

# Bastien Chabé-Ferret

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Economic demography, economics of culture, economic history, migration, labor

## REFERENCES

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**David de la Croix**  
Professor of Economics  
Université catholique de Louvain  
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**Uwe Sunde**  
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Professor of Economics  
UCLA Economics Department  
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## CURRENT AFFILIATIONS

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**2014 - 2017**      **FNRS** (Belgian National Research Fund) Postdoctoral Fellow, **IRES, U Louvain** (Belgium)  
**2015 - 2018**      **IZA** (Institute for the Study of Labor) Research Fellow since April 2015, Bonn (Germany)

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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**Adherence to cultural norms and economic incentives: Evidence from fertility timing decisions.** IZA Discussion Paper No. 10269. 2016. *(Submitted)*

I analyze the interplay between culture and economic incentives in decision-making. To this end, I study birth timing decisions of second generation migrant women to France and the US. Only the probability to have three or more children increases with the home country fertility norm, whereas the timing of the first two births is either unaffected or negatively correlated. I propose a model that rationalizes these findings in which decisions are the result of a trade-off between an economic cost-benefit analysis and a cultural norm. The model predicts that decisions with a higher cost of deviation from the economic optimum should be less prone to cultural influence. This is consistent with substantial evidence showing that the timing of the first birth bears much larger costs for mothers in terms of labor market outcomes than that of subsequent births.

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Differences in fertility behavior and uncertainty: an economic theory of the minority status hypothesis.** Journal of population economics (2013), 26(3), 887-905. With Paolo Melindi Ghidi.

## DISCUSSION PAPERS & WORK IN PROGRESS

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**Return Plans and Migrants' Behavior.** With Joël Machado and Jackline Wahba. IZA Discussion Paper No. 10111. 2016. (*R&R at Regional Science and Urban Economics*)

**Socioeconomic Characteristics, Fertility Norms and the Black - White Fertility Gap in the US.** No. 2013011. Université catholique de Louvain, Institut de Recherches Economiques et Sociales (IRES), 2013.

**Economic Uncertainty and Fertility Cycles: The Case of the Post WWII Baby Boom.** With Paula Gobbi.

**Segregation and Fertility: the Case of the Roma in Serbia.** With Marianna Battaglia and Lara Lebedinski.

## PAST POSITIONS & TEACHING

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- 2013 - 2014** Postdoctoral Fellow (H. d'Albis ERC starting grant), **Paris School of Economics** (France)
- 2007 - 2013** Teaching Assistant Fellowship, **U Louvain** (Belgium)  
~ 200 hours of teaching per year:  
*Undergrad: Principles of Economics, Macroeconomics, Maths for Econ, Microeconomics*  
*Grad: Intermediate Macro, Adv. Macro I (RBC and monetary) and II (Growth)*
- 2008 - 2010** Lecturer at the **European Institute for Public Affairs** (EIPA)  
*Introduction to Macroeconomics for non-economists and Macroeconomic Indicators to civil servants of the European Institutions (DG EuroStat and Translation)*

## EDUCATION

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**Université catholique de Louvain**, Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium)

- April 2013** Ph.D., Economics - European Doctoral Program (EDP)
  - Dissertation Topic: “**Three Essays on the Fertility of Minority Groups**”
  - Advisors: Raouf Boucekine and Jean-Marie Baland
  - Members of the committee: David de la Croix, Holger Strulik, Fabio Mariani, Uwe Sunde
- September 2007** M.A., Economics, with honors  
**HEC school of management**, Paris (France)
- June 2006** M.Sc., Business Administration, with honors

## VISITING POSITIONS

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- 2014 - 2015** California Center for Population Research (CCPR) at **UCLA**, Los Angeles, CA (USA)  
**Spring 2011** Short stay at **Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA (USA)  
**Spring 2010** EDP exchange program at **U Pompeu Fabra**, Barcelona (Spain)

## INVITED SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

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- 2016** Workshop in Demographic Economics (Durbuy, BE), Seminar in Demography (U Louvain), Paris Seminar in Economic Demography (Paris School of Economics), Economic History Society Meeting (Cambridge), EEA-ESEM Meeting (Geneva), European Association of Labor Economists Meeting (Gent University, BE), Economics Seminar (University of Luxembourg)  
**2015** CCPR seminar (UCLA), Economic History pro-seminar (UCLA), Economics seminar (U Hawaii at Manoa), Demography seminar (UC Berkeley), CORE brownbag seminar (U Louvain), IRES macro lunch seminar (U Louvain), RWI seminar (Essen, DE)  
**2014** CEREC Workshop (U Saint Louis, BE), Demographic Economics Conference (U of Iowa), European Society for Population Economics Meeting (U Minho, Braga, PT), EEA-ESEM Meeting (Toulouse School of Economics), Symposium in Economic Dynamics (U Louvain) [discussant]  
**2013** Applied Economics Lunch Seminar (Paris School of Economics), Macro Lunch (U Louvain)  
**2012** CRED workshop (UNamur, BE), Workshop on the Sustainability of Population Changes (U Louvain), Overlapping Generation Days (GREQAM Marseille, FR)  
**2011** Migration & Development conference (Harvard Kennedy School) [discussant], Labor - Public - Development seminar (U Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona), Summer School in Economic Growth (Hebrew University, Jerusalem)  
**2010** European Doctoral Program jamboree (U Pompeu Fabra), Doctoral Workshop (U Louvain)  
**2009** Macro Lunch Seminar (U Louvain), European Doctoral Program jamboree (London School of Economics), Globelics Conference (Dakar, SN)  
**2008** Overlapping Generation Days (GREQAM Aix-en-Provence, FR), Summer School in Economic Growth (Hebrew University, Jerusalem), Workshop in Macroeconomics (Rochehaut, BE)  
**2008 - 2010** Organization of the biannual Doctoral Workshop in Economics at U Louvain

## REFEREE ACTIVITY

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Demographic Research (x2), Journal of Demographic Economics (x4, 3 different editors), Journal of Population Economics, SERIEs (Journal of the Spanish Economic Association), Louvain Economic Review, Population and Development Review, Espace population et socits, The World Economy

## MISCELLANEOUS SKILLS

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- Software** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Stata, Mathematica, MatLab, Prezi  
**Languages** French (mother tongue), English, Italian, Spanish (fluent), Portuguese, Hungarian (basic)

February 3, 2017