

## Short Professional Biography

Yoto Valentinov Yotov is a Professor at the School of Economics of the LeBow College of Business at Drexel University, Philadelphia (USA), and a Research Professor and at the ifo Institute, Munich (Germany). Yotov received a Bachelor of International Economic Relations from the Tsenov Academy of Economics (Bulgaria) in 2000, and a double B.A./B.S. degree in Economics from Truman State University (USA) in 2002. He completed a Master of Science (in 2004) and a Ph.D. with an award for best dissertation, under the supervision of Professor James E. Anderson, from Boston College (USA) in 2007. Yotov accepted his first academic job as Assistant Professor at Drexel in 2007, where he earned tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in 2013, then became Full Professor in 2018.

Yotov's research is on international trade. His main scholarly contributions are related to modeling and estimation with the gravity model of trade, measurement and aggregation of trade costs, and quantifying the effects of trade and trade policy on various economic outcomes. He also has papers on sanctions, growth, foreign direct investment (FDI), and political economy. Yotov's research is published at the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of International Economics*, the *Economic Journal*, the *International Economic Review*, and the *European Economic Review*, among others. Yotov is an Associate Editor at *The Review of International Economics* and at *Economics Letters*, and has been a Guest Editor for a Special Issue on "Economics Sanctions" at the *European Economic Review*. Based on research impact and productivity (according to RePec, August 2020), Yotov is in the top 1% of all economists over the past 10 years, and in the top 50 (top 2%) of all international trade economists. He aged off in the top 50 ranking of young economists with less than 10 years of publication record in 2017, and in the top 100 young economists with less than 5 years of publications in 2012.

Yotov's efforts to produce theoretically grounded, empirically tested, and policy relevant research are reflected in a series of consulting, training, and advising projects that he has done for a number of international organizations (e.g., the *World Trade Organization*, the *World Bank*, the *European Commission*, the *United Nations*, the *OECD*, the *International Monetary Fund*, the *Arab Monetary Fund*, and others), national government units (e.g., the *U.S. International Trade Commission*, the *German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy*, the *U.K. Department of International Trade*, the *Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada*, *Global Affairs Canada*, the *Deutsche Bundesbank*, the *Bank of England*, the *Bank of Spain*, and others), think tanks and research institutes (e.g., the *ifo Institute*, the *Kiel Institute*, the *Public Policy Forum Canada*, and others). Yotov's research has been funded by the *Bertelsmann Foundation*, the *International Growth Center at the London School of Economics*, the *Centre for Corporate Reputation at the University of Oxford*, and others.

Yotov's book "[An Advanced Guide to Trade Policy Analysis: The Structural Gravity Model](#)" (Co-published by the *United Nations* and the *World Trade Organization*), together with the International Trade and Production Database (developed for the *U.S. International Trade Commission*), and the Global Sanctions Database are all free public goods that offer further evidence of Yotov's efforts to translate rigorous academic research methods and tools for sound policy making.

In addition to his academic work and teaching at Drexel, Yotov has taught courses at Princeton University, the University of Munich, the University of Tübingen, and Boston College, and he has held visiting positions at numerous universities around the world. Most recently, Yotov has been pursuing his passion for research and teaching for a good cause. Specifically, on April 21, 2019, Yotov started the "*Gravity with Gravitas for Autism*" initiative with the goal to collect enough funds to establish a free-of-charge center for diagnostics and support of children with autism in his hometown in Bulgaria. Yotov has taught gravity modeling and trade policy analysis to students and researchers from more than 130 countries. For further professional details visit Yotov's web site [yotoyotov.com](http://yotoyotov.com).