

# ELIZAVETA GONCHAR

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elizaveta-gonchar.com

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<b>EDUCATION</b>	<b><i>PhD in Economics</i></b>	<i>Expected: Aug. 2023</i>
	Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)	<i>GPA: 4.0</i>
	Fields: International Trade, Development Economics	
	Advisor: Dr. Usha Nair-Reichert	
	<b><i>MS in Geographic Information Science &amp; Technology</i></b>	<i>May 2022</i>
	Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)	<i>GPA: 4.0</i>
	Advisor: Dr. William J. Drummond	
<b><i>MS in Economics</i></b>	<i>May 2019</i>	
Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)	<i>GPA: 4.0</i>	
<b><i>MA in Economics</i></b>	<i>Jan. 2018</i>	
Indiana University (Bloomington, IN)	<i>GPA: 3.533</i>	
Concentrations: Microeconomic Theory, International Trade		
<b><i>MSc in Economics</i></b>	<i>July 2015</i>	
Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (Barcelona, Spain)		
Masters of Science in Economics and Finance awarded by Universitat Pompeu Fabra.		
<b><i>BS in Economics, Magna Cum Laude</i></b>	<i>Aug. 2014</i>	
W. P. Carey School of Business, Arizona State University (Tempe, AZ)	<i>GPA: 3.64</i>	
Minors: Mathematics, German		
Certificate: International Business		
<b><i>Summer Program - London School of Economics</i></b>	<i>July - Aug. 2013</i>	
London School of Economics, London, England		
Courses: Economics of European Integration, International Economics.		
<b>EXPERIENCE</b>	<b><i>Graduate Research Assistant</i></b>	<i>Present</i>
	School of Public Policy - Georgia Institute of Technology	
	Assisting with NSF-funded project titled "National Network for Critical Technology Assessment: A Pilot" under Dr. Cassidy Sugimoto.	
Program objective: to develop assessment capabilities for critical technologies for U.S. competitiveness and present insights to U.S. legislators.		
<b><i>Graduate Teaching Assistant</i></b>	<i>May - Dec. 2022</i>	
School of Economics - Georgia Institute of Technology		
Course Assisted: ECON 2101, ECON 2105, ECON 4060, ECON 6431		
<b><i>Graduate Research Assistant</i></b>	<i>Jan. - May 2022</i>	
School of Economics - Georgia Institute of Technology		

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

*Aug. 2017 - Dec. 2021*

School of Economics - Georgia Institute of Technology

Courses Taught:

ECON 2101: The Global Economy (Online)

2 Semesters: Summer 2020 (53 students), Spring 2021 (73 students)

Courses Assisted:

Undergraduate: ECON 2100, ECON 2101, ECON 2105, ECON 2106,  
ECON 3110, ECON 4350, ECON 4415, ECON 4803

Graduate: ECON 6106, ECON 7012, ECON 7013

**Graduate Assistant**

*Aug. 2015 - May 2017*

School of Economics - Indiana University

Courses Assisted:

Undergraduate: ECON 201, ECON 202 (In-Person & Online), ECON 321

**WORKING  
PAPERS**

*“Effect of COVID-19 Border Closures on Domestic Trade Patterns: A Spatial Autoregressive Approach to Estimate the Response of Colombian Trucking Flows”*

**Abstract:**

In this paper, I analyze and quantify the effects of exposure to international trade by considering the response in trade flow dynamics that took place within the Colombian domestic trucking network following the spread of COVID-19 and the implementation of spread-mitigation policies. Using transaction-level data on Colombian trucking for 2019 and 2020 along with geospatial trade exposure characteristics data, I implement a panel-data spatial autoregressive (SAR) model estimation to study how trade exposure affected the response of Colombian domestic trucking flows, measured as the value of goods traded between municipalities, to COVID-19 spread mitigation policies. Overall, the results suggest that accounting for spatial autocorrelations is important when conducting trade flow analyses and that the trading role of the municipality prior to COVID-19 did influence how a municipality was affected by COVID-19 and the spread-mitigating policies.

*“Exploring Time-Varying Population-Weighted Distance Measures in the Gravity Model Framework” (Co-Author: Ian Helfrich)*

**Abstract:**

The distribution of population across and within countries naturally relates to the distribution of economic production. In this paper we explore differences in gravity model estimates of trade that take into account spatial factors of population distributions, introducing a novel measure of geodesic distance between countries using population-weighted centroids as endpoints for bilateral distance measures. Canonical gravity models of international trade have relied on time-invariant measures of bilateral distance between nations, including distance between national capitals, geographic centroids, and weighted centroids based on the  $N$  largest population centers. By using annual global population density rasters to identify the spatial tendency of the population, the location of any country's weighted centroid changes each year. This allows the weighted distance between two countries to change over time and introduces a source of variation into the standard gravity model framework.

*“Estimating the Role of Trade Intermediaries in Colombia”*

**Abstract:**

In this paper, I analyze the role of intermediary firms, defined as firms that engage only in retail or wholesale capacities, in Colombia. Using Colombian transaction-level customs data for 2011 through 2016, I characterize the presence of intermediaries in international trade over time. I find that the distribution of the share of firms and share of values are relatively consistent over time. Gravity’s effect in trade is affirmed in the dynamics of firms’ exports; however, I identify a trend in imports that diverge from the literature which has predominantly focused on developed countries for empirical estimation. This paper contributes to the literature by presenting a comprehensive overview of the types of firms conducting trade while considering a developing country.

**SKILLS**

**Analytical Software:** Stata, ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap, ERDAS Imagine, QGIS, Matlab

**Programming Languages:** R, Python (Core, ArcPy), SQL

**Productivity Software:** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, InDesign, Illustrator

**Foreign Languages:**

- Native proficiency: English and Russian.
- Limited working proficiency: German and Ukrainian.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Awards:**

Economics Graduate Student Instructor of the Year	<i>Apr. 2022</i>
GIS Day Map Competition Winner	<i>Nov. 2021</i>
President’s Fellowship	<i>Aug. 2017 - May 2021</i>
Senator of the Year	<i>Apr. 2021</i>
Rookie Senator of the Year	<i>Apr. 2020</i>
C.R. Krimminger Fund Scholarship	<i>2013 - 2014</i>
Tanner Undergraduate Study-Abroad Scholarship	<i>Summer 2012 &amp; 2013</i>

**Recent Committee Involvement:**

Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee	<i>FY 2022 &amp; 2023</i>
Joint Finance Committee	<i>FY 2020 &amp; 2021</i>
Joint Policy Response Committee	<i>FY 2021</i>
Joint Campus Organizations Committee	<i>FY 2021</i>
Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee	<i>FY 2020</i>

**Student Organization Membership:**

Omicron Delta Epsilon (Georgia Tech)	<i>Feb. 2019 - Present</i>
Leadership Positions:	
- Vice President of Events (2022 - Present)	
Graduate Student Government Association (Georgia Tech)	<i>Sep. 2019 - 2021</i>
Leadership Position:	
- Senator in Graduate Student Senate	
Phi Beta Lambda (Arizona State University)	<i>Jan. 2012 - May 2014</i>
Leadership Positions:	
- President (2014)	
- Vice President of Communications (2013 - 2014)	

- Executive Vice President (2012 - 2013)
- Director of Operations of Business Skills Day 25 (2013)

ASU German Club (ASU) *Sep. 2011 - May 2014*

Leadership Positions:

- Vice President of Events (2012 - 2013)

ASU Russian Student Association (ASU) *Nov. 2011 - May 2013*

Leadership Positions:

- President (2012-2013)

Special Events Planning Association (ASU) *Oct. 2011 - May 2013*

***Presentations:***

Career, Research, and Innovation Development Conference (CRIDC) *Jan. 2022*

- Poster Competition at Georgia Tech