POLINA EFREMENKO

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Swiss B permit (work authorisation)

Employment

Institute of Financial Analysis, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland — From February 2027
Lecturer

Department of Accounting and Control, University of Lausanne, Switzerland — 2026–present
Senior (Postdoctoral) Researcher

Institute of Financial Analysis, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland — 2020–2025
Teaching and Research Assistant

Education

University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland — 2020–2025
PhD in Finance – Sustainable Finance
Thesis: *The Impact of Sustainability Factors on Bond Performance, M&A Activity and Investor Demand*
Supervisor: Prof. Carolina Salva
Defence committee: Prof. Larisa Yarovaya, Prof. Peter Fiechter, Prof. Philip Valta

University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland — 2017–2019
Master of Science in Finance

Higher School of Economics, Russia — 2013–2017
Bachelor of Science in Economics

Academic Visits

Scheller College of Business, Georgia Institute of Technology, United States — 2023
Visiting Scholar
Host: Prof. Sudheer Chava

Research Interests

Corporate Sustainability, ESG Regulation, Sustainability Accounting, Financial Markets

Publications

"ESG and Bond Market Resilience: Evidence from the Covid Crisis" (with Sudheer Chava and Carolina Salva), *Journal of Banking & Finance*, 185, 107634 (2026). doi.org/10.1016/j.jbankfin.2026.107634

Research in Progress

The Impact of Western Sustainability Regulations on the Global South
Research project with Peter Fiechter, Florian Habermann, Gaia Melloni, Nicolas Rudolf, and Sandra Schafhäutle. Part of the SNSF Grant No. 10006182

Green Equity Classifications: Evidence from the London Stock Exchange's Green Economy Mark
Solo-authored, available on SSRN

Academic Presentations

European Accounting Association Talent Workshop, IE University; European Financial Management Association (EFMA), University of Lisbon (ISEG); International Conference in Finance, Accounting & Banking (ICFAB), University of Southampton; CSR, the Economy and Financial Markets Conference, WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management; International Conference on Sustainability, Environment, and Social Transition in Economics and Finance (SESTEF), University of Southampton; Swiss Finance Institute Research Days, Study Center Gerzensee; World Finance Conference, University of Turin

Teaching Experience

Lecturer, University of Neuchâtel — From February 2027
MSc in Finance programme course: Sustainable Finance

Teaching Assistant, University of Neuchâtel — 2020–2025
MSc in Finance programme courses: Alternative Investments, Corporate Finance, Equity Research Contest, Master Thesis, Valuation
Undergraduate course: Financial Management (exam grading)

Beyond standard teaching assistant duties, delivered an ESG-focused lecture for the Valuation course and practical sessions for the Alternative Investments course

Co-supervised master's theses in sustainable finance and supported the University of Neuchâtel team that won the EMEA stage of the CFA Equity Research Challenge 2023 (highest score among 140 institutions)

Professional Service and Other Activities

President of Faculty Doctoral Student Association — 2022–2025
Provided administrative support and organised Brown Bag seminars for the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Neuchâtel

Conference Discussant — 2022–2025
World Finance Conference, SESTEF, CSR, the Economy and Financial Markets, EFMA

Research Support to PhD Supervisor — 2021–2025
Supported PhD supervisor with journal referee reports, conference materials and acquisition of MSCI datasets

Skills

Languages: English (fluent), French (intermediate), Russian (native)
Programming: Stata, R, Python
Databases: WRDS, LSEG (Refinitiv), MSCI ESG, CRSP, Morningstar Direct
AI tools: Codex, ChatGPT, Claude
Miscellaneous: LaTeX, Git, Moodle

References

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Sudheer Chava
Alton M. Costley Chair, Professor
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Peter Fiechter
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