

# Elisabeth Leduc

<https://sites.google.com/view/elisabethleduc/about-me>

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Primary: Labor Economics.

Secondary: Applied Microeconomics, Health Economics, Economics of Education.

## CURRENT POSITION

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2022 – Postdoctoral Researcher, Erasmus University Rotterdam.

## EDUCATION

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2017 – 2022 PhD in Economics, Université Libre de Bruxelles.

2014 – 2016 MSc Business Economics, Université libre de Bruxelles, *Magna cum laude*.

2015 Exchange student, Universidad de Chile.

2011 – 2014 B.Sc. Economics, Université libre de Bruxelles, *Cum laude*.

## PAST POSITIONS

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2017 – 2022 PhD Researcher, Université libre de Bruxelles (Dulbea).

2022 Visiting researcher, CREST (ENSAE Paris). Sponsor: Arne Uhlenhorff.

2021 Visiting researcher, Erasmus University Rotterdam. Sponsor: Anne Gielen.

2016 – 2017 Consultant – PriceWaterhouse Coopers (Department: Governments, Infrastructure and Network Industries).

## RESEARCH

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### PUBLICATIONS

**De Brouwer, O., Leduc, E., & Tojerow, I. (2023). The Consequences of Job Search Monitoring for the Long-Term Unemployed: Disability Instead of Employment? *Journal of Public Economics*, 224, 104929.**

**Abstract:** We study the effect of job search monitoring (JSM) on individual labor market outcomes of the long-term unemployed. Exploiting the implementation of a JSM program targeted at jobseekers under the age of 49, we set up a regression discontinuity design that credibly identifies the program's causal effect on unemployment, employment, and disability insurance (DI) participation and participation in other social welfare programs within a three-year period. We find that JSM increases exits from unemployment to DI without affecting transitions into employment or other social welfare programs. We further find that the effect of JSM on DI materializes before any sanction can be imposed and monitored individuals are still 10 percentage points more likely to be on DI three years after the start of

monitoring. Ultimately, exploring fiscal implications reveals that the decrease in unemployment transfers as a result of JSM is entirely offset by the increase in DI transfers.

**Related material:** [policy brief](#), [non-technical video](#).

## WORKING PAPERS

Leduc, E., & Tojerow, I. (2020). **Subsidizing Domestic Services as a Tool to Fight Unemployment: Effectiveness and Hidden Costs.** *IZA Discussion Paper No. 13544. – R&R at Labour Economics*

**Abstract:** This paper analyzes subsidies for the domestic services sector, an increasingly popular policy to create employment opportunities for low-skilled workers. Using Belgian administrative data, a differences-in-differences approach, and a shift-share instrumental variable, we estimate the local effects of the policy in targeted industries as well as overall effects on the labor market. We find that domestic service subsidies can increase female employment in the subsidized industries as well as the overall employment rate. This increase in employment is primarily driven by an increase in (formal) labor market participation and, to a lesser extent, a reduction in the rate of participation in unemployment insurance and in other social welfare programs. We also find that these subsidies can lead to an increase in the rate of work incapacity, likely due to the fact they broaden the population that can access the social safety net.

**Related material:** [policy brief](#), [non-technical video](#), [press](#), [television](#).

## WORK IN PROGRESS

**“Training Unemployed Workers to Address Labor Shortages: An Experimental Study on Information Barriers and Employment Effects”** *with Ilan Tojerow*

**Abstract:** We explore whether better information can induce more jobseekers to reskill in occupations that are in shortage. We implement a large-scale field experiment in cooperation with a Public Employment Service, in which we inform 100,000 recently unemployed jobseekers about shortage occupations and available training programs. Using survey and administrative data, we estimate the effect of the information intervention on training intentions and enrolment, as well as job search and employment. Our findings show that the treatment email increased intentions to enroll in trainings and participation in information sessions about trainings. However, the information did not substantially increase training enrolment, or affect job search behavior and employment outcomes.

**“Institutional Discrimination”,** *with Anne Gielen and Olivier Marie*

**Abstract:** This project focuses on the consequences of institutional discrimination, i.e., discriminatory treatment of individuals (based on their membership to a certain group) perpetuated by organizations. In particular, the project explores two Dutch policies that created institutional discrimination, and aims at causally estimating the impacts on the socio-economic outcomes of affected individuals. By focusing on discrimination perpetuated by institutions instead of individuals, this project contributes to a novel angle in the study of discrimination in economics.

**“Mismatch Unemployment and Occupational Training Programs”,** *with Benjamine Dejardin and Ilan Tojerow*

**Abstract:** This project investigates how best to encourage more jobseekers to enroll in demand-driven occupational training programs, as a means to address mismatch unemployment. To do so, we propose an innovative collaboration between academia and public employment services in Belgium. The project aims at (i) building a useful tool to predict jobseeker’s participation in training programs, and (ii) using

this tool in three randomized field experiments to encourage more jobseekers to enroll in trainings related to shortage occupations. The first experiment will explore whether the new tool created in the first step allows to better target the jobseekers who are invited to specific training programs. The second experiment will test whether, in addition to appropriate targeting, jobseekers need to be informed about the fact that similar individuals have successfully followed the training in the past. The third experiment will investigate whether the tool is best used by caseworkers to help them advise the jobseekers that they meet. Together, the new tool and the three field experiments will allow to generate scientifically and policy relevant findings on how to bridge the gap between the skills of unemployed jobseekers and the skill shortages experienced by firms.

**“Inequalities in Access to High-Quality Education”, with *Koen Declercq***

**Abstract:** This project explores how public policies can affect school segregation and inequalities in children's access to high-quality education. Using rich administrative data from Flanders, we will investigate to what extent the adoption of a policy allocating students to schools on a partly random basis affects the access of disadvantaged students to high-quality schools. In addition, we will estimate whether the effects of attending an elite school are heterogeneous across disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students.

**FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

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2024	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowship (€200,000) for the project “Institutional Discrimination in (Explicit) Action: How Policies Shape Inequalities” <i>European Commission</i>
2024	PDR grant (€200,000) for the project “Finding the Perfect Employment Fit: Mismatch Unemployment and Occupational Training Programs” (with I. Tojerow) <i>Belgian National Science Foundation (FRS-FNRS)</i>
2023	3-Year Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (on leave), <i>Belgian National Science Foundation (FRS-FNRS)</i>
2022; 2021	Research Visit Fellowship <i>Belgian National Science Foundation (FRS-FNRS)</i>
2019	4-Year PhD Fellowship <i>Belgian National Science Foundation (FRS-FNRS)</i>

**TEACHING**

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2024	FEB-13065 Seminar Economics of the Public Sector <i>Erasmus University Rotterdam</i>
2024	ECON-S-414 Advanced topics in Public Economics <i>Université libre de Bruxelles</i>
2018 – 2021	ECON-S-301 Introduction to Public Economics (Teaching Assistant) <i>Université libre de Bruxelles</i>

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

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2024	ROA Labour and Education seminar seminar.
2023	Society of Labor Economists (SOLE) Annual Conference, European Society of Population Economics (ESPE) Annual Conference, Turku School of Economics Research Seminar, Erasmus University Rotterdam Brown Bag Seminar, Belgian Day for Labour Economists.
2022	Ghent University Internal Seminar, Belgian Day of Labor Economists, Field Days, Université Saint-Louis - CEREC Seminar, Dulbea-ROA Workshop on Experiments on Information Frictions and Job Search, European Economic Association (EEA-ESEM) Annual Conference, European Association of Labour Economics (EALE) Annual Conference, 4th QMUL Economics and Finance Workshop for PhD & Post-doctoral Students, University of Antwerp Internal Seminar, CREST Firms and Markets Seminar, CEBRIG PhD Seminar.
2021	European Association of Labour Economics (EALE) Annual Conference, 20th Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet, 34th Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics, 26th Annual Meeting of the Society of Labor Economists (SOLE), IES Applied Economics Conference, Erasmus School of Economics Brown Bag Seminar, ECARES Internal Seminar, National Bank of Belgium Internal Research Seminar, KU Leuven Research Seminar, Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research Internal Seminar, INAMI Webinar.
2020	European Economic Association (EEA-ESEM) Annual Conference, 42ème Journées des Economistes de la Santé Français, Institute of Economic and Social Research (UCLouvain) Lunch Seminar, Seminar of the Expertise Center of the National Institute for Health and Disability Insurance.
2019	CEB Brown Bag Seminar, DULBEA Workshop on the Economics of Disability.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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2024	Member of the Local Organizing Committee of the 37 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the European Society of Population Economics (Rotterdam)
2023 – 2024	Co-organizer of the “Research on Monday” seminar series at the Economics Department of Erasmus University Rotterdam
2022	Co-organizer of the Dulbea-ROA Workshop on Experiments on Information Frictions and Job Search
2019	Member of the Local Organizing Committee of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Spring Meeting of Young Economists

## MISCELLANEOUS

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<b>Languages</b>	French – English	Native
	Dutch	Intermediate
	Spanish	Basic
<b>Software skills</b>	Statistical packages	STATA
	Communication packages	LATEX, Microsoft Office