

# Vladimír Novák

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## Current Positions

- 2022 - present Senior Economist, Section of Fiscal and Structural Analyses, National Bank of Slovakia
- 2024 - present Research Affiliate, Department of Managerial Economics, Faculty of Business Administration, Prague University of Economics and Business

## Employment History

- 2020 - 2022 Postdoctoral Researcher, Bocconi University in Milan, funded by ERC grant: Aspirations Social Norms and Development
- 2018 - 2020 Junior Researcher, CERGE-EI in Prague, funded by ERC grant: Behavioral and Policy Implications of Rational Inattention
- 2015 - 2018 Research Assistant, A Dynamic Economic and Monetary Union (ADEMU) project, funded by the EU's Horizon 2020 program, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2013 Economic Analyst (part-time), Institute for Financial Policy, Ministry of Finance, Slovakia

## Education

- 2015 - 2020 Ph.D. in Economics, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic  
Dissertation title: "Essays on Costly Information Acquisition in Economics"  
Advisor: Prof. Filip Matějka, PhD.
- 2013 - 2015 M.A. in Economics, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2012 ESC Amiens, France (Visiting Mobility, fall term)
- 2011 - 2013 Magister studies (M.Sc. equivalent) in Economic and Financial Mathematics, *Summa Cum Laude*, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia  
Advisor: Prof. Pavel Brunovský, DrSc.

## Visiting Research stays

- 2017 - 2018 Columbia University in the City of New York, Department of Economics, Cognition and Decision Lab (fall term), local supervision: Mark Dean (Columbia University)
- 2010 - 2011 BCAM - Basque Center for Applied Mathematics, Bilbao, Spain, Performance evaluation and optimization of stochastic networks group, (spring and winter term), supervision: Peter Jacko (Lancaster University)

## Research Interests

*Primary:* Information Economics, Behavioral Economics, Strategic Experimentation  
*Secondary:* Political Economics, Application of Behavioral Models to Development Economics

## Academic Publications

The Status Quo and Beliefs Polarization of Inattentive Agents: Theory and Experiment, with Andrei Matveenko (University of Mannheim) and Silvio Ravaioli (Cornerstone Research)  
*American Economic Journal: Microeconomics* (forthcoming)

A Note on Optimal Experimentation under Risk Aversion, with Prof. Godfrey Keller (University of Oxford) and Tim Willems (Bank of England)  
*Journal of Economic Theory*, 2019, 179, 476-487.

Scheduling of Multi-class Multi-server Queueing Systems with Abandonments, with Urtzi Ayesta (CNRS, Toulouse) and Peter Jacko (Lancaster University)  
*Journal of Scheduling*, 2017, 20(2), 129-145.

## Working papers

Valuing Hope: A Model of Aspirations,  
with Prof. Eliana La Ferrara (Harvard Kennedy School)

Why Is Promise of Stability Bad for Voters?,  
with Sergei Mikhailishev (Durham University)

## Policy Studies

Structural Challenges 2023,  
with Milan Vaňko, Vratislav Pícsa; National Bank of Slovakia, August 2023

Slovakia 30 years ago and today,  
with Branislav Reľovský, Eva Štulrajterová, Milan Vaňko;  
National Bank of Slovakia, Analytical Commentary # 126, December 2022 (in Slovak)

How should the government's crisis measures be communicated? Through frequent repetition,  
with Václav Korbel, Michal Šoltés, Lukáš Tóth; IDEA Anti-Covid Study # 10, April 2020, (in Czech)

Overview of foreign testing practices: economic-statistical perspective,  
with Jakub Steiner, Jan Kulveit, Ludmila Matysková, Ole Jann, Pavel Kocourek;  
IDEA Anti-Covid Study # 8, March 2020, (in Czech)

Households' attitudes to infection and to the government measures: The latest survey data,  
with Václav Korbel, Michal Šoltés, Lukáš Tóth; IDEA Anti-Covid Study # 7, March 2020, (in Czech)

The consumption tax as a dichotomy: Source of public budgets and instrument of harm reduction,  
with Michal Šoltés; IDEA Discussion paper, # 13, December 2019, (in Czech)

## Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

A Nearly-optimal Index Rule for Scheduling of Users with Abandonment, with Urtzi Ayesta (CNRS, Toulouse) and Peter Jacko (Lancaster University), In INFOCOM, 2011 Proceedings IEEE (pp. 2835-2843). Shanghai: IEEE.

## Book Chapters

Whittle's Indexation Approach to and Applications of Bi-objective Two-state Binary-action Markov Decision Processes, with P. Jacko, In A.B. Piunovskiy (Ed.), *Modern Trends in Controlled Stochastic Processes: Theory and Applications*, 2015, Volume II (pp. 140-151). UK: Luniver Press.

## Grants and Awards

2019	Young Economist of the Year in the Czech Republic
2019	"Inattentive Polarization and State Pooling: An Experiment", GAUK Grant, 5.8k EUR
2016 - 2018	"Dynamics of Government Policy Changes", Charles University Grant Agency, 20k EUR
2017	Lindau Nobel Laureates Meeting Alumni
2006, 2007	Bronze medals, International Young Physicist Tournament, world round

## Teaching Experience

2016	Macro Topics I (CERGE-EI second-year PhD. course, classes, evaluation: 4.78/5)
2016	Macroeconomics 3 (CERGE-EI first-year PhD. course, classes, evaluation: 4.76/5, best term score)

## Invited Seminars and Conference presentations

2023: 15th Nordic Conference on Behavioral and Experimental Economics in Lund,  
EEA-ESEM Congress in Barcelona, Political Economy Workshop on Analytical Modelling Approaches to  
Understanding Democracy (RUCAM) in Nijmegen, Meeting of Young Economists in Turin  
2022: BI Norwegian Business School, Theoretical Research in Development Economics in Bologna,  
2nd Durham Economic Theory Conference, SEAM 2022 in Bratislava, Radboud University  
2021: The 6th World Congress of the Game Theory Society in Budapest, ArmEA Annual Meeting,  
Prague University of Economics and Business, Bocconi University in Milan  
2020: 12th World Congress of The Econometric Society in Milan, University of Edinburgh, University of Bonn,

Higher School of Economics in Moscow, University of Padova, SEAM 2020 in Bratislava  
2019: Young Economists' Meeting in Brno  
2018: Workshop on Multi-Armed Bandits and Learning Algorithms in Rotterdam;  
Slovak Economic Association Meeting in Bratislava  
2017: Slovak Economic Association Meeting in Košice;  
Cognitive and Decision Group Lab Meeting at Columbia University  
2016: Czech Economic Society Meeting in Prague; Multi-armed Bandit Workshop in Lancaster  
2012: INRIA Lille  
2011: IEEE INFOCOM 2011 in Shanghai; Student Research Conference in Bratislava

### **Summer Schools and Special Events**

2023: Barcelona School of Economics Summer School: Randomized Control Trials in Development Economics  
2019: Sloan-Nomis Summer School on the Cognitive Foundations of Economic Behavior in Vitznau, Switzerland  
2017: 6th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting on Economic Sciences;  
Econometric Society Summer School in Seoul, South Korea  
2016: Applied Bayesian Statistics School 2016 in Como, Italy;  
Behavioral Operational Research Summer School in Helsinki, Finland

### **Volunteering activities**

2016 - 2017 iEkonomie.cz, a platform for discussion of the most pressing economic issues by experts, academics, students, and the public with the aim of searching for a consensus  
2004 - 2010 Združenie Strom, mathematical seminar for high and primary school students

### **Refereeing**

*Journals:* Management Science, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Economics Letters

*Review of Grants:* National Science Center, Poland

### **Personal**

Nationality: Slovak Republic  
Languages: Slovak (native), English (fluent), German (basics)  
Software knowledge: Matlab, R, Mathematica, Stata, TeX

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Updated: January 2024