

Mårten Blix, PhD

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Date of birth: 5 Oct. 1968.

Married, two children.

Work experience

Research Institute of Industrial Economics www.ifn.se/eng (Oct 2015-), Research scholar focusing on the effects of digitalization on the economy and the labor market. Frequent lecturer and discussant on policy issues.

Confederation of Swedish Enterprise, consultant responsible for report “Digitalization and the economy – challenges and opportunities.” 2015/04/20-10/20)

Ministry of Finance, Director in the budget department (Jan 2006-April 2015), incl. some secondment & paternity leave)

- Director in the Structural Policies Division. Responsibilities included structural policies for growth and efficiency, as well as financial stability (Jan 2010-April 2015). Work on financial framework and the role for stabilisation policy in the Economics Department (Oct 2007-March 2008). Director for division of total government expenditure with a staff of about 14 persons and responsible for multiyear forecast. Responsible for the coordination of the government budget process. (Jan 2006-May 2007).

Prime Minister's Office, Sweden. Secretary for the demographic challenge in the Commission for the Future Challenges in Sweden. Wrote the report “Future welfare and the ageing population” and presented it at a press-conference with comments from the Swedish Prime Minister. Also published several debate-articles and magazine articles. 2012-04-02:2013-01-15.

European Central Bank

- Senior economist in the Fiscal Policies Division. Commented on fiscal issues related to financial stability and fiscal sustainability in the euro area, organised workshop and monitored fiscal developments in some EU countries (Denmark, Sweden, UK) (April 2008-Feb 2009).

Ministry of Industry, Communications and Employment (March 2004-Dec 2005)

- Director of Secretariat for Research and Analysis with a staff of about 14 persons. Responsible for covering wide ranging issues for growth and the labour market, such as outsourcing, productivity growth and effects from trade.

Monetary Policy Department, Sveriges Riksbank (Aug. 1997-February 2004)

- Adviser to the chief economist on monetary policy communication (Aug 2003-Feb 2004).
- Head of the model division from June 2000. The division's main responsibility was using a macroeconomic simulation model in the policy process to support the forecasting round for the *Inflation Reports*.
- Head of the division for international macro analysis from Aug 1999. The division's main responsibility was to forecast conjunctural developments in the OECD area as an input to the Riksbank's inflation report. Another responsibility was to contribute with briefings for the Governor and Deputy Governor before their trips to international organisations.
- Economist in the division for Price Analysis, until July 1999. Responsibility for forecasting Swedish wages as well as assessing indirect taxes and underlying inflation. Developed (with Peter Sellin) a method to show the uncertainty and risk

in the inflation forecast based on assessments in important macro variables, used to publish the “fan-charts” in the Swedish inflation reports since 1998:Q2.

Education

Stockholm University (1993-97)

Ph.D. in economics on 17 September 1997; title of dissertation: "Rational expectations and regime shifts in macroeconometrics" with Professor Helmut Lütkepohl as the faculty opponent. Provides new analytical results about models with stochastic shifts in regime.

London School of Economics (1989-93)

- M.Sc. in Econometrics & Mathematical Economics.
- B.Sc. in Economics. Primarily Econometrics and Industrial Organisation.

American International School, Vienna, Austria (1982-87)

International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma. Award for best mathematics student 1987.

International media (selected interviews):

[*The Economist*. Interview. June 8, 2017.](#)

[*International New York Times*. Interview. Dec 28, 2017.](#)

Publications:

[“Nätläkare i primärvården – lindring eller lidande? \[Telemedicine in primary health care – cure or pain?\]” \(with Johanna Jeansson\). *Ekonomisk Debatt*. Nr 3 2018 Årgång 46. P. 66–78.](#)

[“The Effects of Digitalisation on Labour Market Polarisation and Tax Revenue,” CESifo Forum, December, 4/2017, Vol. 18, P. 9–14.](#)

[“Kan en basinkomst överbrygga klyftorna? \[Can basic income overcome income polarisation?\]” in Siri Steijer \(ed.\) *Pengar för Ingenting – Essäer om Medborgarlön \[Money for nothing – Essays on Basic Income\]*, P. 87–100. February 1, 2018.](#)

“Privatizing Welfare Services – lessons from the Swedish Experience,” (with Henrik Jordahl) book manuscript in progress, 2018, Research Institute of Industrial Economics.

[“Reform of the welfare state or dreams about universal basic income?” IPPR Progressive Review. The Institute for Public Policy. P. 76–82. July 18, 2017.](#)

[“Structural change and the freight transport labor market,” *OECD International Transport Forum*. Discussion paper. Nr. 12. 2017. August 3, 2017.](#)

[“Digitalization, Immigration and the Welfare State,” *Edward Elgar*, January 2017.](#)

[“Digitilization and the economy – challenges and opportunities,” 2016, ISBN 978-91-7611-438-4.](#)

[“Produktivitetstillväxt – hot och möjligheter” \(Productivity growth – threats and challenges\), \(Swedish\) in *Ekonomisk Debatt*, 2015/5.](#)

“Future welfare and the ageing population”, Commission on Future Challenges for Sweden, published 2013-03-05, 216 pages.

“Are the automatic stabilisers immune from asymmetries and extreme events?” mimeo, 2010.

“On central bank efficiency” (with Sonja Daltung and Governor Lars Heikensten), Sveriges Riksbank Economic Review, 2003:3.

“An evaluation of forecasts for the Swedish economy” (with Kent Friberg and Fredrik Åkerlind), Sveriges Riksbank Economic Review, 2002:3.

"How good is the forecasting performance of major institutions? – An evaluation of GDP and inflation forecasts for selected OECD countries" (with Joachim Wadefjord, Ulrika Wienecke and Martin Ådahl), *Sveriges Riksbank Economic Review*, 2001:3.

Comment on Tomas Cargill: "Monetary policy, deflation and economic history: lessons for the Bank of Japan" in *Monetary and Economic Studies*, Institute for Monetary and Economic Studies, Bank of Japan, 2001, pp.135-137.

"A bivariate distribution for inflation and output forecasts" (with Peter Sellin), Working Paper, Nr 102, 2000, *Sveriges Riksbank*.

"The Uncertainty in the inflation forecast" (with Peter Sellin), *Quarterly Review*, 1999:2, *Sveriges Riksbank*.

"Forecasting Swedish Inflation with a Markov Switching VAR", *Sveriges Riksbank Working Paper*, Nr 76, 1999.

"Uncertainty bands for inflation forecasts" (with Peter Sellin), *Sveriges Riksbank Working Paper*, Nr 65, 1998.

Rational Expectations and Regime Shifts in Macroeconometrics, PhD dissertation, Institute for International Economic Studies, Akedemityck: Edsbruk, 1997.

"Rational Expectations in a VAR with Markov Switching", *Sveriges Riksbank Working Paper*, Nr 42, Oct 1997.

"Term Premia Under Switching Regimes", *Sveriges Riksbank WP*, Nr 27, Jan 1996.

"Underlying Inflation - A Common Trends Approach", *Sveriges Riksbank Working Paper*, No 23, March 1995.

Workshops, technical assistance and selected presentations:

4th Meeting of the OECD Global Forum on VAT, 13/04/2017, Paris.

<http://www.oecd.org/tax/consumption/vat-global-forum.htm>

US Department of Transport and OECD International Transport Forum, presentation "Structural change and the freight transport labor market," Washington D.C., 2017-01-05.
<http://www.itf-oecd.org/structural-change-and-freight-transport-labor-market>

International Monetary Fund, presentation "Digitalization, Immigration and the Welfare State," Washington DC, 2017-01-04.

International Telecoms Union, keynote address on digitalization and the labor market in Gaborone, Botswana, 2016-11-21.

"Arbetsmarknaden och delningsekonomin," seminarium vid Riksdagen, 2015-10-21, [The labor market and the sharing economy, presentation at the Swedish parliament.].

"The Great Recession – Moving Ahead," principal organiser of Minister of Finance Anders Borg's conference on 11 August 2014 drawing lessons from the Great Recession, with speakers including Vice-Chairman Stanley Fischer from the Federal Reserve and Carmen Reinhart from Harvard University.

OECD Working Party 1 on Structural policies, principal Swedish delegate 2013-2014.

OECD workshop on Inclusive Growth, Paris, 2013-04-03.

Government Summit Dubai, Presentation of Swedish budgetary framework and experience, 11/02/2012.

Co-Chairman of Senior Budget Officials during 2009–14, Middle East and North Africa region for the following meetings: Doha, Qatar on 4-5/11/2009, Dubai, UAE on 31/10-1/11/2010, Beirut, Lebanon on 21-22/9/2011, Tunis, Tunisia on 14-15/11/2012, Doha, Qatar on 25-26/11/2013 and in Abu-Dhabi, UAE on 10-11/12/2014.

<http://www.oecd.org/gov/budgeting/regionalseniorebudgetofficialsnetworkforthemiddleeastandnorthafricamena.htm>

Regional Workshop on Public Policy Evaluation, Rabat, Morocco 23-24 March 2010, Opening remarks on experience from the crisis in Sweden and presentation in a later session on “The Swedish Fiscal Framework”

European Central Bank, organised workshop on “Challenges for Government Revenues in the EU,” 12 Dec 2008.

OECD Senior Budget Officials Meeting in Sydney, Australia, May 2007.

OECD, principal Swedish delegate to CIBE-committee, 2004-06

Expert in the Swedish Parliamentary Commission for Sustainable Government Organisation, 2004-2006, which made recommendations on how to organize and coordinate the central government’s responsibilities in the regional level.

Sveriges Riksbank, organised workshop on “Central Bank Efficiency”, 23-24 May 2003.

Reserve Bank of South Africa, technical assistance on inflation targeting, May 2000.

Bank of Japan, discussant in workshop on “The Role of Monetary Policy under Low Inflation: deflationary shocks and policy responses,” July 2000.

Attendance in academic workshops in the Federal Reserve System: San Francisco and Philadelphia.

Attendance in academic workshops at the Bank of Canada.

Selected debate articles and interviews (mostly in Swedish):

[DI Debatt: “Läge för vettig räntepolitik.” 2018-05-28.](#)

[Dagens Samhälle \(2018\). “Synliga vårdbehov och osynliga kostnader.” 25 April.](#)

[DN Debatt Slutreplik \(2018\). “Kritkerna av nätläkare tar för lätt på problemen med dålig tillgänglighet.” 10 April.](#)

[DN Debatt \(2018\). “Nätläkare ger nya möjligheter – låt inte prestige stå i vägen.” 3 March.](#)

[SvD Debatt \(2017\). ”Riksbanken bör fokusera mer på stabilitet.” 1 Oct.](#)

[DN Debatt \(2017\). ”Basinkomst kan försämra för låginkomsttagare.” 7 July.](#)

[Di Debatt \(2017\). “Höga skatter utmanas av digitaliseringen.” 17 May.](#)

[SvD Debatt \(2017\). “Glesbygdens jobb är en ödesfråga.” \(with Özge Öner\). 2 Jan.](#)

[SvD Debatt \(2016\). “Sveriges modell för välfärden är i kris.” 13 Nov.](#)

[Dagens Industri Debatt \(2016\). “Flera hot mot produktiviteten,” 9 Oct.](#)

[SvD Näringsliv Debatt 2016. ”Digitalisering minskar möjligheter att beskatta,” \(med Magnus Henrekson\) 9 April.](#)

[SvD Brännpunkt \(2015\). “Vårt försprång som it-nation kan tyna bort,” 26 Dec.](#)

[DI Dimension \(2015\). “Det är rätt att vara orolig,” intervju, 4 Nov.](#)

[DN Debatt \(2015\). “Så klarar vi jobben när automatiseringen kommer,” 10 Dec.](#)

[SvD Brännpunkt \(2015\). “Den låga räntan kan skada svensk ekonomi,” 10 Oct.](#)

[SvD Brännpunkt \(2015\). “Digitaliseringens effekter underskattas,” 13 Sept.](#)

[Dagens Industri Debatt 2015, “Delningsekonomin är sund,” 27 July.](#)

[DN Debatt Replik \(2015\). “Martinson och Löf är på villovägar om jobbskatteavdraget,” 29 May.](#)

[DI Debatt \(2013\). “Jobba tidigare och längre.” \[work earlier and longer\], 5 March.](#)

[Moderna Läkare \(2013/1\). “Utmaningar från den åldrande befolkningen,”\[challenges from the ageing population\], pp.10-11.](#)

[Sveriges Radio \(2013\). Panel debate \[Swedish public radio, panel debate\], 5 March.](#)

[Svenskt Näringsliv \(2013\). Interview Swedish Confederation of Business Enterprise.](#)

[Östersundsposten \(2012\). Interview on regional challenge for demography. 14 Nov.](#)

[Dagens Industri \(2012\). Interview on regional challenge for demography. 15 Nov.](#)

[Metropol \(2013\). “Tufft klara växande regional skillnader”.](#)

[DN Debatt Replik \(2012\). “Företag bör anpassa sig till en åldrande befolkning, \[Firms should adjust to the ageing population\]” 12 Dec \(with Ingemar Eriksson\).](#)

[Dagens Samhälle \(2012\). “Framtidens välfärd klarar vi genom att jobba längre,” \[Future welfare achieved by working longer\]. 22 Oct.](#)

Miscellaneous:

Executive summer school in financial regulation, London School of Economics, 2012.

Certificate for board membership, the Swedish Academy of Board Members, 2011.

Stockholm University: Chairman in the council for PhD students in economics (1994–95).

Black belt in Shotokan Karate (JKA). Scuba diving: PADI Divemaster and IANTD trimix for deep diving.