

Etienne LE ROSSIGNOL

Stellenbosch University
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
7600 Stellenbosch,
South Africa
Born: January 5, 1992—Cholet, France

Nationality: French
email SUN: elerossignol@sun.ac.za
email LBS: elerossignol@london.edu
email UN: etienne.lerossignol@unamur.be
Webpage: www.etiennelerossignol.com

Academic Positions

2026–2028	POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
2025	VISITING SCHOLAR, Geneva Graduate Institute, Switzerland
2022–2024	POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR, Université de Namur, Belgium
2020–2022	RESEARCH FELLOW, London Business School, United Kingdom

Visiting Positions

Brown University (Spring 2024), the University of British Columbia (Spring 2023), and Harvard University (Spring 2020).

Education

2017–2021	PH.D., in Development Economics, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, France Centre d'Économie de la Sorbonne (CES, UMR CNRS 8174), Thesis: <i>Understanding the Origins of Economic Development: Three Essays in Development Economics, Economic History, and Culture.</i> Advisors: Rémi Bazillier, Thomas Vendryes Dissertation Jury: Nathan Nunn, Josselin Thuilliez, Catherine Guirkingier
2015–2017	M.A., in Development Economics, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, France
2012–2015	B.A., in Economics, IEMN-IAE, Université de Nantes, France ERASMUS, Galatasaray Üniversitesi, Turkey

Working Papers

“Mobility, Competition, and the Scope of Trust: Evidence from Transhumant Pastoralism”, 2025
with Sara Lowes [NBER Working Paper: 30259]

“Culture at a Crossroads: Traditional Beliefs in Contemporary Africa,” 2025
with Sara Lowes and Nathan Nunn [NBER Working Paper: 29695]
Revise and resubmit at the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

“Educational Legacies of Christian Missions: Evidence from the Democratic Republic of the Congo,” 2025
with Pierre Donat-Bouillud and Coralie Hirschi
Revise and resubmit at the *Journal of Development Economics*

“Fallow Lengths and the Structure of Property Rights,” 2025
with Sara Lowes and Eduardo Montero [NBER Working Paper: 32226]

“Wildlife Poaching and the Labour Market,” 2025
with Guy Pincus

“Inequality and Insurgency,” 2025
with Dominic Rohner

“Ethnicity and Place in African Opinions,” 2025
with Gaël Perrot

Work In Progress

“Private Colonialism in Africa,” 2025
with Giorgio Chiovelli, Stelios Michalopoulos, and Elias Papaioannou

“Carbon Concessions,” 2025
with Guy Pincus and Orlando Roman

“Cry for Freedom in Central Africa,” 2025
Bihter Erbas, Stelios Michalopoulos, and Elias Papaioannou

“The Colonial State in Africa,” 2025
with Giorgio Chiovelli, Daniele Goffi, Stelios Michalopoulos, and Elias Papaioannou

Conference, Workshop, and Seminar Presentations (Upcoming^b)

Mobility, Competition, and the Scope of Trust: Evidence from Transhumant Pastoralism:

2026: Economics of Culture and Institutions, NBER Spring Meeting; Experimental & Behavioural Economics Research, University of Warwick; Cultural Evolution of Migration and Diversity, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung^b; External Seminar, Pompeu Fabra University. 2025: Cultural Economics and Economic History, Technical University of Munich. 2024: Workshop on Cultural Evolution and Economic Policy, Stellenbosch University. 2023: Junior Workshop, ENS de Lyon; Arne Ryde Workshop on Culture, Institutions, and Development, Lund University; Workshop on Aging, Culture and Comparative Development, University of Luxembourg; Development Brown Bag, University of British Columbia; External Seminar, Leiden University; CRED Workshop, Université de Namur. 2022: Fairness and the Moral Mind Workshop, Norwegian School of Economics; IOEA, Cargese Institute, Université Paris Dauphine. 2021: SIOE, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Cultural Evolution Society, Sapporo University

Private Colonialism in Africa:

2026: 19th Annual Meeting of the African Economic History Network, University of Gothenburg^b; Workshop from Archives to Analytics: Quantitative Approaches in Economic History, Lund School of Economics and Management^b; SIOE, INSEAD Fontainebleau; Online Seminar, Laboratory for the Economics of Africa’s Past. 2025: CEPR Paris Symposium – Economic History: The Long Shadow of Colonialism; External Seminar, RPDE Princeton University; External Seminar, Maynooth University; Private Sector Development Research Network, Online Seminar; External Seminar, Université de Lucerne; External Seminar, Université de Lausanne; Authoritarianism and Nation Building, Università di Bergamo. 2024: Benelux PECO, Université Libre de Bruxelles. JAMIE 3.0, Online Seminar; KIEL-CEPR African Economic Development Conference, Kiel Institute for the World Economy.

Culture at a Crossroads: Traditional Beliefs in Contemporary Africa:

2024: CRED Workshop, Université de Namur; ERINN, Warwick in Venice; External Seminar, Université de

Rennes; External Seminar, Université Paris Dauphine.

Fallow Lengths and the Structure of Property Rights:

2023: External Seminar, Wageningen University; International Conference on Development Economics, Paris School of Economics. 2022: ASREC, University Of Notre Dame

Carbon Concessions:

2026: Conference on Economic Development, Nova SBE; Nordic Conference in Development Economics, Växjö; CEPR Climate Change and the Environment Symposium 2026, Study Center Gerzensee

Educational Legacies of Christian Missions: Evidence from the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

2023: Internal Seminar, Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Inequality and Insurgency:

2026: World Inequality Conference, Paris School of Economics; ESOC-ReCIPE Annual Meeting 2026, Paris School of Economics^b

Ethnicity and Place in African Opinions:

2026: Uses and abuses of the Murdock Atlas in social science research, Department of Economic History London School of Economics

Other presentations:

2020: Political Economy Lunch, Harvard University. 2019: Journées Doctorales, ERUDITE. 2018: Land and Poverty Conference, World Bank. 2017: Journées Doctorales, CERDI.

Conferences, Workshops, and Seminars Organized

2025: Junior Applied Microeconomists in Europe (JAMIE) 4.0, Online Seminar. 2024: CRED Workshop, Université de Namur; Junior Applied Microeconomists in Europe (JAMIE) 3.0, Online Seminar. 2023: Institution, Culture and Long-Term Development: Lessons from sub-Saharan Africa, Université de Namur; CRED Workshop, Université de Namur. 2019: DESIR, Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne; Doctorissimes, Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne.

Grants (Co-PI*), and Awards

2025	<i>Excellence in Refereeing Award</i> – The Review of Economic Studies	
	<i>ReCIPE*</i> – CEPR: Witchcraft as Governance	£15,000
	<i>ReCIPE*</i> – CEPR: Carbon Colonialism	£15,000
	<i>ReCIPE*</i> – CEPR: The Colonial State in Africa	£25,000
2024	<i>Banque Nationale de Belgique</i> – BNB	€4,000
	<i>Excellence in Refereeing Award</i> – The Review of Economic Studies	
2023	<i>Small Research Grant*</i> – ASREC	\$10,000
2022	<i>Fellowship Programme</i> – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Come 2 Wallonia	
	<i>Small Research Grant</i> – The British Academy	£10,000
	<i>Research Grant*</i> – STEG-CEPR	£60,000
	<i>Research Grant*</i> – Institute for New Economic Thinking	\$50,000
2021	<i>Call for Proposals April 2021</i> – Wheeler Institute for Business and Development	£14,000
2020	<i>Appel à Projets CES 2021</i> – Centre d'Économie de la Sorbonne	€2,500

2018-2020	26 ^{ème} , 28 ^{ème} , and 32 ^{ème} Appels à Projets – École Universitaire de Recherche - Paris Graduate School of Economics	€6,300
2018	Aide à la Mobilité - Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne	€1,600

Refereeing

American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies
Agriculture and Human Value, Cross-Cultural Research, Economic Journal, Economics and Human Biology,
Economics of Transition and Institutional Change, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Develop-
ment Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of the European Economic Associa-
tion, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Public Economics, Open Cultural Studies, Revue d'Economie du
Développement, Social Forces

Book Reviews

“Sovereignty without Power: Liberia in the Age of Empires, 1822-1980”. Leigh Gardner. Cambridge University Press. 2022.

Teaching

2023	Masterclass – Leiden University
2022	African History through the Lens of Economics: On the Legacy of Christian Missions - Online Lecture Series - London Business School
2021–2023	Empirical Methods - Master 2 Development Economics - Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
2019–2022	Master Thesis Seminar - Master 1 Development Economics - Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
2018–2021	Linear Algebra - Undergraduate 2 - Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
2018	Projets et Méthodes en Économie - Undergraduate 1 - Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
2017	Macroeconomics - Undergraduate 2 - Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne

References

Rémi Bazillier,
Centre d'Économie de la Sorbonne,
Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne,
remi.bazillier@univ-paris1.fr

Nathan Nunn
Professor of Economics
University of British Columbia
nathan.nunn@ubc.ca

Elias Papaioannou
Professor of Economics
London Business School
eliasp@london.edu

Dominic Rohner
Professor of Economics
Geneva Graduate Institute
dominic.rohner@graduateinstitute.ch

Last updated September 3, 2026.