

18th Belgian Financial Research Forum

May 13, 2024

Hosted by: National Bank of Belgium at the Auditorium, Rue Montagne aux Herbes Potagères 61, 1000 Brussels (Belgium).

Conference Website: <https://www.vub.be/en/event/belgian-financial-research-forum-2024>

Local Organizers

Kris Boudt (Ghent University/ Vrije Universiteit Brussel), Yasin Kürsat Onder (Ghent University), Koen Inghelbrecht (Ghent University), Steven Vanduffel (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

Sponsors



Organizers



Overview Program

08:30 – 09:00

Registration

09:00 – 10:45

	Room	Parallel Sessions 1
Session 1	(Room A1)	Asset Pricing
Session 2	(Room A2)	Corporate Finance
Session 3	(Room B)	Macro-Finance I
Session 4	(VIP Room)	Financial Econometrics I
Session 5	(Aula)	Banking I

10:45 – 11:15

Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:45

(Aula)

Keynote Speech: “Reasons for Default and Effects of Debt Relief” by Prof. **Peter Ganong** (University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy)

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch

13:45 – 15:30

	Room	Parallel Sessions 2
Session 1	(Room A1)	Asset Management
Session 2	(Room A2)	Sustainable Finance I
Session 3	(Room B)	Macro-Finance II
Session 4	(VIP Room)	Financial Econometrics II
Session 5	(Aula)	Banking II

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:45

	Room	Parallel Sessions 3
Session 1	(Room A1)	Corporate Governance
Session 2	(Room A2)	Sustainable Finance II
Session 3	(Room B)	Banking III
Session 4	(VIP Room)	Behavioral Finance

17:45 – 19:00

Closing Reception

Detailed Program

08:30 – 09:00

Registration

09:00 – 10:45

Parallel Sessions 1

Session 1 Asset Pricing

(Room A1) Chair: Koen Inghelbrecht (Ghent University)

- Paper: Factor Models with Downside Risk
Presenter: **Daniele Massacci** (King's College London)
Discussant: **Nabil Bouamara** (National Bank of Belgium)
- Paper: What triggers Flights to Safety?
Presenter: **Lieven Baele** (Tilburg University)
Discussant: **Koen Inghelbrecht** (Ghent University)
- Paper: Stock returns and macroeconomic uncertainty
Presenter: **Thao Nguyen** (KU Leuven)
Discussant: **Rim Laksaci** (UCLouvain)

Session 2 Corporate Finance

(Room A2) Chair: Marc Deloof (University of Antwerp)

- Paper: Opportunity Cost of Capital for Entrepreneurs: A Reappraisal
Presenter: **Piet Sercu** (KU Leuven)
Discussant: **Marc Deloof** (University of Antwerp)
- Paper: On the Interaction between Bank Credit and Labor: the Role of Capital-Labor Substitution
Presenter: **Nejat Gökhan Okatan** (KU Leuven & Ghent University)
Discussant: Pablo Vicente Pastor Y Camarasa (Ghent University)
- Paper: Bank Specialization, Control Rights, and Real Effects
Presenter: **Marco Giometti** (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid)
Discussant: **Olivier De Jonghe** (National Bank of Belgium & Ghent University)

Session 3 Macro-Finance I

(Room B) Chair: **Jolan Mohimont** (National Bank of Belgium)

- Paper: Consumer Debt Moratoria
Presenter: **Jose Villegas** (Ghent University)
Discussant: **Nuria Suárez** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)
- Paper: Inflation Narratives and Expectations
Presenter: **Giovanni Trebbi** (Tilburg University)
Discussant: **Mariachiara Tedde** (Ghent University)
- Paper: Sovereign Wealth Funds during crisis
Presenter: **Louise Schraeverus** (UNamur)
Discussant: **Jolan Mohimont** (National Bank of Belgium)

Session 4 Financial Econometrics I

(VIP Room) Chair: Kris Boudt (Ghent University & Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

- Paper: A Parsimonious Model of Idiosyncratic Income
Presenter: **Håkon Tretvoll** (Statistics Norway)
Discussant: **Rodolphe Vanderveken** (LIDAM/LFIN UCLouvain)

- Paper: A Stepwise Cauchy Combination Test for Multiple Testing Problems with Financial Applications
Presenter: **Nabil Bouamara** (National Bank of Belgium)
Discussant: **Thanos Verousis** (Vlerick Business School)
- Paper: The dependence structure of high-frequency stock returns
Presenter: **Aleksy Leeuwenkamp** (KU Leuven)
Discussant: **Kris Boudt** (UGent, VUB)

Session 5 Banking I

(Aula) Chair: Hans Degryse (KU Leuven & CEPR)

- Paper: The poor, the rich, and the credit channel of monetary policy
Presenter: **Klaas Mulier** (Ghent University)
Discussant: **Tao Li** (KU Leuven)
- Paper: Implications for Hold-Up Problems in the Loan Market
Presenter: **Cédric Huylebroek** (KU Leuven)
Discussant: **Francesco Valscas** (University of Durham)
- Paper: Bank Taxation as a Driver of Credit Allocation
Presenter: **Álvaro Gallegos** (KU Leuven & UDLA)
Discussant: **Hans Degryse** (KU Leuven & CEPR)

10:45 – 11:15

Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:45

(Aula) **Keynote Speech:** “Reasons for Default and Effects of Debt Relief” by Prof. **Peter Ganong** (University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy). Introduction by **Kris Boudt** (Ghent University & Vrije Universiteit Brussel).

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch

13:45 – 15:30

Parallel Sessions 2

Session 1 Asset Management

(Room A1) Chair: Lieven Baele (Tilburg University)

- Paper: Optimal Diversification with Parameter Uncertainty
Presenter: **Rodolphe Vanderveken** (LIDAM/LFIN UCLouvain)
Discussant: **Aleksy Leeuwenkamp** (KU Leuven)
- Paper: Do Limits to Arbitrage Explain Portfolio Gains from Asset Mispricing?
Presenter: **Nathan Lassance** (UCLouvain)
Discussant: **Daniele Massacci** (King's College London)
- Paper: Forecasting Mutual Fund Performance – Do Portfolio-Holdings Based Predictors Matter?
Presenter: **Nikolay Pugachyov** (University of Neuchâtel)
Discussant: **Lieven Baele** (Tilburg University)

Session 2 Sustainable Finance I

(Room A2) Chair: Leentje Moortgat (Ghent University)

- Paper: The future of AI, sustainability, and finance
Presenter: **Giulia Napolitano** (University of Naples Federico II)
Discussant: **Yannick Inghels** (Ghent University)
- Paper: Signaling sustainability through green bonds: Evaluating its impact on stock returns

Presenter: **Kenneth De Beckker** (Open Universiteit & KU Leuven)

Discussant: **Thao Nguyen** (KU Leuven)

- Paper: Climate Risk Exposure : A Comparative Analysis of Sustainable and Conventional Funds

Presenter: **Jean-Yves Gnabo** (UNamur)

Discussant: **Cédric Huylebroek** (KU Leuven)

Session 3 Macro-Finance II

(Room B) Chair: Koen Inghelbrecht (Ghent University)

- Paper: Machine Learning, Financial Markets and the Macroeconomy: Can Macroprudential Policy be Microtargeted?

Presenter: **Max Berre** (EDHEC Business University & Université de Lyon)

Discussant: **Nejat Gökhan Okatan** (KU Leuven & Ghent University)

- Paper: (A)symmetric Information and Insurers' Nitpicky Behavior

Presenter: **Tao Li** (KU Leuven)

Discussant: **Piet Sercu** (KU Leuven)

- Paper: Oil markets and global economic conditions: Evidence from a general equilibrium model

Presenter: **Jolan Mohimont** (National Bank of Belgium)

Discussant: **Yasin Kürsat Onder** (Ghent University)

Session 4 Financial Econometrics II

(VIP Room) Chair: Nabil Bouamara (National Bank of Belgium)

- Paper: High-frequency trading and stock price crash risk

Presenter: **Thanos Verousis** (Vlerick Business School)

Discussant: **Håkon Tretvoll** (Statistics Norway)

- Paper: Selection Neglect and the Cross-Section of Wine Returns

Presenter: **Robbe Van Tillo** (KU Leuven)

Discussant: **Johannes Weytjens** (Ghent University)

- Paper: A multivariate Gram-Charlier factor model for large dimensional higher order moment portfolio selection

Presenter: **Wenhui Shi** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

Discussant: **Nathan Lassance** (UCLouvain)

Session 5 Banking II

(Aula) Chair: Klaas Mulier (Ghent University)

- Paper: Capital Externalities of Systemically Large Banks: Evidence from the Market Value of Smaller Banks

Presenter: **Francesco Valscas** (University of Durham)

Discussant: **Jason Cen** (University of Exeter Business School)

- Paper: Banking Supervisory Architecture and Sovereign Risk

Presenter: **Nuria Suárez** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)

Discussant: **Giovanni Trebbi** (Tilburg University)

- Paper: The Disciplining Effect of Bank Supervision: Evidence from SupTech

Presenter: **Hans Degryse** (KU Leuven & CEPR)

Discussant: **David-Jan Jansen** (De Nederlandsche Bank, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam & Tinbergen Institute)

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:45

Parallel Sessions 3

Session 1 Corporate Governance

(Room A1) Chair: Piet Sercu (KU Leuven)

- Paper: Naming and shaming inequality in voting rights: Evidence from Belgian dual-class shares (1924 – 1936)
Presenter: **Leentje Moortgat** (Ghent University)
Discussant: **Louise Schraeverus** (UNamur)
- Paper: Belgian Financial Elites and Destructive Entrepreneurship in King Leopold's Congo Free State
Presenter: **Marc Deloof** (University of Antwerp)
Discussant: **Robbe Van Tillo** (KU Leuven)
- Paper: Benchmarking with Sustainability Mandates
Presenter: **Jason Cen** (University of Exeter Business School)
Discussant: **Max Berre** (EDHEC Business University & Université de Lyon)

Session 2 Sustainable Finance II

(Room A2) Chair: Jean-Yves Gnabo (UNamur)

- Paper: SME's Environmental Attributes and Performance: A Data Integration Approach
Presenter: **Lorren Mernier** (HEC Liège)
Discussant: **Giulia Napolitano** (University of Naples Federico II)
- Paper: Green ETFs Attributes and Investor Behavior
Presenter: **Rim Laksaci** (UCLouvain)
Discussant: **Nikolay Pugachyov** (University of Neuchâtel)
- Paper: Trac(k)ing the Trajectory: Mapping Sustainable Development Goal 8 in EU-funded Research Projects
Presenter: **Yannick Inghels** (Ghent University)
Discussant: **Lorren Mernier** (HEC Liège)

Session 3 Banking III

(Room B) Chair: Olivier De Jonghe (National Bank of Belgium & Ghent University)

- Paper: Do actions follow words? How bank sentiment predicts credit growth
Presenter: **Pablo Vicente Pastor Y Camarasa** (Ghent University)
Discussant: **Jose Villegas** (Ghent University)
- Paper: Floods and financial stability: Scenario-based evidence from below sea level
Presenter: **David-Jan Jansen** (De Nederlandsche Bank, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam & Tinbergen Institute)
Discussant: **Klaas Mulier** (Ghent University)
- Paper: Bank Specialization and Corporate Innovation
Presenter: **Olivier De Jonghe** (National Bank of Belgium & Ghent University)
Discussant: **Álvaro Gallegos** (KU Leuven & UDLA)

Session 4 Behavioral Finance

(VIP Room) Chair: Nathan Lassance (UCLouvain)

- Paper: Males grasp losers, youngsters sell swiftly: an empirical case of Belgian retail investors

Presenter: **Bok Min Choi** (KU Leuven)

Discussant: **Arno De Block** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

- Paper: Effectiveness of Warning Signal and Overconfident Investors

Presenter: **Mariachiara Tedde** (Ghent University)

Discussant: **Kenneth De Beckker** (Open Universiteit & KU Leuven)

- Paper: Court shopping, pro-debtor bias, and bankruptcy outcomes

Presenter: **Kris Boudt** (Ghent University & Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

Discussant: **Marco Giometti** (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid)

17:45 – 19:00

Closing Reception

Keynote Speaker

Prof. dr. Peter Ganong



Peter Ganong is an associate professor of public policy at the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy. He studies income volatility and policies to mitigate its consequences. In his research on the foreclosure crisis, he found that most borrowers defaulted due to insufficient liquidity and that many foreclosures could have been averted through liquidity-focused modifications to mortgages. He also has found that unemployment benefits play a crucial role in sustaining the consumption of unemployed workers. In ongoing work, he is studying the effects of racial wealth inequality and the effects of high liquidity on the US economy. He received a B.A. and a Ph.D., both in economics, from Harvard University.