

Short Professional Biography

Yoto V. Yotov is a Professor at the School of Economics of the LeBow College of Business at Drexel University and a Research Professor and Senior Researcher at the Ifo Center for International Economics of the Ifo Institute, Leibniz Institute for Economic Research at the University of Munich. He is also an Associated Research Fellow at the Economic Research Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Yotov received a Bachelor of International Economic Relations from the “D. A. Tsenov” Academy of Economics (Svishov, Bulgaria) in 2000, and a double B.A./B.S. degree in Economics from Truman State University (Kirksville, USA) in 2002. He continued his education at Boston College, where he completed a Master degree in 2004 and defended his Ph.D. with an award for best dissertation in 2007. Yotov accepted his first academic job as an 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 interests are in the field of international trade. His main scholarly contributions are in the area of structural modeling and estimation with the gravity model, measurement and aggregation of trade costs, and quantifying the effects of international trade on various economic outcomes. In addition, he has papers that study sanctions and the political economy of trade policy. Yotov’s articles have been accepted for publication in leading economic journals including *The American Economic Review*, *The Journal of International Economics*, *The Economic Journal*, *The International Economic Review*, *The European Economic Review* and other respected journals. In terms of research impact and productivity, as measured by RePec (March, 2019), Yotov is in the top 2% of all economists over the past 10 years, and in the top 50 list 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 and empirically tested policy relevant research are reflected in a series of consulting projects and advising that he has done for the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, the European Commission (through Ifo Institute), the United Nations, the United States International Trade Commission, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, Industry Canada, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Ifo Center for International Economics, and the Public Policy Forum Canada. Yotov’s research has also been funded by the International Growth Center at the London School of Economics, the Center for Corporate Reputation Management at Drexel, and the Centre for Corporate Reputation at Oxford University. Yotov’s book “An Advanced Guide to Trade Policy Analysis: The Structural Gravity Model” with Larch, Monteiro, and Piermartini (Co-published by the United Nations and by the World Trade Organization in Geneva) is evidence of his 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 previously at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, at the University of Munich, and at Boston College, and he has held visiting positions at the World Trade Organization, the CESifo Group, the Centre for Trade and Economic Integration at the Graduate Institute Geneva, the University of Bayreuth, and the National University of Singapore, among others. Most recently, Yotov has been traveling around the globe to pursue his passion for research and teaching for a good cause; He started the “Gravity with Gravitas for Autism” initiative with the goal to collect enough funds to establish a free-of-charge center for treating children with autism in his hometown, Pleven, Bulgaria. Follow Yotov’s progress and support him on twitter at @YotovGravity.