

Tsenguunjav Byambasuren

(Last update: May 2026)

CONTACT	Trinity College Dublin Department of Economics 3158 Arts Building, College Green Dublin 2, Ireland	byambast@tcd.ie https://sites.google.com/view/tsenguunjavbyambasuren/
ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT	Trinity College Dublin , Dublin, Ireland Assistant Professor in Economics, 2025 – present	
EDUCATION	Cornell University , Ithaca, NY Ph.D. in Applied Economics and Management, 2019 – 2025 Dissertation: “Essays on Labor Market Power” Dissertation Committee: Nancy H. Chau (Chair), Arnab K. Basu, Michele Belot, Ravi Kanbur Dyson Best PhD Dissertation Award, Cornell University Cornell University , Ithaca, NY Master of Science in Applied Economics and Management, 2017 – 2019 University of Finance and Economics , Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia Bachelor of Science in Economics (with distinction), 2009 – 2013	
FIELDS	Labor Economics, Development Economics	
AFFILIATIONS	Trinity College Dublin, Trinity Impact Evaluation Unit (TIME) Affiliate Member, 2026 – present Monash University, Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (CEVAW) Research Affiliate, 2025 – present	
PUBLISHED PAPERS	“Cooking Fuel Choice and Child Mortality in India” (with Arnab K. Basu, Nancy H. Chau and Neha Khanna) <i>Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization</i> , 2024, 222: 240-265. Featured in Cornell Chronicle, The Hindu, The Times of India, Times Now, Press Trust of India, Medical Xpress George F. Warren Award for Outstanding Paper, Cornell University	
WORKING PAPERS	“Automation Threat and Labor Market Power” This paper studies the role of automation threat in firms’ labor market power. Employing the production approach, I show that workers in an average German manufacturer receive 79 cents on the marginal euro. Using automation threat proxied by local labor market regions’ exposure to industrial robots instrumented by plausibly exogenous shift-share factors, I find that robot exposure increases employer power over routine workers in areas with weaker unions in East Germany with spatial frictions. The empirical findings are consistent with the wage bargaining model where employers retain the “right-to-manage” their workforce composition and unions representing different workers separately bargain with the firm.	

“Alcohol Consumption and Intimate Partner Violence: Long-Term Effects of a Temporary Alcohol Ban” (with Arnab K. Basu and Nancy H. Chau), *Under Review*

We trace the impact of a temporary ban targeting liquor-serving bars – from launch to reversal – on alcohol consumption and women’s experience with domestic violence in Kerala, India. Decomposing the policy-induced and reversal effects by employing difference-in-differences and event-study approaches, we identify a significant reduction in alcohol consumption (but only in bars) with an accompanying reduction in intimate partner violence during the policy period. However, both alcohol consumption and domestic violence rebounded to pre-ban levels after the policy removal. Heterogeneity analysis further reveals these effects to be confined only amongst high-wealth households. A battery of robustness tests confirms our findings.

“Public Works Program, Labor Supply, and Monopsony” (with Nancy H. Chau and Vidhya Soundararajan)

This paper studies the role of changes in workforce composition in monopsony power. We develop a monopsony model in which a firm’s wage markdown—the wedge between MRPL and wage—is a weighted average of markdowns for heterogeneous workers. We empirically illustrate the theory using India’s National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), which generates non-manufacturing jobs in rural areas. Consistent with the model predictions, at manufacturing firms, we find that the program increases average markdowns by crowding out mobile workers and effectively increasing the share of immobile workers with low labor supply elasticity.

“Artisanal Mining, Female Labor Supply, and Intimate Partner Violence” (with Anh Nguyen)

This paper uses micro data from over 30 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa to present nearly continent-wide evidence that the rise in the potential value of artisanal mining leads to a structural transformation from the agricultural to the non-agricultural sectors. Leveraging spatial variation in gold suitability and exogenous temporal variation in global gold prices, we show that employment activities in the mining and retail industries increase more for women than men. An increase in women’s intrahousehold bargaining power results in a decrease in violence within the household, ruling out a potential backlash effect.

RESEARCH IN
PROGRESS

“Capital Market Integration, Labor Market Distortions, and Labor Misallocation” (with Nancy H. Chau, Anh Nguyen and Vidhya Soundararajan)

“Services Liberalization, Monopsony, and Gender” (with Anh Nguyen)

“Gold Mining, Child Labor, and Education” (with Anh Nguyen)

“The Effects of Extreme Heat on Gender Gap in Labor Supply” (with Avralt-Od Purevjav and William Seitz)

DISCUSSIONS

2024 NEUDC Conference Discussant: “Global Labor Market Power” by Amodio, Brancati, Brummund, de Roux, and Di Maio

2023 MWIEDC Conference Discussant: “Family Planning and the Female Labor Supply: Evidence from Urban Malawi” by Karra, Maggio, and Canning

POLICY
WORK

“Leveraging Geospatial Techniques and Publicly Available Datasets to Develop a Cost-Effective, Digitized National Sampling Frame: A Case Study of Armenia”

(with Saida Ismailkhunova, Avralt-Od Purevjav and Sarchil Qader)

ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information, 2026, 15(4): 145.

Featured in Devdiscourse

“Listening to Georgia and Armenia: Baseline and Phone Surveys and Analyses”

(with Saida Ismailakhunova, Avralt-Od Purevjav and others)

“Poverty and Equity Assessment for Georgia”

(with Saida Ismailakhunova and others)

“Distributional Impact of Energy Tariff Reforms in the Republic of Georgia”

(with Saida Ismailakhunova, Avralt-Od Purevjav and Juan Carlos Palacios Mora)

PRESENTATIONS 2027: LERA@ASSA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC (scheduled)

2026: ASSA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Irish Postgraduate and Early Career Economics Workshop at Maynooth University, Trinity College Dublin, Irish Economic Association Annual Conference, World Inequality Conference at Paris School of Economics (scheduled), Barcelona School of Economics Summer Forum (scheduled), EEA Annual Meeting at University College Dublin (scheduled), Aarhus University (scheduled)

2025: ASSA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, University of Georgia, 16th IAB PhD Workshop in Nuremberg, UNU-WIDER Development Conference in Helsinki, Trinity College Dublin, 6th World Labor Conference in Toronto, 11th Conference of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ) at the World Bank, Work in Progress Seminar at Trinity College Dublin (x2)

2024: STEG Annual Conference at NYU Abu Dhabi, MWIEDC Conference at the University of Chicago, SOLE Annual Meeting in Portland OR, Online Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society, EEA-ESEM Annual Meeting at Erasmus School of Economics, EALE Conference at Norwegian School of Economics, AEP Seminar at Cornell University, NEUDC Conference at Northeastern University

2023: PacDev Conference at the University of Washington, MWIEDC Conference at the University of Houston, 24th IZA Summer School in Labor Economics in Berlin

2022: WEAI Annual Conference in Portland OR, APPAM Fall Research Conference in Washington DC, 17th Annual Conference at Indian Statistical Institute

PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES

Referee Service:

Journal of Population Economics, Review of Economics of the Household

University/Departmental Services:

Incoming Exchange Coordinator for Economics, 2026 – present

PhD Economics Admission Committee, Trinity College Dublin, 2025 – 2026

MSc Economics Admission Committee, Trinity College Dublin, 2025 – 2026

Undergraduate Best Capstone Project Selection Committee, Trinity College Dublin, 2025 – 2026

Professional Association Membership:

American Economic Association, Member, 2024 – present

European Economic Association, Member, 2024 – present

The Econometric Society, Member, 2023 – 2025

Cornell Center for Social Sciences, Affiliated Student, 2023 – 2025

Cornell University, Diversity in Cornell Economics (DICE), General Member, 2022 – 2025

STUDENT
ADVISING

Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

MSc Economics Thesis:

Ongoing: Leena Osman

Undergraduate Economics Thesis:

Shayna Arbab, Saorla Chadwick, Laoise Clifford, Elaine Farnan, Alexandra Lockard, Aine Marnane

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS	Cornell Graduate School Conference Travel Grant (x5)	2022 – 2025
	IAB PhD Workshop Travel Grant, Germany	2025
	Graduate Fellowship, Dyson School, Cornell	2019, 2024
	EEA Travel Grant, European Economic Association	2024
	Dyson Graduate Teaching Assistant – Outstanding Service Award, Cornell	2024
	Graduate Teaching Assistant Fellowship, Dyson School, Cornell	2020 – 2024
	Graduate Assistant Fellowship, Dyson School, Cornell	2020 – 2023
	Summer Internship Grant (declined), CIPA, Cornell	2018
	Tuition Fellowship, Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA), Cornell	2017 – 2018
	Dean’s List, University of Finance and Economics, Mongolia	2010 – 2012
	TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Trinity College Dublin , Dublin, Ireland
Econometrics I (MSc in Economics, ECP77001)		Fall 2026
Introduction to Microeconomics (MSc in Economics, ECP77003)		Fall 2026
Intermediate Economics B (Undergraduate, ECU22012)		Spring 2026
Introduction to Economic Policy B (Undergraduate, ECU11034)		Spring 2026
Economics Capstone (Undergraduate Thesis, ECU44100)		2025 – 2026
Quantitative Methods for Economics I (MSc in Economic Policy, ECP77211)		Fall 2025
Cornell University , Ithaca, NY		
International Trade and Finance (Undergraduate, AEM/ECON 2300)		
Coordinating Teaching Assistant to Professor Arnab K. Basu		Spring 2025
Teaching Assistant to Professor Arnab K. Basu		Spring 2022-2024
Teaching Assistant to Professor David R. Lee		Spring 2021
Introduction to Macroeconomic Theory and Policy (Undergraduate, AEM 1300)		Summer 2024/2025
Coordinating Teaching Assistant to Professor Arnab K. Basu		
Applied Managerial Economics (Undergraduate, AEM 4100)		Fall 2022/2023
Teaching Assistant to Professor Terry Alexander		
Research and Methods (Master of Professional Studies, AEM 6991)	Fall 2021	
Teaching Assistant to Professors Mark Conostas, Aija Leiponen, Daniela Scur		
Consumer Behavior (Undergraduate, AEM 3440)	Fall 2020	
Teaching Assistant to Professor Alison Shields		
OTHER EMPLOYMENT	Consultant, Poverty and Equity Group, The World Bank	2023 – present
	Research Assistant to Professor Nancy H. Chau	2018, 2023, 2025
	Research Assistant to Professor Arnab K. Basu	2022
	Research Assistant to Professor Eswar Prasad	2019
	Summer Intern, Global Indicators Group, The World Bank	2019
	Economist, Research and Statistics Department, Central Bank of Mongolia	2013 – 2017