

Alfa Farah

Diponegoro University
Faculty of Economics and Business

Department of Economics

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Academic Position

Assistant Professor (with tenure), Diponegoro University, 2019-present

Instructor, Diponegoro University, 2010-2015

Research Fields

Political Economics, Economic Development

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Muenster, Germany, 2019

Supervisor: Prof. Thomas Apolte

Thesis: Three Essays on the Political Economy of Fiscal Decentralization

M.Sc. in Economics, University of Groningen, the Netherlands, 2008

Supervisor: Dr. Richard Jong-A-Pin

Thesis: Budget Deficits in Asia: What do Political Variables Explain?

B.A. in Economics and Development Studies, Diponegoro University, Indonesia, 2005

Publications

Journal Article

Farah, A. (2019). Fiscal Disparity, Institutions and Asymmetric Yardstick Competition. *Economics Letters*, 181, 74–76.

Book Chapter

Farah, A. and Maulana, S. (2025). "Tax Decentralization and Accountability: A Natural Experiment from Indonesia" in *Pursuing Inclusive Economic Development in Asia: A Celebration of Peter McCawley*. Edited by Hal Hill and Daniel Suryadarma. Asian Development Bank Institute. *Upcoming*

Working Papers

Farah, A. (2019). Fiscal Decentralization and Electoral Participation: Analyzing Districts in Indonesia. *Center for Interdisciplinary Economics Working Paper*, 4/2019

Farah, A. (2019). Winning a District Office in a Clientelistic Society: Evidence from Decentralized Indonesia. *Center for Interdisciplinary Economics Working Paper*, 2/2019

Farah, A. (2018). Fiscal Disparity, Institutions and Asymmetric Yardstick Competition. *Center for Interdisciplinary Economics Working Paper*, 2/2018

Work in Progress

Authoritarian Legacies and Agricultural Resource Politics: Evidence from Palm Oil in Indonesia (with Lim Sunghun)

The persistence of non-democratic legacy

Term limits, intergovernmental transfers and election outcomes

Fellowships and Awards

Public Choice Society Graduate Fellowship, 2018 & 2019

DAAD Scholarship, 2015-2019

StuNed Scholarship, 2007-2008

Graduate with distinction, Diponegoro University, 2005

The Central Bank of Indonesia Scholarship, 2004-2005

Teaching Experience

Diponegoro University, 2010-2015 & 2019-present

University of Muenster, 2017-2019 (Graduate teaching assistant)

Conferences and Invited Seminar

2025 Conference on the Political Economy on Democracy and Dictatorship (Muenster, Germany)

2024 Conference on the Political Economy on Democracy and Dictatorship (Muenster, Germany), Asian Development Bank Conference (Manila, July 2024)

2023 Conference on the Political Economy on Democracy and Dictatorship (Muenster, Germany)

2022 Economics and Business International Camp for Sustainability (Semarang, Indonesia)

2021 Conference on the Political Economy on Democracy and Dictatorship (Muenster, Germany, online), European Public Choice Society Annual Meetings (Lille, France, online)

2020 Weekly Seminar at Department of Economics, Diponegoro University (Semarang, Indonesia)

2019 Conference on the Political Economy on Democracy and Dictatorship (Muenster, Germany), European Public Choice Society Annual Meetings (Jerusalem), Public Choice Society Annual Meetings (Louisville, USA), Seminar Series at University of Freiburg, (Freiburg, Germany)

2018 European Public Choice Society Annual Meetings (Rome, Italy), Public Choice Society Annual Meetings (Charleston, USA), BKM Doctoral Workshop (Kingston, UK)

2017 BKM Doctoral Workshop (Duisburg, Germany), European Public Choice Society Annual Meetings (Budapest, Hungary)

Miscellaneous

Language programming: R, \LaTeX

Language: Javanese (native), Bahasa Indonesia (native), English (proficient), German (B2 level)

References

Thomas Apolte
Professor of Economics
The University of Muenster, Germany
`Apolte@uni-muenster.de`

Richard Jong-A-Pin
Associate Professor of Economics
The University of Groningen, the Netherlands
`R.M.Jong.A.Pin@rug.nl`