsible for analysis and Reporting) (December 2014 – February 2015; AVAG Solutions/ for Lydian International)
- Assistance in the review of water tariffs in Armenia, Willingness to Pay survey (**Role: Willingness to pay survey methodology consultant**), (May – August 2014; AVAG Solutions/ DHInfrastructure LLC/ World Bank)
- Training for the specialists of Ministry of Finance on the methods of assessing tax expenditures under the Tax Reform Project. (**Role: developer and trainer**), (April – May, 2014; AVAG Solutions/Deloitte Consulting/USAID)
- Deepening Policy Based Budgeting and Strengthening Public Investment Management Systems in Armenia (**Role: Consultant on Public Investment Management**). (February – August; 2014; AVAG Solutions/Ministry of Finance/World Bank)

- Public Finance Management in South Caucasus, Assistance to Ministry of Finance and other authorities in implementing Program Budgeting reforms, (January 2013 – February 2014; GIZ);
- Tax exemptions assessment project, (August – September, 2013; State Revenue Committee of Armenia / World Bank);
- Assistance to Finalize Draft Armenia Development Strategy Document (Consultant, April 2013 – date; AVAG Solutions/USAID);
- Tax Reform Project (TRP), (Consultant, January 2013 – date; AVAG Solutions/Deloitte Consulting/USAID);
- Armenia Development Strategy (ADS) for 2012-2025 (Consultant on Economic development issues and responsible for Labor Market section of the Strategy, September – December, 2012; AVAG Solutions/USAID);
- Measurement of True Costs Related to Medical Processes in Armenian Hospitals (Consultant; October 2008 – August 2009; AVAG Solutions Ltd/ Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia / World Bank) **(full-time)**;
- Measurement of True Costs Related to Medical Processes in Armenian Hospitals (Consultant; Oct 2008 – Aug 2009; AVAG Solutions Ltd/ Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia / World Bank);
- Armenia: Lake Sevan – PPP Advisory Services (Expert; Apr 2008 – Aug 2009; AVAG Solutions Ltd/State Water Committee of the Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia / EBRD)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS (Not peer reviewed)

- Aslanyan, G., Baghdasaryan, V., Shakhmuradyan G., Armenia's Social Policy Response to Covid-19: Mitigating Expectations, Financial Stress, and Anxiety, Global Dynamics of Social Policy (Forthcoming)
- "Effects of liberalization of Telecom markets in developing countries: Armenia 1998-2008 case study", Invited paper submitted to 11th International Conference on Transparent Optical Networks (ICTON 2009, special session on market in telecommunications), June 28 - July 2, 2009 - Island of São Miguel, Azores, Portugal
- "Integration of European higher education system and participation of Armenia in this process" CELI Research paper, published with support of European Union, Yerevan State University, Republic of Armenia, 2008 (Co-Author: Dr. Grigor Hayrapetyan)
- "Armenian economy in the light of Copenhagen Economic criteria of European Integration" CELI Research paper, published with support of European Union, Yerevan State University, Republic of Armenia, 2007 (Co-Author: Dr. Grigor Hayrapetyan) (in Armenian)
- "Selected approaches of motivating Foreign direct investments in Armenia", Ministry of Finance and Economy of the Republic of Armenia, Economic research institute, *Socio-economic contemporary problems of the Republic of Armenia Journal*, Issue 9, March 2007, pages 596-603 (in Russian)
- "Corporate sector development conditions in Armenia: role and extent of foreign participation", *Armenia: Finance and Economy Journal*, Issue 1 (78), January 2007, pages 45-49 (in Russian)
- "Foreign direct investments and corporate governance" *Armenia: Finance and Economy Journal*, Issue 12-13 (60-61) August-September 2005, pages 6-11 (Co-author: Prof. Edward Sandoyan, PhD) (in Armenian)

LANGUAGES

Armenian (native), English (fluent), Russian (fluent), Italian (Intermediate)

COMPUTER SKILLS

Stata, Python (Pandas, Statsmodels), Latex