### Viktor Malein

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Personal website
Citizenship: Russia

RESEARCH INTERESTS Primary fields: Applied Economics, Economic History.

Secondary fields: Health.

EDUCATION U

#### University of Southern Denmark.

PhD in Economics, (expected completion in February 2022).

Advisors: Philipp Ager, Ph.D and Francesco Cinnirella, Ph.D.

#### New Economic School, Moscow.

M.S., Master of Arts in Economics (MAE), 2018.

Master Thesis Topic: The Economic Legacy of German Minorities of the Russian

Empire (with honors).

Advisors: Andrey Markevich, Ph.D and Gunes Gokmen, Ph.D.

#### Volga Regional Academy of Civil Service, Saratov.

B.S., Public Administration, 2007, summa cum laude.

References

# Professor Philipp Ager Professor Francesco Cinnirella

University of Mannheim
Philipp.ager@uni-mannheim.de

University of Bergamo francesco.cinnirella@unibg.it

### Professor Andrey Markevich

New Economic School amarkevich@nes.ru

### Professor Steven Nafziger

Williams College snafzige@williams.edu

## Professor Karol Jan Borowiecki

University of Southern Denmark

kjb@sam.sdu.dk

Relevant Positions 2018-2019: **Research Associate**, Laboratory of infrastructure and spatial analysis, Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA), Moscow.

#### Research Assistant:

2018-2019: Professor Andrei Markevich, New Economic School. 2019: Professor Michele Valsecchi, New Economic School. 2017-2018: Professor Gunes Gokmen, New Economic School. 2017: Professor Doug Campbell, New Economic School.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Teaching Assistant:

Spring 2020: Macroeconomics for Business Management (undergrad), SDU. Fall 2019: Introduction to Business and Economic History (undergrad), SDU.

Spring 2019: Labor Economics (graduate), New Economic School. Fall 2018: Health Economics (graduate), New Economic School.

2007-2012: Principles of Economics (undergrad), RANEPA Volga region branch.

**Instructor:** 

2012-2016: Principles of Economics (undergrad), RANEPA Volga region branch.

Presentations

Seminars 2021:

UC Davis, LMU Munich, Brown University, Lund University, University of Vienna.

Conferences & Workshops:

Workshop in the Economic History and Historical Political Economy of Russia, Chicago, December 16-17, 2021.

14th Swedish Economic History Meeting, Gothenburg, 7-9 October 2021.

YSI Economic History Seminar 13 May 2021.

The rise of education in historical perspective (online workshop), 2 March 2021.

Sex Ratios and Missing Girls in History (online seminar), 20 January 2021.

Copenhagen University, MEHR/AE Workshop, Copenhagen, 18 December 2019.

Paris School of Economics, European Historical Society Conference, Paris, 29-31 August 2019.

Norwegian University of Science and Technology, 14th Sound Economic History Workshop, Trondheim, 5-6 June, 2019.

University of Helsinki, Baltic Connections: Conference in Social Science History, Helsinki, March 21-23, 2019.

University of Groningen, FRESH meeting, Groningen, Nov. 28 - Dec. 2, 2018.

AWARDS / Grants

The Economic History Association (EHA). Exploratory Travel and Data Grant. March 2020.

NES Master Thesis Award for Excellence, July, 2018.

Yegor Gaidar Foundation Award. Participant of Improving Economic Instruction Program

(IEI), Bloomington, Indiana University, December 2014.

Saratov Regional Government Academic Excellence Award, June, 2007.

Professional ACTIVITIES

Referee, European Review of Economic History; The Scandinavian Journal of Economics.

Programming

Advanced: STATA, R.

SKILLS

Some experience in Python, Julia, QGIS.

Languages

English(fluent), Russian (native).

# WORKING PAPERS Human Capital and Industrialization: the Case of German Colonists in Late Imperial Russia (Job Market Paper).

Between 1890 and 1913, Russian Empire experienced a rapid industrial transition, catching up with Western countries. The paper explores human capital's role in Russia's growth utilizing a unique historical experiment - the arrival of German colonists in 1763-1861, before Russia's industrial spurt. Upon arrival in Russia, the colonists developed primary schools that played an essential role in settlers' human capital formation in the 19th-20th centuries. I show that the schooling improvements caused by the colonists facilitated growth when Russia took an advanced phase of industrialization in the 1890s. The German presence increased modern occupations' share and generated productivity gains in the industrial sector. I show that the effect is visible only in the modern industries, experiencing an inflow of new technologies and managerial practices with higher human capital requirements. Additionally, I demonstrate the positive spillover effect - the increase in literacy rates of the native population. One factor contributing to the spillover effect is the increase in public funding at the local level. Moreover, I show that Germans positively affected the spread of Russian Protestantism that could increase the educational demand of the native population further.

#### Landed Elite and Expansion of Primary Schooling in the Russian Empire.

The paper investigates the role of large noble landowners in schooling development throughout 1880-1911. The cross-section estimates indicate the negative effect of land concentration on education in the period right before Russia's industrial spurt. The effect can be partially explained by the lower provision of schooling infrastructure - the channel previously established in the literature. I show that underinvestment in human capital slowed down industrialization and decreased labor productivity in the 1890s. Furthermore, I use a state-sponsored subsidy program launched in 1905-1907 as a schooling supply shock showing that areas with a historical prevalence of large landownership exhibited a higher increase in educational demand over 1880-1911. This change occurred during the active industrial transformation, followed by political liberalization and the substantive decline of large landowners' economic power. Overall, my findings indicate that the concentration of vast land resources in the hands of a narrow, privileged group hampered the human capital accumulation of the rural population and impeded industrial transformation. It can explain Russia's failure to catch up with Western countries, pointed out by Alexander Gerschenkron.

# The Famine of 1891-92 and Missing Girls in 19th century Imperial Russia (joint with Francisco J. Beltran Tapia).

The project explores the discrimination practices against the female population of the Russian Empire at the end of the 19th century. In particular, we investigate whether the meager harvest that caused economic deprivation and starvation of thousands of rural inhabitants triggered gender discrimination towards newborns and young girls. We also evaluate whether the discrimination practices took place mainly in the districts where historically socioeconomic status of women was relatively low (communities with a higher proportion of Muslim population). Using data from Russian Censuses of 1897 and applying the difference in difference estimation approach, we find that exposure to famine interacted with the proportion of the district's Muslim population leads to higher sex ratios (ratio of male to female population) in age cohorts. The link is robust to the inclusion of the district and age cohort fixed effects. We also find a negative impact of famine exposure on sex ratios corresponding with the female survival advantage widely explored in the literature. Further research will test the environmental, economic, and cultural explanations of the observed pattern in the data.

Work in Progress

# The long-term effects of public kindergarten education: Evidence from the U.S. Kindergarten Movement (joint with Philipp Ager, Francesco Cinnirella, Katherine Eriksson and Ezra Karger).

The project aims to understand the long-run effects of exposure to public kindergarten education. We constructed a linked sample of individuals from 1900, 1910, and 1920 (period of treatment assignment) to Census records of 1930 and 1940 with information on educational attainment (years of schooling) and socioeconomic status (professional occupation, salary). We merge this data with a panel of public kindergarten openings in US cities for the period 1887-1910. Exploiting variation in opening dates, we implement event studies and intention to treat analysis to demonstrate a substantial positive effect of kindergarten exposure on educational attainment. We further show the impact of public kindergartens on labor market outcomes, marriage patterns and measures of cultural assimilation.

The long-run impacts of the first day nurseries and kindergartens for poor children: Evidence from the Big Apple (joint with Philipp Ager). The project aims to understand the long-run impact of nursery attendance for children from

predominantly poor families (families of foreign-born, single parent/working mothers). In addition, the project explores the complementarity between a nursery intervention that typically happened at an early age (e.g., infants) and kindergarten exposure that followed later (5-6 years old). For this project, we obtained a unique dataset with the locations of NYC nurseries (with coordinates) between 1883 and 1924. We calculated distances from the centroids of enumeration districts of Brooklyn and Manhattan to the nearest nursery/kindergarten for each cohort born between 1890 and 1910. Accordingly, we define a binary treatment variable using distance cutoff (below 0.35 km). We combine this data with US Census data that connects individuals and family characteristics of exposed individuals in 1900 and 1910 to their long-run economic outcomes in 1940. Finally, we show the positive impact of nursery exposure on an individual's educational attainment using the event-study design.

The Mortality Transition and the Urban Mortality Penalty: Evidence from Massachusetts Annual Vital Statistics 1880-1930 (joint with Philipp Ager and Casper Worm Hansen). The paper explores unique mortality data for Massachusetts between 1880 and 1930. We document the evolution of mortality patterns by type of disease and changes in urban mortality premium over time.