

Roger Fernandez-Urbano

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2025 – present **CENTRE FOR DEMOGRAPHIC STUDIES & AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA** (Barcelona, SP) – Department of Sociology | **Research Fellow** – Mentor: Prof. P. Gracia
Methods: Digital Social Research; Time Use; Randomized Controlled Trials; Mixed Methods
- 01-12/ 2024 **PARIS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS** (Paris, FR) – Wellbeing Observatory
Visiting Research Scholar. Invited by Prof. C. Senik
- 2021 – 2023 **UNIVERSITY OF LUXEMBOURG** (Luxembourg, LX) – Dpt of Social Sciences
Post-doctoral Research Fellow in Sociology & Lecturer
Mentor: Prof. R. Samuel | Methods: panel data & multilevel analyses, experimental
Data Cleaning & Management | Regular dissemination of results, policy briefs and reports to
Government of Luxembourg – Ministry of Education, Children & Youth

EDUCATION

- 2016 – 2021 **EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE** (Florence, IT) – Dpt of Political and Social Sciences
*PhD Defense: **Ph.D.** Thesis: *Individual Perceptions of Labour Market Opportunities and Subjective Well-being*.
28/05/2021 Supervisor: Prof. K. Gërzhani | Methods: experimental, panel data & multilevel analyses.
- 2017 **EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE** (Florence, IT) – Dpt of Political and Social Sciences
Master of Research (MRes) in Social Sciences
Focus: Economic Sociology/ Social Policy/ Well-being/Labor Markets/Quantitative Analysis
- 2014 – 2016 **THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK** (Coventry, UK) – Dpt of Sociology
(part-time) **Master of Arts (MA) in Social Policy**
Focus: European Social Policy/ Well-being/ Labour Markets/ Qualitative Analysis/
Master Thesis: *Danish Active Labour Market Policies through the lens of the capability approach*
Supervisors: Prof. N. Whiteside; Prof. N. Gane
- 2012 – 2013 **BARCELONA GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS** (Barcelona, SP)
Master of Science (MSc) in Specialized Economic Analysis
Focus: Public Policy and Economics/Policy Evaluation/Econometrics
Master Thesis: *Equality of Opportunity and its effect on Happiness*
Supervisors: Prof. A. Ferrer-i-Carbonell; Prof. C. Calsamiglia
- 2006 – 2011 **UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA** (Barcelona, SP) & **UNIVERSITY OF LUND** (Lund, SE; 09-10)
Bachelor of Science in Economics (4-year Program *Licenciatura*) *Degree issued in 22/02/2012
Focus: Macroeconomics and Microeconomics/Political Economy

Academic Visiting & Research Stays:

- 02-05/2025 **UNIVERSITY OF PAVIA** (Pavia, IT) – Department of Political and Social Science.
Research Associate Fellow. Mentor: Prof. N. Kulic
- 09-12/2019 **LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS** (London, UK) – European Institute
(Michaelmas) Visiting Research Fellow. Invited by Prof. W. Schelkle
- 03-04/2019 **UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA EAST STROUDSBURG** (Pennsylvania, U.S.)
Dpt. of Political Science & Economics. Visiting Research Fellow. Invited by Prof. L. J. Eliasson
- 10-11/2015 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN DENMARK** (Odense, DK) – Centre of Welfare State Research
Visiting Research Fellow. Invited by Prof. K. Petersen

RESEARCH FIELDS

*(Micro)-Economic Sociology, Subjective Well-being, Social Inequalities, Perceptions, Social Policy, Labour Market; Social Life

* Panel Data Analysis, Field Experiments, Multi-level Analysis, Digital Social Research, Time Use; Comparative Research; Qualitative Interviews; Mixed Methods; Randomized Controlled Trials

PUBLICATIONS

Books and edited volumes

[14] **“Encyclopedia of Happiness, Quality of Life and Subjective Wellbeing”** (with Hilke Brockmann). Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781800889675>;

- Presented at ISQOLS 2023 Conference (Rotterdam) & ISQOLS Webinar (April 2024).
- Description available: [link](#).

[13] **“Individual Perceptions of Labour Market Opportunities and Subjective Well-being”** (2021), Ph.D. Thesis, European University Institute, Department of Political and Social Sciences, Florence: Cadmus, European University Institute Research Repository, at: <https://hdl.handle.net/1814/71515>

Book chapters

[12] **“Social Life and Subjective Well-being in Spain”** Chapter in: Casas, F. and González-Carrasco, M. (Eds). *“Quality of Life in Spain”*. Forthcoming, in Michalos A. (Coordinator) “Social Indicators Research Series”. Springer Cham.

[11] **“The new scenarios of globalization. (In)sustainability in the production and consumption of clothing in Europe”** (with J. Navarro, A. Trinidad Requena and R. Soriano).

Chapter in: Moldes-Anaya, S; Soriano Miras, R. Ma. and Koff, H. (Eds.) *“Migration, Inclusiveness and Sustainability”*. Forthcoming, London: Routledge

- Presented at Migration, Inclusiveness & Sustainability Workshop (University of Granada, 22-23 February 2023)

[10] **“The Economics of Happiness Research”** Chapter in *“Encyclopedia of Happiness, Quality of Life and Subjective Wellbeing.”* Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing.

<https://doi.org/10.4337/9781800889675.00009> Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4274847>

- Listed on SSRN's Top Ten download list for: Sociology; Economic Sociology; History of Economics; Philosophy & Methodology of Economics; Social Psychology (Jan–March 2023)

International peer-reviewed journal articles (*solo or first author*)

[9] **“How Perceptions of Labour Market Opportunities Predicts Happiness: Evidence from Natural Field Experiments”** Accepted for publication at *Frontiers in Sociology* (*forthcoming*).

[8] **“Subjective School Experience and Well-Being during the COVID-19 among the Youth”** (with Robin Samuel and Guido Salza). *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 2025. Vol 26 (14) <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-024-00839-3>

[7] **“How Locus of Control Predicts Subjective Well-being and its Inequality: The Moderating Role of Social Values”** (with Vicente Royuela). *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 2024. Vol 25, pp.117. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-024-00821-z>

[6] **“Dancing in the Dark: Social Life and Subjective Well-being in Times of Economic Prosperity and Crisis”**. *Social Indicators Research*, 2024. Vol 172, pp.831–857. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-024-03311-0>

- Discussed in Well-being Observatory Blog Paris School of Economics (*forthcoming*).
- Discussed in [Catalan Economic Society Blog](#).

[5] **“Youth’s Perceived Coping with the COVID-19 Pandemic and Subjective Well-Being: The moderating role of Subjective Social Status”** (with Robin Samuel). *Social Indicators Research*, 2024. Vol 172, pp.803–830. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-024-03307-w>

- Policy brief available at: <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/VUFN9>

[4] **“No Voice, No Choice: Assessing Danish Active Labour Market Policies Using Sen’s Capability Approach”** (with Michael Orton). *Work, Employment and Society*, 2021. Vol 35(1), pp.178-188. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0950017020935323>

[3] **“Requiem for a Dream: Perceived Economic Conditions and Subjective Well-Being in Times of Prosperity and Economic Crisis”** (with Nevena Kulic) *Social Indicators Research*, 2020. Vol 151(3), pp.793-813. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-020-02404-w>

*** Scientific Reports**

[2] **Report prepared for the Government of Luxembourg:**

“Young People and Covid-19 II: Evolution 2020 to 2021, Vaccination Willingness, and Impact of the Pandemic. Preliminary Results of a Representative Survey of Adolescents and Young Adults in Luxembourg” (2022) (with Lea Schomaker, Caroline Residori and Robin Samuel). University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg. <http://dx.doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/4RVHG>

[1] **Report prepared for Zurich Insurance Group:**

“Mapping Income Protection Gaps. A Global Perspective” (2015) (with Noel Whiteside, Sarah McGill and Peiqi Deng). Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment. University of Oxford. UK.

Manuscripts under review (*first author unless specified*)

“Females Welcome? A Comparison of the Effect of Gender-specific Immigration on the Subjective Well-being of German and Spanish Local People” (with Hilke Brockmann; *second author*). **R & R** at *Journal of Economic Psychology*

Available at SSRN: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4383058>

- Listed as SSRN’s Top Ten download list for Political Behavior, Sociology, Social Psychology (April–June 2023).
- First Draft Presented at the 40th Congress of the German Society for Sociology (Sept. 2020).

“Youth’s Eco-Anxiety is related to Happiness but not to Life Satisfaction: The Moderating Role of Proximity to Extreme Weather Events” (with Robin Samuel and Hamid Bulut). **R & R** at *Journal of Happiness Studies*

- Presented at ISQOLS 2023 Conference (22-25 August, Rotterdam); STATEC Measuring Progress Annual Workshop 2023 (2–3 June 2023, Luxembourg); Centre for Childhood and Youth Research Fall & Winter Meeting 2022. University of Luxembourg (December 2021).
- Presented at the Luxembourg Ministry of Education, Children and Youth (5 June 2023)

“The Vulnerable Rich? Coping with the COVID-19 Pandemic and Mental Health Among Youth” (with Robin Samuel). Submitted at *Journal of Youth Studies*

- Presented at Centre for Childhood and Youth Research Fall & Winter Meeting 2021. University of Luxembourg (December 2021).

“Stayin’ Alive: Unemployment and Life Satisfaction in Times of Economic Prosperity and Crisis”
Submitted at *European Sociological Review*.

Manuscripts in Preparation

“The Social Cost of Informality in Russia: A Well-being Approach” (with Ekaterina Korneeva).
In progress. To be submitted in August 2025 at the *Journal of Happiness Studies*.

“How Happiness and its Inequality predict Preferences for Redistribution: A Global South and Global North Analysis” (with Nevena Kulic). *In progress*.

“Understanding How Ecosystem Services Perception Shape Well-Being Outcomes” (with Robin Samuel). *In progress*.

“Recognition, Social Capital and Subjective Well-being” (with Francis Munier and Francesco Sarracino). *In progress*.

Books in Preparation

“Social Media & Happiness: Implications for Public Policy”. *In progress (early stage)*. Social Indicators Research Series. Springer Cham.

Divulagation Book: “The Extraordinary Stories of a Happiness Researcher”. *In Progress*.

OTHER ACADEMIC PROFESIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015 – 2016	UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA (Barcelona, SP) – Dpt of International Economy & Law Teaching Fellow of European Integration Mentor: Prof. P. García-Durán Huet		
2013 – 2014	Full courses as <i>sole</i> lecturer. The position also involved: mentoring students; preparing/grading exams, administrative tasks, preparation of departmental workshops; part-time PhD research in 15/16		
03–10/2015	UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD (Oxford, UK) – Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment Assistant Researcher for Prof. G.L. Clark and Prof. N. Whiteside Research Project: <i>Income Protection Gap (Report for Zurich Ass.)</i>		
07–12/2013	COPERFIELD FOR SOCIAL GOOD (Barcelona, SP & Bogotá, CL) – Policy Report for <i>Dirección Nacional Planeamiento</i> (Government of Colombia). Social-science researcher on project to review the metrics to measure subjective well-being for policy purposes: ‘ <i>Propuesta para la medición del progreso y bienestar en Colombia a partir de las personas</i> ’. Supervisor: Prof. P. Gallo		
2011 – 2012	UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA (Barcelona, SP) Assistant Researcher at Dpt. of Economic History & Economic Institutions; Dpt. of International Economy & Law; Dpt. of Economic Policy & World Economic Structure		

AWARDS & FUNDING

Date	Award	Award Giver	Description
2024	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Seal of Excellence	European Commission	Seal of Excellence awarded to acknowledge the distinctive merit of the AGEWELL grant proposal.
2021 – 2023	Postdoctoral Research Funding	University & Government of Luxembourg	Four separate grants awarded, on grounds of merit to fund research conferences & activities. Taken together these total €3.390,12.
2016 – 2020	Doctoral Grant Salvador de Madariaga	Spanish Government & European University Institute	Doctoral Fellowship “Salvador de Madariaga” awarded on grounds of merit by the Spanish Government (4-Year Scholarship). First place among all applicants. First three years grant are funded by the Spanish government with the remaining final year grant funded by the EUI itself (€70.000).

2017 – 2020	Doctoral Research Mission Grant (x4)	EUI, Department of Political and Social Sciences	Four separate grants awarded, on grounds of merit, to fund research trips across Europe (to Spain and to the UK) and the U.S. in 2019. Combined these grants totaled €2.200 (individually ranging from €300 to €1.100, dependent on needs).
2018 – 2020	Departmental Conference Mission Grant (x2)	EUI, Department of Political and Social Sciences	Grants awarded, on grounds of merit, to fund the presentation of my research at overseas conferences. Taken together these total €1.000.
2019	Erasmus+ Scholarship	European Commission	Scholarship awarded, on grounds of merit, to fund my visiting research at the LSE (€910)
2015 – 2016	Research Mission Grant	The University of Warwick, Dpt. of Sociology	Grant awarded, on grounds of merit, to fund research trip to Denmark (€1.200).
2014	Departmental Mission Grant	University of Barcelona	Grant awarded, on grounds of merit, to attend the Second Plus Europe Conference in the Committee of the Regions, Brussels (€230 & accommodation).
2014	Plus Europe Youth Forum Scholarship	Plus Europe Association	Grant awarded, on grounds of merit, to attend the X International Congress of Emotional Education, Positive Psychology and Wellbeing (€400).
2012	Caixa Catalunya Scholarship	Catalunya Caixa & Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Grant offered, on grounds of merit, to pursue the Master's Degree in Political Science at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (€2.907).
2009 – 2010	Erasmus Grant	European Commission & University of Barcelona	Grants awarded, on grounds of merit, to pursue my undergraduate studies at the School of Economics, University of Lund during the whole academic year 2009-2010. Combined these grants totaled (€2.300).

INVITED LECTURES

2025	Sorbonne Alliance Wellbeing Seminar; Sorbonne-Nouvelle University and Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Paris, France (17 th October).
2025	Two Guest Lectures. Department of Political and Social Sciences. University of Pavia, Pavia, Italy (6 th March).
2024	Sociology Seminar. Department of Sociology. University of Barcelona; Barcelona, Spain (2nd December).
2024	Bureau of Theoretical and Applied Economics (BETA) Seminar of the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS); University of Strasbourg, France (22 November).
2024	International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS) Seminar; <i>Online</i> (17 April).
2022	Guest Lecture. Department of Sociology. University of Bremen (Jacobs University); Bremen, Germany (22 March).

CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS & SEMINARS*selected

2025	ISQOLS Winter Virtual Conference (<i>Online</i> ; 27-28 February); 4 th Catalan Economic Society Congress (Barcelona, 9-10 May); ISQOLS 2025 Annual Conference (Luxembourg, 22-25 July)
2024	7 th OECD World Forum on Well-being (Rome, 4-6 November); STATEC Measuring Progress Annual Workshop 2024 (Luxembourg; 6-7 June); Behavior Work Group (Paris School of Economics; 5 April); OECD Conference: New Frontiers in Subjective Well-being Measures (Paris, March); Migration, Inclusiveness & Sustainability Workshop (University of Granada, 22-23 February 2024); Paris 2024 Well-being Conference (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle & Panthéon Sorbonne; 25-27 January).
2022/23	ISQOLS 2023 Conference (Rotterdam); STATEC Measuring Progress Annual Workshop 2023 (Luxembourg), VII Session Social Investment Working Group (Invited as discussant, EUI); RC28 International Sociological Association. Annual Spring Meeting (LSE); STATEC Well-being 2022 Conference (Luxembourg) Centre for Childhood and Youth Research Fall & Winter Meeting 2022. University of Luxembourg (December 2022)
2020/21	Oxwell Seminar, Wellbeing Research Centre (Oxford University) (<i>postponed due to COVID-19</i>); Max Weber Programme Multidisciplinary Research Workshop (EUI); Experimental Working Group Seminar (EUI); 40th Congress of the German Society for Sociology
2019	Wellbeing Seminar, Centre for Economic Performance (LSE); European Institute Seminar (LSE); Experimental Working Group Seminar (EUI); International Conference “The Social Structure of Subjective Well-Being” (University of Luxembourg). Department of Political Science and Economics (University of Pennsylvania East Stroudsburg)
Until 2018	Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies International Conference (University of Milano-Bicocca); Fifth International Meeting on Experimental and Behavioral Social Sciences (EUI); Experimental Working Group Seminar (EUI); Demography Seminar (University of Florence); The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (EUI); NordWell Summer School 2016. Centre for Welfare Research (University of Southern Denmark); Sociology Seminar (The University of Warwick); School of Cultures and Societies (University of Leeds); X International Congress of Positive Psychology (University of Barcelona); 2 nd Plus Europe: Civic Participation in Governance. Youth Forum of Europe (Brussels); Economic History and Institutions Seminar (University of Barcelona); Summer School in International Politics 2011 (Prof. Carles Boix, Princeton University - IBEI).

SERVICE

Reviewer

American Sociological Review (x 2); *Social Indicators Research*; *Journal of Happiness Studies* (x 5); *Work, Employment & Society*; *Social Science Research, Youth & Society*; *BMC Psychology*; *Personality and Individual Differences*

PhD Admission Committee Member

European University Institute, Dpt. Political and Social Sciences (2018–2019)

Interviewer: ISQOLS 30th Anniversary Interview to Prof. Alex Michalos. Theme “ISQOLS Impact: Ethics, Wellbeing, Social Indicators, Academic and Public Policy.”

Conference and Seminar Organizer–Administrator: As Vice-President of the ISQOLS Executive Committee, I played a key role in organizing, coordinating and serving as chairperson/discussant for the ISQOLS 2025 Webinar Series & the ISQOLS 2025 Winter Virtual Conference.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

Modules Taught

PhD Program (Social Sciences, Sociology and Psychology)
2022 – 2023 **Current Topics in Well-Being Research** (2 groups) (University of Luxembourg).
Language: English

Undergraduate (Economics & Business Administration)
2015 – 2016 **European Integration** (2 groups) (University of Barcelona, Years 3 & 4)
Language: English and Spanish.
2013 – 2014 **European Integration** (University of Barcelona, Year 3). Language: Spanish.

Training

2019 **Teacher Training in Higher Education Certificate** (awarded by the European University Institute in collaboration with the UCL Institute of Education)
2015 – 2016 **I Year – Master in University Teaching Methodologies** (ICE; University of Barcelona)
2009 **Oratory Certificate**. Xavier Soto School

LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Date	Organization	Description
2025 – 2026 Academic year	International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies	Executive Committee Vice-President. The core purpose of this role is to assist in organizing and attending webinar series, facilitating Q&A sessions, as well as help coordinating and planning conferences and serve as a chairperson/discussant.
2017 – 2018 Academic year	European University Institute	Researcher Representative for the Dpt. of Political and Social Sciences. This role was elected and paid, its core purpose is to represent researchers on the numerous committees and governing bodies of the Institute (Entrance Board, Academic Council, Departmental Meetings)
2014 – 2015 Academic year	The University of Warwick	Elected Representative of Postgraduate Students to attend the regular sessions of the Student Liaison Committee Meeting of the Sociology Department. My main role consisted on the presentation of proposals to improve the University services and attention to students.
2008 – 2011 2 Academic years	University of Barcelona	Elected Student Representative to attend the regular sessions of the Academic Board of the Faculty of Economics. Presentation of proposals to improve the University services. On leave for Erasmus 2009/10.

DISSEMINATION, MEDIA EXPERIENCE & OUTREACH PUBLICATIONS *selected

2023 – 2024 ISQOLS 30th Anniversary Interview to Prof. Alex Michalos; Invited talk Margarita Tarragona Podcast ‘Psicología y Felicidad’([available on Spotify](#)); [Catalan Economic Society Blog](#). Dissemination Lectures at El Club de la Felicidad (Belab: LATAM & Spanish audience); Paris School of Economics Blog; University of Luxembourg Policy Briefs (x3)

2022 [Happiness and how to stay happy in a modern world](#). Interviewed for Blog of the National Bank of Luxembourg (Government Bank). 31/12/2022

2020 – ongoing **YouTube Channel** “[La Economía de la Felicidad](#)” with the aim of disseminating academic research on the economics and policies of happiness (e.g. [Interview to Prof. Carol Graham](#)). Interviewed at [Wellbeing Program “Conversations with Pijama”](#), [Belab](#), and [Seneca Culture Centre](#) to talk about my research on the “economics of happiness” (in Spanish)

Until 2017 Media article: [“No digas que fué un sueño”](#) in *Si me quieres Escribir* (online newspaper);
Media article: [“Spanish Perspective on 2014 European Parliament Elections: Views from across Europe”](#) in *Bulletin on European and CIS Studies*. Special Edition, Page 36.;
Media article: [“Challenges for Civic Participation in European Democratic Governance”](#).
Youth Forum of Europe.

LANGUAGES

Spanish and **Catalan** (mother tongue) – **English** (fluent) – **Italian** (basic)

REFERENCES

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