# Zixin Wang

Ph.D. Candidate, London School of Economics and Political Science

The London School of Economics and Political Science
Department of Economics
Sir Arthur Lewis Building, Room 4.08
London WC2A 3PH
United Kingdom

z.wang111@lse.ac.uk

Born 5 December 1997 (28 years old)
Chinese Citizen

## Education

**Ph.D. in Economics**, London School of Economics (LSE) 2022–2027 (expected)
Fields: Political Economy, Economic History

**M.Res. in Economics** (Merit), LSE 2020–2022

**M.Sc. in Econometrics and Mathematical Economics** (Distinction), LSE 2019–2020

**B.Sc. in Financial Mathematics** (First Class Honours), University of Liverpool 2015–2019
(2+2 joint programme: first two years at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, Suzhou)

## References

**Ronny Razin**
Professor, LSE
r.razin@lse.ac.uk

**Kent Deng**
Professor, LSE
k.g.deng@lse.ac.uk

**Hao Chen**
Assistant Professor,
University of Twente
h.chen-3@utwente.nl

## Job Market Paper

**"The Unintended Consequences of Removing Trade Distortions: Social Conflict in Qing China"**

**Abstract**: Policy reforms can redistribute economic opportunities, undermining livelihoods in some places while creating them in others. I ask whether such losses and gains affect rebellion. For nearly a century before 1842, Qing China confined Western trade to Canton, so export tea and silk traveled to that port along inland routes that employed many porters and boatmen. The 1842 Treaty of Nanjing opened new northern ports, and the traffic moved to shorter routes. Using a newly constructed county-year panel of rebellion events from Qing imperial archives, covering 427 counties between 1820 and 1860, I find that the annual probability of rebellion increased by 9.6 percentage points in counties along the old routes relative to other counties within the same provinces, equivalent to approximately 68 percent of the sample mean. In contrast, counties along the newly favored routes experienced a relative decline of 5.4 percentage points. Counties on the old routes were also more vulnerable to the Taiping Rebellion (1851 to 1864), one of the deadliest civil wars in history. Reforms that improve the allocation of economic activity can thus have unequal consequences for local political stability.

## Working Papers

- **"Selection or Shaping? Cohort Effects, Experience, and Politician's Support for Military Intervention"**
  With Giorgio Ravalli and Peter Ward-Griffin
  This paper investigates how personal and cohort-level exposure to war influences politicians' support for military intervention, defense spending, and veterans' benefits. We distinguish between selection effects, which alter who enters politics and wins elections, and shaping effects, which change politicians' policy preferences. We also examine how these mechanisms vary with public attitudes toward war.
- **"Operational AI Embedding and Green Innovation: When Rapid Adaptation Matters"**
  With Wei Zhao, Mahak Sharma, and Hao Chen
  Submitted to *Technovation*
  We introduce disclosed AI-enabled execution capability (AEC), a text-based measure of whether firms embed AI in operational and governance workflows rather than merely report its use. Using a panel of Chinese A-share listed firms (2020–2025), we find that the within-firm link between AEC and subsequent green invention patenting is small on average but substantially stronger when operating conditions demand rapid adaptation.

## Seminar and Conference Presentations

**2026:** 1st International Symposium on Empirical Political Economy and Quantitative Economic History (upcoming,College of Economics, Xiamen University), The 9th Asian Historical Economics Conference (upcoming, NUS), The 12th Symposium on Quantitative History (Wuhan, China), Warwick–LSE Political Economy Conference, Chinese Economy Research Group, LSE PSPE WIP Seminar, LSE Speech Seminar

## Awards and Research Grants

STICERD Research Grant (No. 109824), London School of Economics £5,000, 2023
"Selection or Shaping? Cohort Effects, Experience, and Politicians' Support for Military Intervention" (with Giorgio Ravalli and Peter Ward-Griffin)

LSE Economics Teaching Bonus Award 2023, 2024, 2026

## Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant, LSE

- EC1A3: Microeconomics I (B.Sc.) 2022–2026
- EC1B3: Macroeconomics I (B.Sc.) 2022–2026

## Professional Experience

Macro Intern, Founder Securities Co. Feb 2021–Aug 2021
Research Assistant, Bank of China (Shanghai Branch) Sep 2020–Dec 2020

## Computer Skills

Programming: MATLAB, Python, Stata, R
GIS: ArcGIS (QGIS)
Typographic: LaTeX

## Languages

Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent)

Last update: October 2026