

Yannick Schmutz

University of Fribourg (CH) | Chair of Public Economics, Bd. de Pérolles 90, Office G509, 1700 Fribourg (CH)
+41 26 300 82 63 (Office) | yannick.schmutz@unifr.ch | Date: June 2026

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Urban and Regional Economics, Infrastructure, Place-Based Policies, Firm Networks & Interlocking Directorates

CURRENT POSITIONS

Senior Researcher

Mobiliar Cluster for Resilience - University of Fribourg

- Project: Resilience of the Swiss Firm Network

2026 - Present

Fribourg, Switzerland

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Teaching & Research Assistant

Chair of Public Economics - University of Fribourg

- Professor : Prof. Dr. Mark Schelker
- BA courses : Economie Publique I, Economie Publique II - Approfondissement (Co-teaching since 2022)
- MA courses : Politiques publiques suisses, The Economics of Politics, Empirical Public Economics, Behavioral Public Economics (2019 - 2024)

2019 - 2026

Fribourg, Switzerland

Student Research Assistant to Prof. Dr. Mark Schelker

Chair of Public Economics - University of Fribourg

2019 - 2020

Fribourg, Switzerland

Student Research Assistant to Prof. Dr. Mark Schelker

Chair of Public Finance - University of Fribourg

2017

Fribourg, Switzerland

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics

University of Fribourg

- The Spatial Organization of Firms in Switzerland - Three Essays on Infrastructure, Place-Based Policy, and Corporate Networks (*Summa Cum Laude*)
- Committee: Mark Schelker (University of Fribourg), Maximilian von Ehrlich (University of Bern), Thierry Madiès (University of Fribourg)

2020 - 2026

Fribourg, Switzerland

Visiting PhD

SoDa Labs - Monash University

- Hosted by Prof. Dr. Paul Raschky

February - March 2025

Melbourne, Australia

Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics

Study Center Gerzensee

- Full program: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics

2020 - 2021 (BDP2020)

Gerzensee, Switzerland

M.A. in Economics

University of Fribourg

- Specialization in Public Economics and Public Finance
- Modules - Public Economics and Public Finance, Quantitative Methods, Economic Policy & Economic Theory
- Dissertation: *Voluntary Mergers in the Canton of Vaud: Effect on Expenditures. Evidence based on Difference-in-Differences and the Synthetic Control Method*

2017 - 2020

Fribourg, Switzerland

B.A. in Economics

University of Fribourg

- Dissertation: *Estimation empirique de la taille de l'économie informelle dans les cantons suisses*

2014 - 2017

Fribourg, Switzerland

CAS in Higher Education and Education Technology

Center for University Didactics, University of Fribourg

2023 - 2026

Fribourg, Switzerland

AWARDS

2026 *Prix Vigener* for best doctoral thesis of the Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences, University of Fribourg)

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

2026 Annual Congress 2026 of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics (St. Gallen, Switzerland); European Economic Association Conference 2026 (University College Dublin, Ireland); 82nd Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance (ISEG Lisbon, Portugal)

2025 SoDa PhD Seminar - SoDa Lab (Monash University, Melbourne); Cookie Seminar (University of Fribourg, Switzerland); Annual Congress 2025 of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics (KOF - ETH Zürich, Switzerland); European Economic Association Conference 2025 (University of Bordeaux, France)

2024 Cookie Seminar (University of Fribourg, Switzerland); PhD Seminar (University of Fribourg, Switzerland); Assistentenkonferenz (University of Fribourg, Switzerland); 16th Beyond Basic Questions - BBQ (University of Groningen, Netherlands); 80th Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance (Prague University of Economics and Business, Czech Republic)

ADVANCED CLASSES

2024 How Do Firms Behave? by Prof. David Thesmar, Advanced Courses in Economics, Study Center Gerzensee, Gerzensee CH (June 2024)

2023 Social Network Analysis at the RECSM Winter Methods School, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona (March 2023); AMSE Summer School in Political Economy: Institutions and Media, Aix-Marseille School of Economics, Marseille (June 2023); The Oxford Summer School in Economic Networks, University of Oxford, Oxford (June 2023)

2022 CUSO Virtual Workshop on Behavioral Public Economics (April 2022); Winter School in Data Analytics, University of Fribourg (February 2022)

ACADEMIC WRITING

2022 Les avantages et les principes fondamentaux du fédéralisme. *Journal des Libertés* 15, 2022: p. 13-34 (with Mark Schelker)

POPULAR WRITING

2022 Le paquet d'aide aux médias est un compromis boiteux. *Watson*, 07.02.2022 (with Mark Schelker)

2021 Errements et tourments du fédéralisme suisse. *Le Temps*, 28.01.2021 (with Mark Schelker)

2020 Fédéralisme en temps de crise: un avantage abandonné. *Le Temps*, 12.05.2020 (with Mark Schelker)

APPEARANCES IN THE MEDIA AND PUBLIC DEBATES

2026 Interview, "Grands projets: Les gens ne sont pas plus individualistes". *Frapp*, 17.06.2026

2021 Interview/Radio debate, "Service compris - Fédéralisme". *Radio Fribourg*, 29.09.2021

2021 Panelist/Public debate, "Fédéralisme - Un pour tous ou tous pour un?". *Cafés scientifiques de l'Université de Fribourg*, Nouveau Monde, 29.09.2021

EXPERT REPORTS

2021 Avis concernant le projet de loi sur la participation des communes au financement des prestations sociales et des mesures de soutien aux personnes âgées (LPCFPS) et son effet mécanique sur les flux péréquatifs. Rapport commandé par le Secrétariat général du Département de la cohésion sociale du Canton de Genève (with Mark Schelker)

WORK IN PROGRESS

The effects of highway access on firm creations, deaths, and relocations (with Mark Schelker); Firms, Directors, and the Geography of Corporate Network: Evidence from Swiss Firms, 1960–2000 (with Mark Schelker); Place-Based Policy, Firm Dynamics, Local and Spatial Effects: Evidence from Swiss Firm Data, 1960-1993; Urban Hubs: Interlocking Directorates, Agglomeration and Network Centrality

GRANTS

2025 Mobiliar Center for Resilience, "*Resilience of the Swiss Firm Network*" - CHF 552,864 (with Berno Büchel, Michael Burkert, Matúš Medo, and Mark Schelker)

2023 Bourse 2023 de la Fondation du 25ème anniversaire de la Société de Banque Suisse à Fribourg - CHF 8,000

2023 Research Pool, "*Firm Location and Business Networks in Switzerland since the 1930s*", University of Fribourg - CHF 60,000 (with Mark Schelker)

SOFTWARES

Stata (proficient), Latex (proficient), R (intermediate), Python (basics), Cytoscape (basics)

LANGUAGES

French (Native), English (Fluent), German (Basics)