LUCILE LAUGERETTE

Ph.D., Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon
Center For Economic Research on Governance, Inequality and Conflict | CERGIC
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RESEARCH FIELDS

Development Economics, Economics of Conflict, Gender Economics, Environmental Economics

CURRENT POSITION

Ph.D. in Economics *Since Sept. 2022*
Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon
Center For Economic Research on Governance, Inequality and Conflict (CERGIC, ENS de Lyon)
Title: Violence and Influence: The Role of Media, Leadership and Climate in Shaping Conflict
Supervisor: M. Couttenier (ENS de Lyon, CEPR)

EDUCATION

Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne *2020 - 2022*
Master in Development Economics and Sustainable Development
Master Thesis: The impact of weather shocks on the prevalence of gender based violence in Sub-Saharan Africa
Supervisors: L. Martinoty and M. Couttenier
Case Study topic: Assessment of the effects of training programs on women's entrepreneurship, focus on Sub-Saharan African and Middle Eastern and North African regions
Supervisor: K. McHugh
First year thesis topic: Assessment of the impacts of the Guatemalan Civil War on women's empowerment and gendered institutions
Supervisor: E. Le Rossignol

Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne - Paris School of Economics *2019 - 2020*
Magistère d'Economie

Lycée Juliette Récamier - Université Lumière Lyon II, Lyon *2017 - 2019*
BSc. Economics and Management and Classe Préparatoires aux Grandes Ecoles (ENS-D2), Economics and Mathematics

PUBLICATION

Groundwater, Climate Change and Conflict: Empirical Evidence from Africa
with Mathieu Couttenier and Remi Jedwab ***World Bank Economic Review*** *(May 2026)*

- Groundwater plays a crucial role in supporting livelihoods and economic activities in Africa, particularly in regions affected by climate change-induced water scarcity. This study explores the economic implications of groundwater resources in relation to conflict dynamics in these regions. It employs a comprehensive dataset covering the period from 1997 to 2021, encompassing information on conflict events and groundwater availability. The relationship between groundwater depth, climate change, and conflict occurrences is analyzed through both cross-sectional and temporal analyses across 10,310 cells. The findings indicate that areas with a higher proportion of shallow water –i.e., more accessible groundwater– have become increasingly prone to violence over time, particularly when affected by local climate change (long-term deviations in the local climate). Furthermore, climate change has a greater impact on low-intensity and localized conflict events in groundwater accessible areas. The analysis also highlights the significant role of within-cell inequality in water access as a driver of conflict. Lastly, secondary analyses examining the respective contributions of pastoralist activities and state capacity to the observed effects provide insights into the mechanisms. Overall, the findings underscore the need for developing equitable water management strategies to mitigate conflict and promote sustainable development in Africa.

WORKING PAPERS

Job Market Paper : When Words Shape Action: Editorial Guidelines, Media Narratives and Audience reactions

· Media organizations increasingly adopt editorial standards to govern coverage of sensitive topics, yet their effectiveness as policy instruments remains unexamined. This paper evaluates newsroom guidelines designed to improve reporting on gender-based violence in France. Between 2018 and 2025, I document the staggered adoption of editorial guidelines across 43 local newspapers, which simultaneously discourage euphemistic terminology, mandate legally precise language, and often require provision of emergency resources. Combining exhaustive femicide event records with article-level text analysis and departmental helpline and petition data, I estimate effects on both coverage patterns and audience behavior. Event-study estimates show that guideline adoption raises the probability that an outlet covers a local femicide by 87% and increases the use of recommended legal terminology by 132%, while producing no detectable reduction in the euphemistic, passion-framed register the guidelines explicitly proscribe. These supply-side shifts move audiences: departments more exposed to guideline-compliant coverage record more signatures on petitions against gender-based violence and, suggestively, more calls to the national 3919 helpline. The results indicate that guidelines operate by lowering the cost of reporting and signaling editorial demand, rather than by deterring coverage, and that a low-cost editorial rule can reshape not only the language of a crime report but the salience of gender-based violence as a public issue.

Dear Brothers and Sisters: Pope's Speeches and the Dynamics of Conflict in Africa
with Mathieu Couttenier, Sophie Hatte and Tommaso Sonno

· Can influential leaders reduce conflict through public appeals for peace? We study the impact of the Catholic Pope's peace-seeking speeches on conflict in Africa. We construct a novel dataset of papal speeches addressing violent conflicts between 1997 and 2022 and combine it with geocoded conflict data. We document diffusion through national media and local Church networks, and effect on perceptions of religious authority. Using event-study designs, we find that conflict incidence falls by 23% following a speech, alongside reductions in conflict intensity and geographic dispersion. The response depends strongly on the nature and source of the message and on the Pope's perceived authority: neither non-conflict papal speeches nor UN Security Council resolutions generate comparable declines in violence, while peace appeals are more effective when the Pope commands broad moral authority and less effective when prior statements have made that authority more contested. Effects are stronger where bishops have greater ecclesiastical experience, and armed groups respond differently depending on religious affiliation and prior conflict history. The effectiveness of peace messaging thus depends on both the messenger's legitimacy and the local structures through which messages are received.

OTHER WRITING

Beyond The Surface: Intersectionality of Gender and Underrepresentation in Water-Related Violence
with Ebad Ebadi and Esha Zaveri

· This paper investigates the nexus between water fetching, gender-based violence (GBV), and underrepresented population in Africa. By analyzing individual-level data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series-Demographic and Health Surveys (IPUMS-DHS), it is found that women responsible for water fetching experience increased risks of violence, particularly when traveling long distances to access water sources. In addition, the study explores the intersecting dynamics of gender and ethnicity, revealing that women from underrepresented groups face increased vulnerability to sexual violence, especially in regions with significant polarization. These findings underscore the multifaceted nature of water insecurity and its impacts on women's safety and well-being, emphasizing the importance of addressing gender and ethnic disparities in water access to mitigate violence against women.

RESEARCH VISITS

2025 April	University of Bologna (hosted by Tommaso Sonno)
2024 March-July	School of Economics and Business at the University of Chile (hosted by Francisco Pino)

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Conferences, Workshops and Seminars

2026	Young Researchers Conference in Economics - HEC Liège
	Internal seminar - ENS de Lyon
	NICEP 2026 Conference - University of Nottingham
	Workshop on media, identity and norms - ENS de Lyon
	2nd PhD Workshop - Department of Economics - European University Institute
2025	5th International Conference on Development Economics - ICDE - University Paris-Nanterre
	Journées Doctorales du Développement - Job Market - Bordeaux School of Economics
	ENS Lyon-UniBo Junior PhD Workshop - University of Bologna
	PhD - Economics Virtual Seminar
	Economics Job Market Bootcamp in Tuscany
2024	Facultad de Economía y Negocios (FEN) - Universidad de Chile
	Centre d'économie de la Sorbonne (CES)
2023	1st research conference on the economics of sustainable development (World Bank)
	Centre d'études et de recherches sur le développement international (CERDI)

Academic Responsibilities

Since 2025	**Project Leader of the Junior laboratory GenIES on gender studies** - ENS de Lyon
Since 2024	**PhD Students' department and lab representative** - ENS de Lyon
2023 - 2024	**Organization of the Graduate Lunch Seminar in Economics** - ENS de Lyon

Research Training

2024	Virtual Course on "Key Concepts for Economies in Conflict and Fragile Settings" - ReCIPE CEPR
2023	PSE Summer school on Gender Economics - Paris School of Economics
2023	Oxford Large Language Models for Social Science Workshop - Oxford University

Mentorship

2026	Mentee of the Royal Economic Society Women's Committee Mentoring Programme
	Mentee for the EEA MinE Mentoring Program

Refereed journal articles for: Environment and Development Economics

GRANTS

PhD 3-year full scholarship, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon	*2022-2025*
Junior Laboratory grant, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon (3000€)	*2025-2027*
International mobility grant, Doctoral school (ED SEG) (500€)	*2025*
International mobility grant, Doctoral school (ED SEG) (1000€)	*2023*

TEACHING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching

2022 - Pres.

- Lecturer for Microeconomics: Imperfect Competition and Market Failures (20h) - CPES
- Lecturer for Topics in Economics research (4h) - Pre-master
- Teaching assistant in Microeconomics (14h) and Econometrics (14h) - Pre-master, Master 1
- Lecturer for Introduction to Stata (24h) - Master 1, CPES

Project Supervision

2025

- Co-Supervisor for the research thesis of 3 pre-master students (L3)

Consultant (STC) 2023 - 2024
World Bank

· Conducted statistical analyses to measure the impact of gendered water access and risks of political exclusion on gender based violence

Consultant (STC) Feb. 2023 - June 2023
World Bank

· Conducted statistical analyses to measure the impact of climate change on the link between groundwater and conflict

Research Assistant Summer 2021
Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon, for Mathieu Couttenier and Sophie Hatte

· Data cleaning and Empirical work for "Facebook and the political prospects of African Women" by *S. Hatte, J. Loper and T. Taylor*.

· Detection of African artisanal mining sites from Copernicus Satellite images using QGIS for "Mapping Artisanal and Small-Scale Mines at Large Scale from Space with Deep Learning" by *S.Di Rollo, L.Inguere, M.Mohand and L.Schmidt*.

SKILLS

Programming and software	Stata, R, QGIS, LaTex, Python (Web-scrapping, Text analysis...)
Languages	French (native), English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate)