

Arnaud Costinot

MIT

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Date of Birth : January 17, 1978

Citizenship: France, United States

Academic Positions:

2024-present: Ford Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, MIT
2015-2024: Professor, Department of Economics, MIT
2021-2024: Associate Head, Department of Economics, MIT
2012-2015: Pentti J.K. Kouri Associate Professor, Department of Economics, MIT
2010-2012: Pentti J.K. Kouri Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, MIT
2008-2010: Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, MIT
2005-2008: Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, UCSD

Other Positions:

2012-present: Research Fellow, Center for Economic Policy Research
2013-present: Faculty Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research
2025: Goh Keng Swee Visiting Professor, National University Singapore, 2025
2020-2021: Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, Sciences Po
2011: Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, Harvard University
2007-2008: Peter B. Kenen Research Fellow, Princeton University

Education:

2001-2005: Princeton University, Ph.D., Economics
2000-2001: Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, M.A., Economics
1997-2000: Ecole Polytechnique, B.S., Applied Mathematics and Economics

Ph.D. Dissertation: "Three Essays on International Trade and Institutions"
Advisors: Giovanni Maggi, Avinash K. Dixit, Gene M. Grossman

Fellowships and Awards:

2023: Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
2021: Fellow of the Econometric Society
2020: Best Coeditor Prize, Journal of International Economics
2012-2014: Excellence in Refereeing Awards, American Economic Review
2012: Nominated for Best Young French Economist under 40 Prize, Cercle des Economistes and Le Monde
2011: Kiel Excellence Award in Global Economic Affairs
2010-2012: Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow

2010: Prix Edmond Malinvaud, Association Francaise de Sciences Economiques
 2004-2005: Fellowship of Woodrow Wilson Scholars, Graduate Fellow
 2001-2004: International Economics Section Fellowship, Princeton University
 2001: Fulbright Fellowship, Fulbright Commission (Declined)
 2000: Prix d'Option Scientifique, Ecole Polytechnique

Research Grants:

2023-2026: NSF Grant: "What Are the Consequences and Determinants of Trade Protection?," with R. Adao (University of Chicago) and D. Donaldson (MIT)
 2016-2019: NSF Grant: "Robust Counterfactual Predictions in Neoclassical Models of International Trade," with R. Adao (University of Chicago) and D. Donaldson (Stanford)
 2012-2015: NSF Grant: "Gains from Economic Integration: Theory and Evidence from Agricultural Markets", with D. Donaldson (MIT)
 2006-2007: Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation: "Global Efficiency versus National Sovereignty? Designing Trade Agreements in the Presence of Behind the Border Policies", University of California, Faculty Grant
 2006: Academic Senate Research Award, UCSD

Editorial Work:

2022-2025: Co-Editor, American Economic Review
 2020-2023: Associate Editor, Journal of International Economics
 2015-2022: Associate Editor, American Economic Review
 2017-2020: Co-Editor, Journal of International Economics
 2014-2020: Associate Editor, Journal of Economic Literature
 2013-2019: Foreign Editor, Review of Economic Studies
 2008-2017: Associate Editor, Journal of International Economics
 2010-2015: Associate Editor, Journal of European Economic Association

Refereed Publications:

1. *"Why Is Trade Not Free? A Revealed Preference Approach"* (joint with R. Adao, J.S. Becko, and D. Donaldson)
 Econometrica, forthcoming
2. *"Globalization and the Ladder of Development: Pushed to the Top or Held at the Bottom?"*
 (joint with D. Atkin and M. Fukui)
 Review of Economic Studies, 2026, vol. 93, issue 3, pp. 1455-1493
3. *"Putting Quantitative Models to the Test: An Application to the US-China Trade War"* (joint with R. Adao and D. Donaldson)
 Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2025, vol. 140, issue 2, pp. 1471-1524
4. *"The Textbook Case for Industrial Policy: Theory Meets Data"* (joint with D. Bartelme, D. Donaldson and A. Rodriguez-Clare)
 Journal of Political Economy, 2025, vol. 133, issue 5, pp. 1527-1573
5. *"Robots, Trade, and Luddism: A Sufficient Statistic Approach to Optimal Technology Regulation"* (joint with I. Werning)

Review of Economic Studies, 2023, vol. 90, issue 5, pp. 2261-2291

6. *"Imports, Exports, and Earnings Inequality: Measures of Exposure and Estimates of Incidence"* (joint R. Adao, P. Carrillo, D. Donaldson, and D. Pomeranz)
Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2022, vol. 137, issue 3, pp. 1553-1614

7. *"Micro to Macro: Optimal Trade Policy with Firm Heterogeneity"* (joint with A. Rodriguez-Clare and I. Werning)
Econometrica, 2020, vol. 88, issue 6, pp. 2739-2776

8. *"The More We Die, the More We Sell? A Simple Test of the Home-Market Effect"* (joint with D. Donaldson, M. Kyle, and H. Williams)
Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2019, vol. 134, issue 2, pp. 843-894

9. *"Lerner Symmetry: A Modern Treatment"* (joint with I. Werning)
American Economic Review: Insights, 2019, vol. 1, issue 1, pp. 13-26

10. *"The Elusive Pro-Competitive Effects of Trade"* (joint with C. Arkolakis, D. Donaldson, and A. Rodriguez-Clare)
Review of Economic Studies, 2019, vol. 86, issue 1, pp. 46-80

11. *"Nonparametric Counterfactual Predictions in Neoclassical Models of International Trade"* (joint with R. Adao and D. Donaldson)
American Economic Review, 2017, vol. 107, issue 3, pp. 633-689

12. *"Evolving Comparative Advantage and the Impact of Climate Change in Agricultural Markets: Evidence from 1.7 Million Fields Around the World"* (joint with D. Donaldson and C. Smith)
Journal of Political Economy, 2016, vol. 124, issue 1, pp. 205-248

13. *"Comparative Advantage and Optimal Trade Policy"* (joint with D. Donaldson, J. Vogel and I. Werning)
Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2015, vol. 130, issue 2, pp. 659-702

14. *"A Theory of Capital Controls as Dynamic Terms-of-Trade Manipulation"* (joint with G. Lorenzoni and I. Werning)
Journal of Political Economy, 2014, vol. 122, issue 1, pp. 77-128

15. *"An Elementary Theory of Global Supply Chains"* (joint with J. Vogel and S. Wang)
Review of Economic Studies, 2013, vol. 80, pp. 109-144

16. *"What Goods Do Countries Trade? A Quantitative Exploration of Ricardo's Ideas"* (joint with D. Donaldson and I. Komunjer)
Review of Economic Studies, 2012, vol. 79, issue 2, pp. 581-608

17. *"New Trade Models, Same Old Gains?"* (joint with C. Arkolakis and A. Rodriguez-Clare)
American Economic Review, 2012, vol. 102, issue 1, pp. 94-130

18. *"Intermediated Trade"* (joint with P. Antras)
Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2011, vol. 126, issue 3, pp. 1319-1374

19. *"Adaptation and the Boundary of Multinational Firms"* (joint with L. Oldenski and J. Rauch)
Review of Economics and Statistics, 2011, vol. 93, issue 1, pp. 298-308

20. *"Matching and Inequality in the World Economy"* (joint with J. Vogel)
Journal of Political Economy, 2010, vol. 118, issue 4, pp. 747-786
- Reprinted in Pinelopi K. Goldberg (ed.), "Trade and Inequality," Edward Elgar Publishing, 2015
21. *"An Elementary Theory of Comparative Advantage"*
Econometrica, 2009, vol. 77, issue 4, pp. 1165-1192
-Prix Edmond Malinvaud, Association Francaise de Sciences Economiques
22. *"Jobs, Jobs, Jobs: a "New" Perspective on Protectionism"*
Journal of the European Economic Association, 2009, vol. 7, issue 5, pp. 1011-1041
23. *"On the Origins of Comparative Advantage"*
Journal of International Economics, 2009, vol. 77, issue 2, pp. 255-264
24. *"A Comparative Institutional Analysis of Agreements on Product Standards"*
Journal of International Economics, 2008, vol. 75, issue 1, pp. 197-213

Non-Refereed Publications:

25. *"Should We Tax Trade? A Pigouvian Perspective"* (joint with I. Werning)
Journal of Economic Perspectives, 2026, vol. 40, issue 3, pp. 101-22
26. *"The U.S. Gains from Trade: Valuation using the Demand for Foreign Factor Services"*
(joint with A. Rodriguez-Clare)
Journal of Economic Perspectives, 2018, vol. 32, issue 2, pp. 3-24
27. *"Beyond Ricardo: Assignment Models in International Trade"* (joint with J. Vogel)
Annual Review of Economics, 2015, vol. 7, pp. 31-62
28. *"Trade Theory with Numbers: Quantifying the Consequences of Globalization"* (joint with A. Rodriguez-Clare)
Handbook of International Economics, 2014, Volume 4, Chapter 4, Gita Gopinath, Elhanan Helpman, and Kenneth Rogoff editors.
29. *"Ricardo's Theory of Comparative Advantage: Old Idea, New Evidence"* (joint with D. Donaldson)
American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, 2012, vol. 102, issue 3, pp. 453-458
30. *"Global Supply Chains and Wage Inequality"* (joint with J. Vogel and S. Wang)
American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, 2012, vol. 102, issue 3, pp. 396-401
- Reprinted in Pinelopi K. Goldberg (ed.), "Trade and Inequality," Edward Elgar Publishing, 2015
31. *"Intermediation and Economic Integration,"* (joint with P. Antras)
American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, 2010, vol. 100, issue 2, pp. 424-428

Working Papers:

32. *"A Deep Case for Shallow Integration"* (joint with J. S. Becko)

33. "How Tariffs Affect Trade Deficits" (joint with I. Werning)
34. *"A World Trading System for Whom? Evidence from Global Tariffs"* (joint with R. Adao, J. S. Becko, and D. Donaldson)
35. *"Exposure(s) to Trade and Earnings Dynamics: Evidence from the Collapse of Finnish-Soviet Trade"* (joint with M. Sarvimaki and J. Vogel)
36. *"How Large Are the Gains from Economic Integration? Theory and Evidence from U.S. Agriculture, 1880-2002"* (joint with D. Donaldson)
37. *"On Optimal Voting Rules under Homogeneous Preferences"* (joint with N. Kartik)

Op-Eds and Policy Writings:

38. *"Seven Questions About Tariffs Everyone Should Know the Answer To"* (joint with A. Rodriguez Clare)
in *The Economic Consequences of the Second Trump Administration: A Preliminary Assessment*, 2025, e-book by CEPR edited by Gary Gensler, Simon Johnson, Ugo Panizza, and Beatrice Weder di Mauro, chapter 23
39. *"The Wrong Tariff for the Wrong Reason"* (joint with A. Rodriguez Clare)
Le Monde, 2025

Seminars and Conferences:

- 2026: Cornell University, PSE-CEPR Policy Forum, Bank of Italy, World Congress of the International Economic Association, ECB Annual Research Conference. Scheduled: Dartmouth
- 2025: National University of Singapore, University of Hong-Kong, University of California Berkeley, NBER Energy Markets, Decarbonization, and Trade (Discussant), Duke University, Yale University, Michigan University, Princeton IES Summer Workshop, Stanford University, PTG Workshop (Keynote), Munich-Vienna IE Seminar.
- 2024: Australasian Seminar in International Economics, IMF, Princeton University, Georgetown University, Saint Louis Fed Macro-Trade Workshop, Minneapolis Fed, Princeton IES Summer Workshop (Discussant), University of Southern California, Handbook of Urban and Regional Economics Conference (Discussant), DAL-HOU-MEX Conference in International Economics, University of California San Diego, London School of Economics
- 2023: University of Toronto, Trade and Labor Market Outcomes Dusseldorf Workshop (Keynote), University of California Los Angeles, University of Chicago, University of Wisconsin, New York University
- 2022: Harvard-MIT Trade Lunch, Cowles Conference, Princeton IES Summer Workshop, Princeton G65 Conference, University of British Columbia, Gravity at Sixty Workshop (Keynote)

- 2021: Econometric Society Winter Meeting, Paris Trade Seminar, World Bank, Harvard Kennedy School, NBER ITI Winter Meeting
- 2020: Boston College, Harvard-MIT Trade Lunch, Penn State, New York University, Dallas Fed-University of Houston Bank of Mexico Conference, Princeton University, University of California Berkeley, Bank of Portugal
- 2019: IEFS meeting, MIT, Societe Canadienne de Science Economique (Keynote), Tsinghua Trade Workshop (Keynote), East Asian Seminar on Economics, Workshop, IMF, Sciences Po Summer Workshop in Trade, Workshop on International Economic Networks (Keynote), Princeton IES Summer Workshop (Discussant), SAIS, Dartmouth
- 2018: University of California Berkeley, MIT, Harvard University, Cowles Conference (discussant), University of Copenhagen, University of Oslo, Princeton IES Summer Workshop, NBER ITM (discussant), NBER Macro Public Finance, Hitotsubashi Conference, RIETI Conference, Chicago Booth, Georgetown, Carnegie Mellon University.
- 2017: Sciences Po, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Banque Nationale de Belgique, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brown University, Purdue University, Indiana University, Saint Louis Fed conference, New Economic School, Ecole Polytechnique, ETH Zurich, Princeton IES Summer Workshop (discussant), NBER Summer Institute (discussant), Dallas Fed conference (discussant), Columbia University.
- 2016: University of Geneva, Yale, University of Houston, Stanford University, University of Michigan, Georgia Tech, Penn State, University of Chicago (Understanding trade within and across countries conference), Northwestern University, Toulouse, Econometric Society North American meeting (Semi-plenary), Bayreuth University (TRISTAN workshop).
- 2015: Brown University, New York Fed, Handbook of Commercial Policy Conference (Discussant), Cowles Conference (Discussant), Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Princeton IES Summer Workshop, NBER ITI Summer Institute (Co-organizer), McMaster University, University of Rochester, Duke University, RIDGE Forum Montevideo (Keynote speaker)
- 2014: World Bank, UCLA, Stanford WTO Conference (Discussant), Board of Governors, Dartmouth/SNU Trade Workshop, Minneapolis Fed, Cowles Conference, London School of Economics, University of Edinburgh, Princeton IES Summer Workshop (Discussant), Asia Pacific Trade Seminars (Keynote Speaker), NBER ITI Summer Institute (Co-organizer), York University, SAIS, University of Chicago, Wharton
- 2013: University of Toronto, Columbia University, Bocconi, University of Munich, Princeton IES Summer Workshop (Discussant), NBER Summer Institute (Discussant), SAET Conference, Brown University, Princeton University, Sciences Po, ECARES, University of British Columbia
- 2012: AEA meeting, Toulouse School of Economics, University of Vermont, University of California Berkeley, Stanford University, International Monetary Fund, University of Nottingham, University of Wisconsin, Princeton IES Summer Workshop (discussant), XV Workshop in International Economics and Finance, NBER Summer Institute, Handbook of International Economics Conference (Discussant), Penn State, University of Chicago Booth

- 2011: AEA meeting (Discussant), Harvard University, Frontiers in Macroeconomics Workshop Queen's University, CREI, Collegio Carlo Alberto, Bank of Italy, University of Notre Dame, NBER International Trade and Investment, Dartmouth, NBER Organizational Economics (discussant), Sciences-Po, University of Paris II, University of Warwick, London School of Economics, Cowles Foundation Conference, NBER Growth (Discussant), City University Hong-Kong, University of Mannheim, Yale, Boston Fed
- 2010: AEA meeting, Harvard University, SUNY Albany, University of Colorado at Boulder, Central European University, New York University, Princeton University, LAEF conference, University of California Los Angeles, University of Oregon, Boston University, Hitotsubashi COE conference
- 2009: AEA meeting (Discussant), ES Winter meeting. Brandeis University, University of Connecticut, Stanford University, University of North Carolina, Syracuse University, ESNIE (workshop organizer), ES North American meeting, Princeton IES Summer Workshop (Discussant), LACEA meeting, Vanderbilt University, Minneapolis Fed, Philadelphia Fed, NBER Winter meeting, London School of Economics, Paris School of Economics
- 2008: AEA meeting (Discussant), ES Winter meeting, IEFS meeting (Discussant), Princeton-Yale Seminar on Reputations and International Agreements (Discussant), Princeton University, Columbia University, MIT, FRB-NYU, Board of Governors, NBER Summer Institute, Harvard University, University of Chicago GSB, Boston College, Brandeis WTO conference (Discussant), NBER Political Economy (discussant), University of Maryland
- 2007: Globalization and the Organization of Firms and Markets CEPR conference (Discussant), Penn State, Princeton IES Summer Workshop, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Yale University, Harvard University, University of Toronto, International Trade Workshop Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (Discussant), University of Texas at Austin, CORE, ECARES, Amsterdam University, Rotterdam University
- 2006: AEA meeting (Discussant), University of California San Diego, University of California Santa Cruz, EEA meeting, University of British Columbia, University of California Davis, University of California Irvine
- 2005: MIT Sloan, Stanford University, Kellogg, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Boston University, Oxford University, London School of Economics, London Business School, University of California San Diego, Boston College, Bocconi, NBER International Trade and Organization meeting, Penn State, Universite du Quebec a Montreal
- 2004: Princeton University, University of Chicago GSB

Summer Schools and Mini Courses:

- 2026: *"Microeconomic Foundations of Trade,"* Africa Training Workshops on International Trade and Finance in Development, Econometric Society
- 2025: *"Topics in International Trade,"* Nottingham International Trade Summer School

2023: *"Quantitative Trade Models,"* Journal of International Economics Summer School

2022: *"Quantitative Trade Models,"* PSE International Trade Summer School

2019: *"Topics in International Trade,"* Kiel Institute

2017: *"Ricardian Trade,"* PSE International Trade Summer School

2015: *"Assignment Models in International Trade,"* Shanghai University of Finance and Economics Summer School

2009: *"International Trade and Institutions,"* ESNIE

Other Professional Activities:

2021: Program Committee, Econometric Society North American Winter Meetings

2014-2015: Organizer, NBER Summer Institute, ITI Meeting

2013-2021: Scientific Committee, CEPII