

ILAN STRAUSS

New York, Brooklyn, 11211
Nationalities: *South African, European Union (ancestry)*
Birthday: *December 1985*

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U.S. Visa: *3 year OPT until March 2023*

RESEARCH EXPERTISE & SKILLS

- Applied Economist: *8+ years experience in academic and policy research. Experience in managing teams, producing flagship publications for leading multilaterals, and distilling relevant policy implications from economic theory, modelling, and data for governments and other stakeholders.*
- Economics Skills: *Firm-Level Data; Balance of Payments Data; Big Data, Data Visualization (`ggplot`) and Regression Analysis in R; Panel Econometrics (Bayesian).*
- Subject Expertise: *Macroeconomic Policy, International Development Economics, Financial Economics, and Foreign Direct Investment.*

RESEARCH & WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Associate Economist, IEJ, University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa)** 01/2012 - Present
Write detailed policy & research papers for legislative consideration by government, business, and labour on issues of minimum wages, taxes, inward and outward capital controls and FDI flows, public debt management, and other policy issues.
 - Strauss, I., Isaacs, G., and Capaldo, J. 'The Impact of Minimum Wage Increases on the South African Economy in the Global Policy Model', *ILO Research Paper No. 20*, October 2017. International Labour Office.
 - Coordinating Committee, *National Minimum Wage Research Initiative*, South Africa 09/2015 - 01/2017
 - Please see my personal website at <http://www.ilan-strauss.org/> for a full list of non-confidential downloadable policy reports.
- **Chief Macroeconomic Consultant, African Union Commission and International Labour Organisation (ILO), with the IEJ** 08/2019 - 02/2020
Write a macroeconomic policy guide for Africa's finance ministers to advance employment and structural transformation of industry. Covering exchange rates, monetary policy, fiscal policy, labour markets, and industrial policy. Manage external researchers at the IEJ.
- **Expert Consultant, UNCTAD (United Nations - Geneva), World Investment Report** 01/2014 - 2018
I helped write and edit the Africa Trends section of the World Investment Report and contributed to the Global Investment Monitor. Covering outward and inward FDI, FDI and M&A stock and flow data, familiarity with sectoral and industry trends, global investors, free trade agreements, and investment & trade policy.
 - Strauss, I. 'Understanding South Africa's Current Account Deficit: the role of foreign direct investment income', *Transnational Corporations* (UNCTAD), Volume 23, Number 2, 2017.
 - World Investment Report **2015, 2016, 2017, 2018**
- **Contributing Researcher, Columbia Centre on Sustainable Investment (CCSI), Columbia University** 06/2014 - Present
I helped plan the 2014 CCSI conference on international investment incentives at Columbia University, including managerial and research work. Subsequently, I serve as an occasional peer reviewer and contributor to their annual International Investment Yearbook (Oxford University Press), and other academic policy briefs.
 - Strauss, I. 'Trends in International Investment and the Activities of Multinational Enterprises', in Lisa Sachs and Lise Johnson (eds). *Yearbook on International Investment Law and Policy 2019*. Oxford University Press. Forthcoming 2020.

- Strauss, I. 'Explaining Global Trends in FDI in 2015 and Beyond', in Lisa Sachs and Lise Johnson (eds). *Yearbook on International Investment Law and Policy 2015-2016*. Oxford University Press. November 2017.
 - Strauss, I. and Mavroedi, V. 'How India can Benefit from FDI: lessons from China', *Columbia FDI Perspectives*, No. 194 February 27, 2017. Columbia University.
 - Strauss, I., Johnson, L., Toledano, P., James, S. 'Background Paper on Investment Incentives: The good, the bad and the ugly: Assessing the costs, benefits and options for policy reform'. *Draft Conference Paper*. Columbia University and the IFC. 2014
- **Research Economist, African Development Bank (Tunisia)** Full-Time 06/2013 - 06/2014
Second in command in managing the team which wrote the African Development Report. Manage internal and external consultants; conceptualise the report's key arguments; edit and use chapters and consulting inputs; write key chapters on trade, regional integration, global value chains, and foreign direct investment.
 - Strauss, I. 'Understanding South Africa's Current Account Deficit: the role of FDI income', *Africa Economic Brief*, Volume 6, Issue 4, 2015, African Development Bank.
 - Strauss, Ilan and Charaf-Eddine, Naym. 'Ten Commandments of Applied Regional Integration Analysis: The African Case', *African Development Review*, Special Edition, Volume 26, Issue S1, pages 7-20, November 2014.
 - Krüger, R., and Strauss, I. 'Africa Rising Out of Itself: the growth of intra-African FDI', *Columbia FDI Perspectives*, N.139, January 19 2015, Columbia University.
 - **Faculty Member, University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa)** Full-Time 01/2012 - 12/2012
Lecture econometrics to honours student in development economics. Write policy inputs for government and for European Union funded project on the financial sector called FESSUD. Manage researchers.

CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Lecturer in Macroeconomics, Rice University (Houston, Texas), MBA** 01/2019 - Present
Lecture macroeconomics to MBA students (online). Plan, grade, and teach in conjunction with the Deputy Dean of the Business School who plans the online material.
- Adjunct Lecturer in Macroeconomics, New York University (New York)** 06/2015 - Present
Adjunct Lecture macroeconomics to undergraduates in the Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies (DAUC). Plan, grade, and teach.

EDUCATION

A draft of my PhD was published in Oxford University's Oxford Martin School Working Paper series and with Oxford University INET (December 2019), available for download [here](#), or [here](#).

- Ph.D.** Economics, *The New School for Social Research*, New York 08/2014 - 03/2020 (Expected)
 - *Columbia University Coursework*: Bayesian Statistics, Macroeconomics, Dynamical Systems
- MSc**, International Development Economics (First Class), *SOAS, University of London* 2010 - 2011
- BSc (with Honours)**, Economics and History (First Class), *University of Cape Town* 2005 - 2007

OTHER PROFESSIONAL & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Assistant, 'Graduate Econometrics', The New School for Social Research** 01/2017 - 05/2018
Teach introductory econometrics to Masters students in economics covering OLS, time-series, panel data, non-linear regressions, and quasi-experimental techniques. Teach R studio and latex.
- Economics Consultant, Johns Hopkins University** Full-Time 06/2016 - 10/2016

Write a history of global development: ‘The Rise of ‘the Rest’? Global Development in the Past, Present, and Future’, *Final report here*.

Expert Consultant, ILO, Multinational Enterprises Unit Full-Time 06/2015 - 09/2015

Write background note on FDI and MNEs in Africa, presented as: ‘Multinational Enterprises, Development and Decent Work: Report on the promotion and application of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy in Africa’, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 30 November – 3 December 2015, *Final report here*.

Economics Consultant, UNECA Full-Time 01/2013 - 06/2013

Write on the creative sector as a means of employment generation in Africa in general and with respect to South Africa. Present findings at expert committee in Addis Abba in 2014. Write key definition for UNECA on how to classify creative sectors on the sectoral level. National accounts data.

Research Assistant, The Overseas Development Institute (ODI) (London) Full-Time 11/2011 - 2/2012

Write research briefs on capital flight. Provide research support to Dr. Jodie Keane.

Chief of Staff to Director, Equal Education (South Africa) Full-Time 01/2010 - 6/2010

Help manage projects, HR hiring, strategy, speech writing, and campaigns for one of the largest non-profits in South Africa.

Head of Education, Habonim Dror Southern Africa (South Africa) Full-Time 01/2008 - 12/2008

Manage logistics, people, members, and education for weekly, monthly, and yearly events and trips for the largest Jewish youth movement in the Southern Hemisphere. On four person executive committee which plans a 30 days summer camp for 1,000 people in December annually.

COMPLETE LIST OF JOURNAL ARTICLES

Citations: [Here](#)

Strauss, I. ‘Understanding South Africa’s Current Account Deficit: the role of foreign direct investment income’, *Transnational Corporations* (UNCTAD), Volume 23, Number 2, 2017.

Strauss, Ilan and Charaf-Eddine, Naym. ‘Ten Commandments of Applied Regional Integration Analysis: The African Case’, *African Development Review*, Special Edition, Volume 26, Issue S1, pages 7–20, November 2014.

Strauss, I. ‘Manufacturing and the National Development Plan: Which way forward?’, *Social Dynamics: A journal of African studies*, 2013, 39:1, 119–129.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Strauss, I. ‘Trends in International Investment and the Activities of Multinational Enterprises’, in Lisa Sachs and Lise Johnson (eds). *Yearbook on International Investment Law and Policy 2019*. Oxford University Press. Forthcoming 2020.

Strauss, I. ‘Explaining Global Trends in FDI in 2015 and Beyond’, in Lisa Sachs and Lise Johnson (eds). *Yearbook on International Investment Law and Policy 2015-2016*. Oxford University Press. November 2017.

Strauss, I. ‘Teacher Absentee Rates: Setting the Record Straight’, in Joshua Maserow(ed). *Taking Equal Education into the Classroom*. Equal Education. 2016.

Strauss, I. ‘Globalisation and Taxation: Trends and Consequences’, in Pons-Vignon, N and Nkosi, M (eds). *Struggle in a Time of Crisis*. Pluto Press. 2015.

WORKING PAPERS AND BRIEFS

‘The Global Investment Slowdown: Corporate Secular Stagnation and the Draining of the Cash Flow Swamp’, with Jang-Ho Yang, *INET Oxford Working Paper No. 2019-16*, December 2019.

‘The Global Investment Slowdown: Corporate Secular Stagnation and the Draining of the Cash Flow Swamp’, with Jang-Ho Yang, *Oxford Martin School Working Paper*, December 2019.

Strauss, I., Isaacs, G., and Capaldo, J. ‘The Impact of Minimum Wage Increases on the South African Economy in the Global Policy Model’, *ILO Research Paper No. 20*, October 2017. International Labour Office.

Strauss, I. and Mavroedi, V. ‘How India can Benefit from FDI: lessons from China’, *Columbia FDI Perspectives*, No. 194 February 27, 2017. Columbia University.

Strauss, I. ‘Understanding South Africa’s Current Account Deficit: the role of FDI income’, *Africa Economic Brief*, Volume 6, Issue 4, 2015, African Development Bank.

Krüger, R., and Strauss, I. ‘Africa Rising Out of Itself: the growth of intra-African FDI’, *Columbia FDI Perspectives*, N.139, January 19 2015, Columbia University.

Strauss, I. ‘Race-to-the-bottom Labour Policies a Dead-End: the clothing and textile workers debate’, *South African Labour Bulletin*, Vol 37 Number 1, March/April 2013.

Strauss, I. ‘NDP: A Mixed bag’, *South African Labour Bulletin*, Vol 36 Number 5, December 2012/January 2013.

Strauss, I. and Reddy, N. ‘Treasury Evidence on Youth Wage Subsidy Suspect’, *South African Labour Bulletin*, Vol 36 Number 3: 45-48, August/September, 2012.

BUSINESS PAPER OP-EDS

Strauss, I. ‘Current accounts: it’s not as simple as “wine for cloth” anymore’. *Financial Times, Letter to the Editor*. August 27 2018.

Strauss, I. ‘How a minimum wage can help South Africa’. *Fin 24*. 02 August 2016.

Strauss, I. ‘Subsidies won’t make a dent’. *Mail & Guardian Business Section*. 07 June 2013.

Strauss, I. ‘ “Beggars-my-neighbour” wage policies a race to the bottom’. *Business Day*. 12 February 2013.

Strauss, I. ‘ “Cheap labour” fiction will hobble plan’s effectiveness’. *Business Day*. 23 January 2013

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Strauss, I., Johnson, L., Toledano, P., James, S. ‘Background Paper on Investment Incentives: The good, the bad and the ugly: Assessing the costs, benefits and options for policy reform’. *Draft Conference Paper*. Columbia University and the IFC. 2014

Molinari, A., Strauss, I., and J. De Angelis. ‘South-South cooperation between Latin America and Africa Analysis with trade and FDI indicators’. *Flacso-ISA Joint International Conference*, July 23rd-25th 2014, Buenos Aires.

Strauss, I and Charaf-Eddine, N. ‘The 10 Rules of Regional Integration’, *African Economic Conference* hosted by the AfDB, UNDP, and UNECA. October 28-30 2013, Johannesburg.

REFERENCES

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