GALINA VYSOTSKAYA

Universidade Nova de Lisboa - Nova School of Business and Economics
Campus de Carcavelos - Rua da Holanda 1, 2775-405 - Lisbon, Portugal
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Research Interests

Development Economics, Political Economy, Economics of Conflict

Education

Nova School of Business and Economics — 2021 — 2026 (expected)
PhD in Economics — Lisbon, Portugal
Supervisor: Prof. Alex Armand

Nova School of Business and Economics — 2018 — 2020
MSc in Economics, *Development and Trade Area of Expertise* — Lisbon, Portugal
Final GPA 17/20

Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO-University) — 2014 — 2018
BSc in Economics — Moscow, Russia
Final GPA 92/100

Professional Experience

Partnership for Economic Policy - Scientific Advisor — Jan/25 - present
Scientific advisor for research teams on impact evaluation projects in the area of clean energy adoption in Burkina Faso and Vietnam — Remote, Kenya

Nova School of Business and Economics - Teaching Assistant — Sep/22 - present
Teaching assistant for the courses: Development Economics (undergraduate, graduate), Microeconometrics, Policy Appraisal, Behavioral Economics, Statistics (graduate) — Lisbon, Portugal

Bissau Economics Lab (BELAB) - Data Analyst — Jan/25 - May/25
Data analyst for the joint impact evaluation project of BELAB and the World Bank on early childhood institutions in Guinea-Bissau — Remote, Guinea-Bissau

Consulting Assistant — Feb/23 - Sep/24
Consulting assistant for Brais Alvarez Pereira, PhD, on consultancy and impact evaluation projects in the areas of public finance management and development finance assistance — Remote, Guinea-Bissau

Building Global Innovators - Business Development Manager — Sep/20 – Oct/21
Business development manager supporting MedTech startups under the partnership with the European Institute of Innovation and Technology — Lisbon, Portugal

Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center - Assistant to the Head of International Projects — Jul/17 – Mar/18
Assistant to the head of international projects organizing a joint with UNESCO International Conference on Inclusivity in Sport — Moscow, Russia

Working Papers

Windows of Peace: the Effect of Ceasefires on Economic Recovery with Alex Armand and Myriam Marending - *WIDER Working Paper 2023/35*

Abstract: While much of the literature studies causes and consequences of war, the reverberations of peace have rarely been studied. By focusing on the universe of ceasefire agreements since 1993, we study the causal effect of peace on economic recovery using a regression discontinuity in time approach. We estimate these impacts by temporally and spatially matching information on ceasefires with granular data about violence and economic recovery, allowing us to observe their dynamics at highly disaggregated levels and in temporal proximity to their entry into force. Overall, ceasefires have a marginal effect on violence, with their effectiveness in curbing hostilities being greater in areas where conflict is active closer in time to the agreement. These effects are driven by reductions in state-based conflicts, while other types of hostilities or civilian involvement remain unaffected. Using high-frequency data on night-time luminosity, we show that ceasefires have a positive impact on economic recovery, corresponding to an increase of 5.5 per cent when the agreement enters into place. Despite the effect being temporary, we find that it is not driven by external interventions, such as internationally funded new development projects or peace missions.

Selected Work in Progress

Salience of Ethnic Conflict and Social Cohesion: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa single-authored paper - *Draft available upon request*

Grants, Awards and Affiliation

NOVAFRICA Knowledge Center - *PhD Student Affiliate* Sep/21 – present

Nova School of Business and Economics - Nova SBE 5th Year Merit Research Fellowship Sep/25 – Aug/26

Portuguese National Science Foundation (FCT) - PhD Scholarship Nov/21 – Oct/25

UNU-WIDER - Measuring the effect of ceasefire agreements – US$10,000 Grant Sep/21 – Sep/22

Conferences

2026 NOVAFRICA Conference on Economic Development (scheduled) - *NOVAFRICA, Nova SBE* Portugal - Jun/26

CSAE Conference 2026: Economic Development in Africa (scheduled) - *CSAE, University of Oxford* UK - Mar/26

2nd KIEL-CEPR African Economic Development Conference - *KIEL Institut, CEPR* Germany - Nov/25

Fragile Lives 2025 Conference - *Humboldt University of Berlin, IGZ, ISDC* Germany - Sep/25

Other Academic Activities

Organizer:
2026 NOVAFRICA PhD Workshop on Development Economics Portugal - Jun/26
2024 NOVAFRICA PhD Workshop on Development Economics Portugal - Jun/24

Summer Schools:
ISEG Winter School 2026 on New Developments in Difference-in-Differences Estimators, with Xavier D'Haultfoeuille - *Lisbon School of Economics and Management* Portugal - Jan/26

21st Summer School in International and Development Economics, with Salma Mousa and Dominic Rohner - *Centro Studi Luca d'Agliano, LEAP, CEPR* Italy - Sep/24

PhD Summer School on Development Economics, with Claudio Ferraz - *NOVAFRICA* Portugal - Jul/22
PhD Summer School on Development Economics, with David McKenzie - *NOVAFRICA* Portugal - Jun/22

Extracurricular Activities:
NOVAFRICA Student Group Board Member Sep/22 - present
Host of the "NOVAFRICA Sustainable Development Talks" Podcast Apr/20 - Sep/22
President of the NOVAFRICA Student Group Sep/19 - Sep/20

Skills

Software: Stata, R, QGIS, MS Office, LaTeX, KoboToolbox
Languages: Russian (native), English (fluent), Portuguese (fluent), French (fluent)

References

References are available upon request

Last updated: March 2026