

GERGELY UJHELYI
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Professor of Economics
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EMPLOYMENT

Economics Department, University of Houston, 2007-present
Associate Professor, 2014-2023; Assistant Professor, 2007-2014

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, Harvard University, 2007. Dissertation chair: Elhanan Helpman

MA in Economics, Central European University, 2002

MSc in Economics, Budapest University of Economics, 2001. Thesis advisor: Ferenc Forgó
Rajk College for Advanced Studies, member 1997-2002

PUBLICATIONS

A. Szabó and G. Ujhelyi (2024): “National Parks and Economic Development,” *Journal of Public Economics* 232, 105073.

J.G. Forand, G. Ujhelyi, and M. Ting (2023): “Bureaucrats and Policies in Equilibrium Administrations,” *Journal of the European Economic Association* 21(3), 815-863 (*Lead article*)

J.G. Forand and G. Ujhelyi (2021): “Don't Hatch The Messenger? On the Desirability of Restricting the Political Activity of Bureaucrats,” *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 33(1), 95-139.

G. Ujhelyi, S. Chatterjee, and A. Szabó (2021): “None Of The Above: Protest Voting in the World's Largest Democracy” *Journal of the European Economic Association* 19(3):1936–1979.

D. Bostashvili and G. Ujhelyi (2019): “Political Budget Cycles and the Civil Service: Evidence from Highway Spending in US States,” *Journal of Public Economics* 175, 17-28.

- A. Szabó and G. Ujhelyi (2017): “Choice and Happiness in South Africa,” *Economics Letters* 155, 28-30.
- A. Szabó and G. Ujhelyi (2015): “Reducing Nonpayment for Public Utilities: Experimental Evidence from South Africa,” *Journal of Development Economics* 117, 20-31.
- G. Ujhelyi (2014): “Civil Service Reform,” *Journal of Public Economics* 118, 15-25.
- G. Ujhelyi (2014): “Civil Service Rules and Policy Choices: Evidence from US State Governments,” *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 6(2), 338-380.
- D. Donchev and G. Ujhelyi (2014): “What Do Corruption Indices Measure?” *Economics & Politics* 26(2), 309-331.
- C. Juhn, G. Ujhelyi, and C. Villegas-Sanchez (2014): “Men, Women, and Machines: How Trade Impacts Gender Inequality,” *Journal of Development Economics* 106, 179-193.
- C. Juhn, G. Ujhelyi, and C. Villegas-Sanchez (2013): “Trade Liberalization and Gender Inequality,” *American Economic Review (Papers & Proceedings)*, 103(3): 269–273.
- E.L. Glaeser and G. Ujhelyi (2010): “Regulating Misinformation,” *Journal of Public Economics* 94(3-4), 247-257. Reprinted in S.P. Anderson (ed.): *Recent Developments in the Economics of Advertising*, Edward Elgar, 2016.
- G. Ujhelyi (2009): “Campaign Finance Regulation with Competing Interest Groups,” *Journal of Public Economics* 93(3-4), 373-391.
- P. Fredriksson, E. Neumayer, and G. Ujhelyi (2007): “Kyoto Protocol Cooperation: Does Government Corruption Facilitate Environmental Lobbying?” *Public Choice* 133(1-2), 231-51.
- In Hungarian*
- G. Ujhelyi (2017): “The Effect of Civil Service Rules on Government Expenditures,” *Hungarian Economic Review* 64(September), 885-914.
- G. Ujhelyi (2002): “Endowment Game and Optimal Total Quantity in Artificial Markets,” *Sigma - Hungarian Journal of Mathematical Economics* 33(1-2), 69-99.
- G. Ujhelyi (1999): “Welfare Effects of the Diffusion of a Pollution Reducing Innovation,” *Hungarian Economic Review* 46(December), 1059-1075.

WORKING PAPERS

“Do Parties and Voters Disagree? An Equilibrium Analysis of Candidate Selection in India,” with Arvind Magesan and Andrea Szabó. Conditionally accepted at *Econometrica*

“All the President’s Money: Market Concentration, Oligarchs and Sanctions under Crony Capitalism,” with Péter Kondor

“Evaluating Industry Impacts and Externalities of the US National Park System,” with Andrea Szabó

“Political Screening: Theory and Evidence from the Argentine Public Sector,” with Ernesto Calvo

“Family Financing and Aggregate Manufacturing Productivity in Ghana,” with Andrea Szabó

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate: Political economy, Game theory

PhD: Political economy, Microeconomic theory II, Third year research workshop

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Geeconomics and Political Economy in the Alps workshop, Villars-sur-Ollon, Switzerland (2026)

Caltech, Political Economy Seminar (2025)

Canadian Public Economics Group, Queen’s University (2023)

European Economic Association, Barcelona (2023)

North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society, UCLA (2023)

European Journal of Political Economy Conference, George Mason University (2023)

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Economics Department (2022)

NBER Environmental Economics Summer Institute (2021)

Political Institutions and Political Economy conference, USC (2019)

University of Calgary, Economics Department (2019)

NBER Law and Economics Summer Institute (2018)

Banff Empirical Microeconomics Workshop, University of Calgary (2018, 2016)

Keynote Lecture, Hungarian Society of Economics Annual Conference (2016)

STATA Empirical Microeconomics Conference, Texas A&M (2016)

Wallis Institute Conference on Political Economy, University of Rochester (2016)

Columbia University, Political Economy Seminar (2016)

University of Oxford, Economics Department (2015)

Midwest International Economic Development Conference, University of Minnesota (2014)

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL (2014)

NBER Political Economy Program Meeting (2013)

Public Choice Society, New Orleans, LA (2013)

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Provost's Certificate of Excellence, University of Houston, 2014
Water Research Commission, South Africa, research grant (with Andrea Szabó), 2012
W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research grant, 2011
University of Houston: CLASS Grant, 2018, 2011; Small Grants Program, 2010; New Faculty Research Grant, 2010
Pre-doctoral Fellow, Environmental Economics Program at Harvard University, 2002-2007
Harvard University: Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2006; Graduate Student Fellowship, 2002-03
Archimedes Prize of the European Commission for original undergraduate research in "Mathematical Modeling for the Social Sciences," 2001
Kardos Award of the Rajk College for community service and academic achievements, 2001

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Academic journals

Guest editor (with Jon Eguia), *Economics of Governance*, Special issue on Elections, 2026
Associate editor, *Economics & Politics*, 2017-2022
Guest editor (with Jon Eguia), *Games*, Special issue on Political Economy and Game Theory, 2015
Referee for leading journals in economics and political science, including *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *American Economic Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Econometrica*, *Economic Journal*, *International Economic Review*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of International Economics*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Review of Economics and Statistics* and others

Other

Reviewer: National Science Foundation, European Research Council
Co-organizer: 20th Midwest International Economic Development Conference, 2023
Co-organizer: University of Houston Political Economy Conference, 2017
Coordinator: Texas Economic Theory Camp, 2012-present
Technical editor and foreword to the Hungarian translation of T. Besley: *Principled Agents? The Political Economy of Good Government* [Alinea, Budapest, 2012]

DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Economics PhD Program Director, 2024-present
Economics PhD admissions: Director, 2023-2024; Committee member, 2021-2023

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Faculty Governance Advisory Committee, 2022-2024
Economics PhD Comprehensive Examination Committee, 2007-2022
Economics Department Executive Committee, 2018-2021
Economics Department Recruiting Committee co-chair, 2017-2018
Hobby School of Public Policy Recruiting Committee, 2016-2017
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Research Committee, 2014-2015

PERSONAL INFORMATION, ETC.

Born: 1977, Budapest, Hungary. Married. US / Hungarian citizen.

Languages: Hungarian, English, French, Spanish.

Hobbies: horses, mountains