

# AITOR IRASTORZA-FADRIQUE

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Institute for Fiscal Studies  
7 Ridgmount Street  
London, WC1E 7AE

✉ [aitor.irastorza-fadrique@ifs.org.uk](mailto:aitor.irastorza-fadrique@ifs.org.uk)  
🐦 [https://twitter.com/Aitor\\_IrastFadr](https://twitter.com/Aitor_IrastFadr)  
🌐 <https://ifs.org.uk/people/aitor-irastorza-fadrique>

## CURRENT POSITION

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2022- Research Officer, **Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS)**

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Fields: Labour Economics, Applied Economics  
Topics: Industrial Robots, Import Competition, Occupational Change

## EDUCATION

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2019-2023 PhD in Economics, **University of Essex** (*Advisors: Marco Francesconi and Nicholas Reynolds*)  
(2021-2022) PhD Enrichment Scholar, **Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS)** (*Advisor: Peter Levell*)  
(June 2023) Visiting PhD Student, **TU Dortmund** (*Host: Michael Böhm*)  
- Thesis Title: *Essays on Labour Economics: Understanding Structural Changes*  
- Thesis Committee: Wolfgang Dauth (IAB & Bamberg), Emma Duchini (Essex)

2018-2019 MRes in Economics, **University of Essex**

2017-2018 MSc in Economics, **University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)**

2013-2017 BSc in Economics, **University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)**  
(2016-2017) International Exchange Student, **University of Copenhagen**

## WORKING PAPERS

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### [“Industrial Robots and Worker Reallocation in Great Britain”](#)

*Abstract:* I study the impact of industrial robots on local labour markets in Great Britain during 1998-2018. The analysis shows that robots have reshaped the demand for labour and caused reallocation across sectors but have not reduced total employment. Robot exposure resulted in a decline in job opportunities within manufacturing industries like transport equipment, counterbalanced by a more than compensatory surge in labour demand within the service industry.

### [“Household Responses to Trade Shocks”](#), with Peter Levell and Matthias Parey

*Abstract:* We study the labour market responses of households to increased Chinese import competition in the 2000s. Drawing on large-scale data from linked decadal censuses in England and Wales, we explore various margins of adjustment, including self-employment, retirement, family stability, and partners’ labour supply. The analysis underscores the importance of investigating household responses and the self-employment margin to fully understand the effects of trade shocks.

### [“Heterogeneous Price Elasticities and Occupational Change”](#), with Michael Böhm and Ben Etheridge

*Abstract:* We study the responsiveness of labour supply to the changing demand for jobs during 1985-2010. The paper proposes a measure of occupation-specific labour supply elasticities, capturing the impact on employment of changes in the wage structure across occupations. We show that an important catalyst of recent shifts in employment is the flexibility of labour supply to react to them. The analysis also underscores the importance of accounting for wage changes in other occupations to fully understand the evolution of the employment structure.

## CONFERENCE / SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

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- 2023** University of Bologna, RES & SES Annual Conference 2023 (University of Glasgow), TU Dortmund, EEA-ESEM 2023 (Barcelona), SMYE 2023 (Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin), ETSG Conference 2023 (University of Surrey), EALE Conference 2023 (Prague).
- 2022** PhD Economics Virtual Seminar (online), Royal Economic Society Easter School (University of Bristol), PhD Student RSS Seminar (University of Essex), 5th IZA Workshop on Gender and Family Economics (online), 10th Warwick PhD Conference (University of Warwick), IFS-WiP Seminar (Institute for Fiscal Studies), 48th Annual Conference Regional Science Association (University of Stirling), 1st Conference On Robots and Automation CORA 2022 (Goethe University Frankfurt), 6th User Conference of the FDZ-IAB (online).
- 2021** PhD Student RSS Seminar (University of Essex), University of the Basque Country Economic Analysis Seminar (online), Irish Postgraduate and Early Career Economics Workshop (online).
- 2020** PhD Student RSS Seminar (University of Essex).

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2019-2020 Research Assistant, **University of Essex** (*Principal Investigator (PI): Ben Etheridge*)
- 2016-2017 Research Assistant, **University of the Basque Country UPV/EHU** (*PI: Javier Gardeazabal*)
- 2016-2017 Undergraduate Research Intern, **CEMFI** (*PI: Caterina Calsamiglia*)
- 2015-2016 Research Assistant, **University of the Basque Country UPV/EHU** (*PI: Juan Ramon Murua*)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- 2022-2023 **Methods of Economic Analysis (1st year UG)**, University of Essex, Department of Economics  
*Teaching Assistant to Prof. Melvyn Coles and Dr Priyanka Joshi*
- 2022-2023 **Applied Economics and Policy (1st year UG)**, University of Essex, Department of Economics  
*Teaching Assistant to Dr Lingqing Jiang and Dr Elif Kubilay*
- Spring 2021 **Economics of Financial Markets (3rd year UG)**, University of Essex, Department of Economics  
*Teaching Assistant to Prof. Piero Gottardi*
- Spring 2021 **Mathematics of Portfolios (3rd year UG)**, University of Essex, Department of Mathematical Sciences  
*Teaching Assistant to Dr. Peng Liu*
- Autumn 2020 **Mathematical Methods (Graduate)**, University of Essex, Department of Economics  
*Teaching Assistant to Prof. Melvyn Coles*

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

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- May 2023 EEA PhD Travel Grant (400€)
- March 2023 Research Explorer Ruhr Scheme (research stay visiting grant)
- March 2023 Royal Economic Society Conference Grant (£450)
- May 2022 Royal Economic Society Research Dissemination Grants (£1,800)
- 2021-2022 IFS Enrichment Scheme (tuition fee + stipend)
- 2019-2022 University of Essex Social Sciences Doctoral Scholarship (tuition fee + stipend)
- 2018-2019 Fundación Ramón Areces Full Scholarship (tuition fee + stipend)
- April 2019 Best Academic Record of the MSc in Economics (UPV/EHU)
- 2017-2018 University of the Basque Country Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies (tuition fee)
- February 2018 Best Academic Record of the Faculty of Economics and Business (UPV/EHU)
- February 2018 First Extraordinary Prize in the Degree of Economics (UPV/EHU)
- 2016-2017 Ikasiker Research Scholarship awarded by the Basque Government
- 2016-2017 ERASMUS European Exchange Program Scholarship

## SKILLS

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**Languages:** Basque (native), Spanish (native), English (fluent).  
**Computational Skills:** Stata, Matlab, R (intermediate), Python (beginner).  
**Type-Setting:** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, L<sup>A</sup>X, Microsoft Office.  
**Teaching Certificate:** Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (2021).  
**Research Accreditation:** Accredited Researcher, Office for National Statistics (ONS), 2020-2025.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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**Refereeing:** *Journal of Human Resources, Labour Economics*.  
**Event Organization:** Inaugural Essex PhD Conference in Applied Economics (March 2023), 2nd Essex-Barcelona Workshop (May 2022), 1st Essex-Barcelona Workshop (May 2021).  
**Marking Assessment:** Royal Economic Society Young Economist of the Year Competition (2022, 2021, 2020).

## ACADEMIC REFERENCES

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**Marco Francesconi**  
Professor in Economics  
University of Essex  
Wivenhoe Park, Colchester  
✉ [mfranc@essex.ac.uk](mailto:mfranc@essex.ac.uk)

**Ben Etheridge**  
Senior Lecturer in Economics  
University of Essex  
Wivenhoe Park, Colchester  
✉ [bsethe@essex.ac.uk](mailto:bsethe@essex.ac.uk)

**Peter Levell**  
Associate Director  
Institute for Fiscal Studies  
7 Ridgmount Street, London  
✉ [peter.l@ifs.org.uk](mailto:peter.l@ifs.org.uk)