

# NIKOLA TASIĆ

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Mailing address:**

1122 Glen Way NE  
Brookhaven, GA 30319

**Phone:**

+1-470-424-1389

**E-mail:**

nikola@tasic.net

**Web:**

<http://www.tasic.net/>

## ACADEMIC DEGREES

October 2007. *Ph.D. in Economics* (GPA 4.0/4.0), Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA.

May 2006. *M.A. in Economics* (GPA 3.6/4.0), Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA.

May 2004. *B.S. in Economics* (GPA 3.61/4.0), cum laude, San José State University, San Jose, CA.

## SPECIALTIES AND SKILLS

I have expertise in ML and AI, mostly done in Python, R, and Apache big data frameworks and over 20 years of experience in SQL, data lakes, and manipulating flat text databases in Linux shells and Perl.

I have a strong academic foundation in statistics/econometrics and expert knowledge of SAS, Matlab, and Stata, as well as the extensive applied experience in SPSS, Mathematica, GAMS, and Gauss.

Proficiency in other technologies: git, Apache, HTML, PHP, .NET, Java, JSON, API, and PowerShell.

## RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

2019 *Senior Data Scientist, Georgia Policy Labs*, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA.

I used AI, ML, and NLP techniques to match individuals across statewide big data. I prepared big data for the use by researchers and imported data lake to MS SQL Server.

2019 *Entrepreneur in Residence, Antler*, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

I was a founder and technical lead of *Scientifico*, a big data platform that uses AI and deep learning to draw conclusions from data shared by scientists (focus on medical data hubs).

2017 *Founding Partner, Singidunum Dynamics*, Belgrade, Serbia.

I co-founded a data science consulting company. We specialize in advanced AI and ML methods to enhance forecast of big data (mostly in financial and online retail industry).

2015-2017 *CTO, Marcelco Group AG*, Zürich, Switzerland.

I lead the team of developers and data scientists on crypto and online banking projects, handled petabytes of financial big data, and partnered with Lenovo and Infinidat.

2014-2017 *Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics and Entrepreneurship*, Belgrade, Serbia.

I taught Quantitative Research Methods, Monetary Economics, etc.

- 2013-2017 *Senior Research Associate*, the **Governance Monitoring Association**, Sofia, Bulgaria.  
I collected and cleaned financial big data that were used to measure the soundness of the financial system. I tested for the impact of financial sector on economic growth.
- 2014-2015 *Senior Advisor to the Governor*, **National Bank of Serbia**, Belgrade, Serbia.  
I updated and automated ML models of economic forecast and based on them I produced quantitative research on the financial sector and international lending.
- 2008-2013 *Head of Macroeconomic Modeling and Forecast*, **ekonomija.org**, Belgrade, Serbia.  
I developed macroeconomic and sector-specific forecasts.
- 2011-2012 *Consultant* to Chief Economist, **Banca Intesa**, Belgrade, Serbia.  
I helped forecast macroeconomic and bank outcomes and stress test of banking big data.
- 2008-2011 *Visiting Professor* at the **Faculty of International Economics**, Belgrade, Serbia.  
I successfully introduced Introductory Econometrics to the curriculum.
- 2008-2011 *Assistant Professor* at the **Faculty of State Administration**, Belgrade, Serbia.  
I taught International Financial Institutions, Monetary Economics, and Public Finance.
- 2008 *Senior Economist* at the **National Bank of Serbia**, Belgrade, Serbia.  
I did quantitative research on inflation, stability, and economic growth.
- 2007 *Research Associate* at the **Fiscal Research Center**, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.  
I helped advise governments by: forecasting population using public big data, modeling the local economy in general equilibrium setting, and with research on taxation sources.
- 2004-2006 *Teaching Assistant* at the **Georgia State University**, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.  
I assisted economics professors in research and taught Financial Econometrics (Ph.D.)
- 2004 *Teaching Assistant* at San José State University, San Jose, California, USA.  
I tutored undergraduate colleagues at the Economics Lab.
- 2004 *Assistant* at the **Processed Food Institute**, San Jose, California, USA.  
I assisted in organizing and preparing statewide data sets.
- 2003 *Assistant* at the **California Agriculture Team**, San Jose, California, USA.  
I assisted in collecting data sets and developed an online platform.

## SELECTED WORKING PAPERS

"Fear of Commitment: Weak Institutions, Volatile Economy, and the Prevalence of Short-Term International Capital" (with Vladimir Ristanović), under review at *Eastern European Economics*.

"Pass-Through of the Exchange Rate to Inflation in the Very Long-Run: 1883-2018," work in progress.

- "Determinants of Cross-Border Bank Lending," work in progress.
- "Interest Rate Transmission in Serbia" (with Milan Aleksić), latest revision September 2017.
- "Determinants of the Exchange Rate in a Small Open Economy under Different Exchange Rate Regimes: Serbian Dinar during Previous Three Decades," latest revision September 2015.
- "Domestic Banks, International Banks, and Growth: Panel Evidence from 172 Countries," latest revision May 2014.
- "The Determinants of Long-Term Credit across Countries" (with Neven Valev), under review, latest revision December 2013.
- "Banks and Endogenous Growth: A Closer Look at the Liquidity Transformation and the Cost of Banking," latest revision July 2013.
- "Political Determination of Intergovernmental Transfers: Evidence from a Transition Country," revise and resubmit at the European Journal of Comparative Economics, latest revision September 2006.

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- "Determinants of Economic Growth in the Pre-Crisis Period" (with Vladimir Ristanović and Ivan Nikolić), *Industry*, in print.
- "Exchange Rate Pass-Through on Prices in Serbia in the Post-Crisis Period" (with Vladimir Ristanović), *Industry*, Jun 2018, 46 (2): 117-129.
- "The Provision of Long-term Financing in the Transition Economies" (with Neven Valev), *Journal of Comparative Economics*, Jun 2010, 38 (2): 160-172.
- "Adjustment of Serbian Prices - Effects of Import Prices and the Exchange Rate," *Market, Money, Capital*, 2009, 42 (3): 67-77.
- "Monetary Integration in the Region: Mission Impossible and/or Unwanted?" (with Vladimir Vučković), *Challenges of European Integration*, 2009, 6: 4-12.
- "Monetary Policy and Economic Recovery" (with Boško Živković and Miroslav Zdravković), chapter in a book *Banks, Capital Market, Insurance and Leasing Companies*, Economist: Belgrade, 2009.
- "Perspectives of Monetary Cooperation in Southeast Europe: Common Currency, Fixed Exchange Rate or Status Quo" (with Vladimir Vučković), *Market, Money, Capital*, 2009, 42 (2): 31-43.
- "Maturity Structure of Cross-border Credit in Transition Countries" (with Vladimir Vučković), *Business Policy*, 2009, 38 (5-6): 17-20.
- "Efficiency of Reserve Requirements as a Monetary Policy Instrument" (with Mirjana Palić), *Banking*, 2008, 37(7-8): 28-41.
- "Long-Run Exchange Rate Sensitivity of Serbian Trade Flows" (with Miroslav Zdravković), *National Bank of Serbia Working Paper Series*, no. 16, 2008. Also published in *MAT*.
- "Interest Rate Transmission in a Dollarized Economy: the Case of Serbia" (with Milan Aleksić, Ljiljana Đurđević, and Mirjana Palić), *National Bank of Serbia Working Paper Series*, no. 15, 2008.

"Pass-Through of Exchange Rate to Prices in Serbia: 2001-2007," *National Bank of Serbia Working Paper Series*, no. 11, 2008.

"Food Price Convergence and Trade in the Balkans," *Eastern European Economics*, March-April 2007, (2): 6-22.

## **REPORTS, PROCEEDINGS, AND NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS**

"Interest Rate Pass-Through in Serbia: An Asymmetric Threshold Cointegration Analysis" (with Siniša Miletić), Proceedings from *Employment, Education, and Entrepreneurship* conference (Investment Policies, Industrial development, and Economic Growth Panel), October 2015: 240-251.

"Dinar, Balkanico or Euro: VAR Analysis of Optimum Currency Area" (with Vladimir Vučković), Proceedings: *7th International Scientific Conference Dealing with the Global Economic Crisis* by Companies and Economies, November 2009: 345-356.

"Consumption Dynamics in Serbia: What Causes Poverty and What Reduces It?" (with Milan Aleksić), February 2009. Funded by the grant of the Government of Serbia.

"Revenue Sources of State and Local Governments," *Fiscal Research Center Report*, No. 165, Sept. 2007.

"Economic Impact of the Commercial Music Industry in Atlanta and the State of Georgia: New Estimates" (with Sally Wallace), *Fiscal Research Center Report*, No. 159, July 2007.

"Forecasting Pre-K Enrollment in Georgia Counties" (with Sally Wallace), *Fiscal Research Center Report*, No. 152, April 2007.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Contributing member of The Free Software Foundation and The Linux Foundation. Member of The Econometric Society and The Association for the Study of Eastern European Economies and Cultures. Referee for Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, Industry.

## **REFERENCES**

### **Sally Wallace**

Dean  
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies  
Georgia State University  
swallace@gsu.edu

### **Sean Turner**

Senior Manager  
Transfer Pricing  
PricewaterhouseCoopers  
sean.turner@pwc.com

### **J.M. Pogodzinski**

Professor  
Department of Economics  
San José State University  
J.M.Pogodzinski@sjsu.edu

### **Benjamin Miller**

Partner  
Tax  
Bennett Thrasher  
ben.miller@btcpa.net