

# **Christian Bjørnskov**

**Curriculum Vita** (as of September 28, 2009)

## **Contact address**

Department of Economics  
Aarhus School of Business, Aarhus University  
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## **Personal information**

Born August 27, 1970, in Haderslev, Denmark  
Marital Status: Single, no children  
Citizenship: Danish

## **Primary research areas**

Social Trust and Informal Institutions  
Public Choice / New Institutional Economics  
Subjective Well-Being and Life Satisfaction  
Trade Theory / International Economics

## **Education**

MSc (Economics), Aarhus University, 2001  
"Aspects of Microcredit", thesis advisor: Martin Paldam  
PhD (Economics), Aarhus School of Business, 2005  
"Investigations in the Economics of Social Capital", thesis advisors: Gert Tinggaard Svendsen and Martin Paldam

## **Job experience (academic)**

Researcher, Agricultural Policy Research Division, the Danish Research Institute of Food Economics, 2001-2002  
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Aarhus School of Business, 2005-2007  
Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Aarhus School of Business, 2007-  
External lecturer, School of Economics and Management, Aarhus University, 2006  
External lecturer, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University, 2006-  
External consultant, Copenhagen Consensus, 2009-

## Teaching experience (academic)

International Economics, Development Economics, General Economics

## Job and teaching experience (non-academic)

Assistant coach 1994-1996, Aarhus 1900 Triathlon

Coach 1996-2000, AGF swimming, responsible for talent development

Substitute teacher 1995-2001, Forældreskolen i Århus (primary school)

## Languages

Fluent in Danish (native) and English; good knowledge of German, Swedish and Norwegian; some knowledge of French

## Publications

### Journals with peer review

1. How does Social Trust lead to Better Governance? An Attempt to Separate Electoral and Bureaucratic Mechanisms. Forthcoming in *Public Choice*.
2. Do Elites Benefit from Democracy and Foreign Aid in Developing Countries? Forthcoming in *Journal of Development Economics*.
3. How Comparable are the Gallup World Poll Life Satisfaction Data? Forthcoming in *Journal of Happiness Studies*.
4. Social Trust and the Growth of Schooling. *Economics of Education Review*, vol. 28 (2009), 249-257. (Short, revised version of chapter two of my PhD thesis)
5. Social Capital and Happiness in the United States. *Applied Research in Quality of Life*, vol. 3 (2008), 43-62.
6. The Growth-Inequality Association: Government Ideology Matters. *Journal of Development Economics*, vol. 87 (2008), 300-308.
7. Social Trust and Fractionalization: A Possible Reinterpretation. *European Sociological Review*, vol. 24 (2008), 271-283.
8. Analyzing Trends in Subjective Well-Being in 15 European Countries, 1973-2002. *Journal of Happiness Studies*, vol. 9 (2008), 317-330. (With Nabanita Datta Gupta and Peder Pedersen)
9. On Decentralization and Life Satisfaction. *Economics Letters*, vol. 99 (2008), 147-151. (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)
10. Healthy and Happy in Europe? On the Association between Happiness and Life Expectancy over Time. *Social Science & Medicine*, vol. 66 (2008), 1750-1759.
11. Economic Freedom and Entrepreneurial Activity: Some Cross-Country Evidence. *Public Choice*, vol. 134 (2008), 307-328. (with Nicolai J. Foss) Also published as chapter 16 in Nicolai J. Foss (ed.), *Knowledge, Economic Organization, and Property Rights*. London: Edward Elgar. Forthcoming in Andreas Freytag and Roy Thurik (eds.), *Entrepreneurship and Culture*. Dordrecht: Springer.

12. Cross-Country Determinants of Life Satisfaction: Exploring Different Determinants across Groups in Society. *Social Choice and Welfare*, vol. 30 (2008), 119-173. (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)
13. How to Construct a Robust Measure of Social Capital: Two Contributions. *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis*, vol. 9 (2007), 275-292. (With Gert T. Svendsen) *Awarded best paper in the JCPA 2007.*
14. The Bigger the Better? Evidence of the Effect of Government Size on Life Satisfaction around the World. *Public Choice*, vol. 130 (2007), 267-292. (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)
15. Determinants of Generalized Trust. A Cross-Country Comparison. *Public Choice*, vol. 130 (2007), 1-21. (Revised version of chapter three of my PhD thesis)
16. The Multiple Facets of Social Capital. *European Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 22 (2006), 22-40. (Revised version of chapter one of my PhD thesis)
17. Underlying Policies in the WTO, the Harbinson Proposal and the Modalities Agreement. *Revue Economique*, vol. 56 (2005), 1385-1412. (With Kim Martin Lind)
18. Does Political Ideology Affect Economic Growth? *Public Choice*, vol. 123 (2005), 133-146.
19. Hvem kan U-landene samarbejde med i den nye WTO-runde? *Nationaløkonomisk Tidsskrift*, vol. 141 (2003), 112-129. (With Kim Martin Lind)
20. The Happy Few. Cross-Country Evidence on Social Capital and Life Satisfaction. *Kyklos*, vol. 56 (2003), 3-16.
21. Where Do Developing Countries Go After Doha? An analysis of WTO positions and potential alliances. *Journal of World Trade*, vol. 36 (2002), 543-562. (With Kim Martin Lind)
22. Counting In Social Capital When Easing Agricultural Credit Constraints. *Journal of Microfinance*, vol. 4 (2002), 17-36. (With Jarka Chloupková)
23. Could Social Capital Help Czech Agriculture? *Zemědělská Ekonomika*, vol. 48 (2002), 245-249. (With Jarka Chloupková)

### **Contributions to books, reports, proceedings and journals without peer-review**

1. Tillid og Økonomisk Vækst. Forthcoming 2010 in Paul Hegedahl and Gunnar L.H. Svendsen (eds.), *Tillid: Grundlaget for Social Kapital*. Odense: Syddansk Universitetsforlag.
2. Economic Growth. Chapter 20 in Gert T. Svendsen and Gunnar L.H. Svendsen (eds.), *Handbook of Social Capital*. London: Edward Elgar (2009). (*also available at SSRN*)
3. The Relation between Inequality and Happiness – do Subjective Perceptions Matter? Pp. 471-477 in *Values and Economy. Proceedings of the 32<sup>nd</sup> IAREP Conference*. Ljubljana: Filozofska Fakulteta (2007). (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)
4. Udviklingsbistand og Institutionel Kvalitet. *Økonomi & Politik*, vol. 80 (2007), 32-44.
5. *Basics of International Economics*. Copenhagen: Ventus. E-book available at [www.ventus.dk](http://www.ventus.dk).
6. Potential Coalitions and Convergence in the Doha Round. Pp. 142-161 in Eugenio Diaz-Bonilla, Søren E. Frandsen and Sherman Robinson (eds.), *WTO Negotiations and International Trade Liberalization: What's at Stake for Developing Countries?* Wallingford: CABI Publishing (2006). (With Kim Martin Lind)
7. Corruption Trends. Pp. 59-75 in Johan Lambsdorff, Markus Taube and Matthias Schramm, (eds.), *The New Institutional Economics of Corruption*. London: Routledge (2004). (With Martin Paldam)
8. EU's handelsinitiativer overfor udviklingslandene: Cotonou-aftalen og 'Everything but Arms' initiativet. Chapter 2 in: *Landbrugets Økonomi - Efteråret 2001 (Danish Agricultural Economy - autumn 2001)*, the Danish Research Institute of Food Economics (2001).

## Working papers and notes

- Does Religiosity Promote or Discourage Social Trust? Evidence from Cross-Country and Cross-State Comparisons. Ratio Institute Working Paper 09-142. (With Niclas Berggren)
- The Growth Effects of Institutional Instability. Ratio Institute Working Paper 09-135. (With Niclas Berggren and Andreas Bergh, *available at SSRN*) – under review
- Formal Institutions and Subjective Wellbeing: Revisiting the Cross-Country Evidence. KOF Working Paper no. 192, ETH Zürich / EFI Working Paper 699, Stockholm School of Economics. (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer, *available at SSRN*) – under review
- Growth, Debt Burdens and Alleviating Effects of Foreign Aid in Least Developed Countries. Department of Economics, Working Paper 07-1, Aarhus School of Business. (With Christina Bjerg and Anne Holm) – under review
- How Does Social Trust Affect Economic Growth? Department of Economics, Working Paper 06-2, Aarhus School of Business. (*also available at SSRN*) – under review
- Economic Growth and Institutional Reform in Modern Monarchies and Republics: A Historical Cross-Country Perspective 1820-2000. Department of Economics, Working Paper 08-15, Aarhus School of Business. (With Peter Kurrild-Klitgaard, *available at SSRN*)
- Social Trust and the Growth of Schooling. Department of Economics, Working Paper 07-6, Aarhus School of Business. (Revised version of chapter two of my PhD thesis)
- On Gender Gaps in Life Satisfaction: Does Discrimination Matter? EFI Working Paper 657, Stockholm School of Economics. (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)
- Economic Freedom and Entrepreneurial Activity: Some Cross-Country Evidence. SMG Working Paper 2006-15, Center for Strategic Management and Globalization, Copenhagen Business School. (With Nicolai J. Foss)
- Økonomisk Frihed og Iværksætteraktivitet – en Lande-Undersøgelse. Discussion Note, 22 January 2007, Center for Political Studies, Copenhagen. (With Nicolai J. Foss)
- The Determinants of Trust. Ratio Institute Working Paper 06-86. Contribution to the project *Markets, Morality, Trust and Growth* at the Ratio Institute, Stockholm.
- The Bigger the Better? Evidence of the effect of government size on life satisfaction around the world. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich Economics Working Paper 05/44. (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)
- Cross-Country Determinants of Life Satisfaction. Exploring Different Determinants across Groups in Society. Swiss Institute for Business Cycle Research (KOF) Working Paper No. 145 (2006). (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)
- Cross-Country Determinants of Life Satisfaction. Exploring Different Determinants across Groups in Society. University of St. Gallen Working Paper 2005-19. (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)

*Note that these two papers, although having the same name, rely on different data and estimation strategies!*

- Life Satisfaction: Is there a Role for Policy? Discussion note, 29 September 2005, the Danish Center for Political Studies, Copenhagen. Also available as Policy Paper no. VI, European Enterprise Institute, Brussels.
- Political Ideology and Economic Freedom. Department of Economics, Working Paper 05-8, Aarhus School of Business. (revised version of chapter four of my PhD thesis)
- What Buys Happiness? Analyzing Trends in Subjective Well-Being in 15 European Countries, 1973-2002. IZA Discussion Paper no. 1716. (With Nabanita Datta Gupta and Peder J. Pedersen)
- Legal Quality, Inequality and Tolerance. Department of Economics, Working Paper 04-09, Aarhus School of Business.
- Inequality, Tolerance and Growth. Department of Economics, Working Paper 04-08, Aarhus School of Business.

- Corruption and Social Capital. Department of Economics, Working Paper 03-13, Aarhus School of Business.
- Measuring Social Capital. Is There a Single Explanation? Department of Economics, Working Paper 03-05, Aarhus School of Business. (With Gert Tinggaard Svendsen)
- Why Does the Northern Light Shine So Brightly? Decentralisation, Social Capital and the Economy. Working Paper 02-15, Aarhus School of Business. (With Gert Tinggaard Svendsen)
- Where Do Developing Countries Go After Doha. An analysis of WTO positions and potential alliances. FOI Working Paper 02/2002, the Danish Research Institute of Food Economics. (With Kim Martin Lind)
- Reaping the Gains from Trade: Constraints and Opportunities of Agricultural Credit Markets. Unit of Economics Working Paper 13/2001, the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University. (With Jarka Chloupková)
- From Lomé to Cotonou. The New EU-ACP Agreement. FOI Working Paper 14/2001, the Danish Research Institute of Food Economics. (With Ekaterina Krivonos)

### **Conference papers and unpublished papers (available on request)**

- *Investigations in the Economics of Social Capital*. Unpublished PhD thesis, 2005.
- Do Leftwing Governments Meddle More With the Economy? Presented at the annual meeting of the Public Choice Society, New Orleans, March 10-13, 2005.
- Globalization and Economic Freedom. Presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Danish International Economics Workshop, Aarhus, May 2006, at the Copenhagen Business School, June, 2006, and at the University of Copenhagen, November 10, 2006.
- Lobbying for Anti-Dumping Measures: Evidence from the European Union. Presented at the joint ASB-IWE conference, Kiel, December 18-19, 2008, and ETSG, Rome, September 10-12, 2009 (With Philipp Meinen, Jørgen Ulff-Møller Nielsen and Philipp Schröder)
- Ideological Interpretations of Easterlin's Income-Happiness Paradox: A Warning. Presented at IAREP/SABE, Paris, July, 2006.
- On the Determinants of Social Trust in the United States. Presented at the 2007 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, April 12-15, 2007 and the 2008 meeting of IAREP, Rome, September 4-7, 2008. (*available at SSRN*)
- On Globalization and Human Rights: The Importance of Types of Globalization. Presented at the conference Beyond Basic Questions, Göttingen, October 10-11, 2008.
- Foreign Aid and the Price of Investments. Presented at the annual meeting of the Public Choice Society, Las Vegas, March 5-8, 2009.
- Further Evidence on the Association between Social Trust and Income Inequality.
- A Note on Political Ideology and the Structure of National Accounts in the Nordic Countries, 1950-2004. Presented at the annual Meeting of the European Public Choice Society, Jena, March 27-30, 2008.
- Politics and Privatization in Central and Eastern Europe: A Panel Data Analysis. Presented at the annual meeting of the Public Choice Society, Las Vegas, March 5-8, 2009. (With Niklas Potrafke, *available at SSRN*)
- Towing the Party Line on Your Home Turf? On Partisan Effects on Economic Freedom across Canadian Provinces. To be presented at the Australasian Public Choice Meeting, Melbourne, December 10-11, 2009. (With Niklas Potrafke)
- On the Income Elasticity of National CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions.
- Is Social Capital a Good Concept? Presented at Cinefogo conference, Aalborg, June 8-9, 2009. (With Kim Sønderskov)
- Historical Trust Levels Predict Current Welfare State Design. Presented at the joint IAREP/SABE conference, Halifax, July 7-11, 2009. (With Andreas Bergh)

- The Spirit of Capitalism and Socialism: A Cross-Country Study of Ideology. Presented at the annual meeting of the European Public Choice Society, Athens, April 2-5, 2009. (With Martin Paldam)
- On Gender Equality and Life Satisfaction: Does Discrimination Matter? (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer) – under review
- Combating Corruption: On the Interplay between Institutional Quality and Social Trust. Presented at Symposium on Social Capital in European Regions, Innsbruck, April 22-24, 2008, and the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Vancouver, June 6-8, 2008. (*available at SSRN*) – under review
- Can Bribes Buy Protection Against International Competition? Presented at the annual meeting of the Public Choice Society, New Orleans, March 30-April 2, 2006, KOF, Zürich, July 30, 2007, and at the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, April 3-6, 2008. (*available at SSRN*) – under review

### **Current projects / work in progress**

- The Productivity of Trust. Preliminary paper presented at the Beyond Basic Questions II conference, Zürich, May 22-23, 2009. (With Pierre-Guillaume Méon)
- Trust in Foreigners. (With Justina Fischer)
- Historical Correlates of Social Trust.
- Viking Trust. (With Gunnar Svendsen and Gert Svendsen)
- Does Social Trust Create Happiness?
- The Effects of Social Trust and Religiosity on Tolerance. (With Niclas Berggren)
- Isolation or Convergence in the WTO: the 2006 Suspension of the Doha Round. Paper presented at the PEIO conference in Monte Verità, February 4, 2008. (With Kim Martin Lind)
- Early Retirement and Subjective Well-Being – a Cross-Country Approach. Preliminary results presented at ISQOLS, Grahamstown, July 17-20, 2006 (With Nabanita Datta Gupta and Peder J. Pedersen)
- On the Relation between Inequality and Happiness – do Political Norms Matter? (With Axel Dreher, Justina Fischer and Jan Schnellenbach)
- Equal Access to Education and Subjective Wellbeing. (With Axel Dreher and Justina Fischer)
- Do Perceptions of Control Influence how Domain Satisfactions are aggregated? Preliminary results presented at ISQOLS, San Diego, December 6-9, 2007

### **Non-academic journals, op-eds in newspapers and other outlets (in Danish)**

- Ottar Hellevik (2008): *Jakten på den Norske Lykken*. *Norsk Statsvitenskapelig Tidsskrift*, vol. 25 (2009), 289-292.
- Tillit i det multikulturelle samfund. *Minerva*, March 6, 2009.
- Tvivl om Obamas frihandelspolitik. *Danske Business*, February, 2009.
- Julen er også de gode sagers tyranni. *Politiken*, December 6, 2008.
- EU i Doha-runden. *Folk i Bevægelse*, October 2008.
- Uden tvivlen er der intet frit valg. *Information*, October 9, 2008.
- Sanders kontrol skader væksten. *Weekendavisen*, August 22, 2008.
- Holdånd: Har vikingerne gjort os lykkelige? *Politiken*, May 4, 2008.
- Forsvarets indkøb – hvad foregår det? *180 Grader*, April 21, 2008.
- Klimatold – til skade for næsten alle. *180 Grader*, February 12, 2008.
- U-landsbistand er penge ud af vinduet. *Information*, January 21, 2008.
- Den politiske sammenhæng mellem lighed og sammenhængskraft. *180 Grader*, December 13, 2007.
- Giv en hånd til Afrika(s militær). *180 Grader*, October 15, 2007.

- Forbrug der hæmmer. *180 Grader*, September 12, 2007.
- Klimadebat uden konsensus. *180 Grader*, August 16, 2007.
- Måske en af de dyreste valgsejre nogensinde. *180 Grader*, June 27, 2007.
- Flere penge ud ad vinduet. *Nyhedsavisen*, June 11, 2007.
- Når gode viljer gør ondt i ulandene. *180 Grader*, May 16, 2007.
- Ulandenes særlige ønsker. *Berlingske Tidende*, April 26, 2007.
- Airbus' medfødte problemer. *Berlingske Tidende*, March 22, 2007.
- Bistanden ødelægger sig selv. *Berlingske Tidende*, March 6, 2007.
- Den globale skolegårds. *Berlingske Tidende*, February 22, 2007.
- Misforståelser om iværksætter. *Berlingske Tidende*, February 20, 2007. (With Nicolai J. Foss)
- Dansk økonomi presset af globaliseringen. *Berlingske Tidende*, January 25, 2007.
- Nej, lykken er ikke høj skat. *Politiken*, January 3, 2007.
- Drop Østaftalen. *Berlingske Tidende*, December 28, 2006.
- Liberaliseringen er gået i hårdknude. *Berlingske Tidende*, November 30, 2006.
- Langtfra enighed. *Weekendavisen*, November 24, 2006.
- Ulandshjælp – ikke en løsning, men del af problemet. *Internationalt Nyt*, November 2006.
- Ulandshjælp har ingen reel virkning. *Berlingske Tidende*, November 2, 2006.
- Globaliseringens udfordringer. *Berlingske Tidende*, September 21, 2006.
- Dumpet i økonomi. *Weekendavisen*, September 8, 2006.
- Politisk makværk anno 2006. *Berlingske Tidende*, July 10, 2006.
- Regeringen vil styre kreativiteten efter sovjetisk model. *Dagbladet Ingeniøren*, December 1, 2005.
- Sovjet-tænkning i dansk forskningspolitik. *Berlingske Tidende*, November 25, 2005.
- Ulandsbistand er desværre en del af problemet. *Berlingske Tidende*, July 23, 2005.
- Mod uretfærdig verdenshandel. *Berlingske Tidende*, May 25, 2005. (With Niels Westy Munch-Holbek)
- Tillid er godt. *Weekendavisen*, April 21, 2005.
- Har du penge... *Weekendavisen*, March 10, 2005.
- Hvad er der i vejen med bøffer fra Brasilien? *Weekendavisen*, September 12, 2003. (With Niels Westy Munch-Holbek)
- EU's sukkerpolitik: Hul i Hovedet! Invited column, *Forum*, September, 2003
- Er EU's landbrugsreform svindel? *Information*, August 9, 2003. (With Niels Westy Munch-Holbek)
- Kære EU – se mod syd. *Information*. December 24, 2002.
- Udenlandske investeringer skaber fremgang i Ulande. Short article posted on [www.mod-attac.dk](http://www.mod-attac.dk)

## Other professional activities, awards and more

- Refereeing for *Applied Research in Quality of Life*, *Brazilian Journal of Applied Economics*, *British Journal of Sociology*, *Eastern Economic Journal*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economics e-journal*, *European Economic Review*, *European Journal of Political Economy*, *International Economic Journal*, *International Sociology*, *Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Happiness Studies*, *Journal of Health Psychology*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Journal of Socio-Economics*, *Management Research News*, *MIT Press*, *Økonomi & Politik*, *Pearson Education Publishers*, *Public Choice*, *Regional Studies*, *Review of International Organizations*, *Routledge*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Scandinavian Political Studies*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Taylor & Francis*, *World Development*.
- External examiner, Cambridge University, Massey University.

- Member of the Editorial Board, *Public Choice*.
- Member of the Executive Board, the European Public Choice Society, 2007-2010.
- Member of the Board, the Danish Center for Political Studies, Copenhagen.
- Lecturer and member of the programme committee, the Danish University Extension, Aarhus.
- Fellow programme 2009, the Montpellerin Society.
- Commentator, [180 Grader](#).
- Commentator and editor, [www.punditokraterne.dk](http://www.punditokraterne.dk).
- Recipient of the 2007 Statoil Prize for research in economics.
- Listed in *Who's Who in the World* since the 2009 edition.