

# Newsletter February 2025

WORLD INEQUALITY LAB

The **World Inequality Database** (WID) has expanded with new macroeconomic data on inequality between countries, complementing the annual updates on income, wealth, and gender inequality within countries and at the global level. Catch up on the latest findings by watching our webinar below.

Scroll down for our latest **working papers** and events.

Save the date for our upcoming events, including an **international conference on the effective taxation of the super rich**.

Follow us on [BlueSky](#) and [Instagram](#) to keep the conversation going.

Alice F. on behalf of the team.



◆ The WID now includes data up to 2023 and **new data on foreign income, foreign wealth, trade balance, public revenue, and public spending** – essential for understanding the dynamics of global inequality.

[Explore 10 facts on global inequality](#)

The WID provides open access to the **largest available database on the historical evolution of the world distribution of income and wealth**.

## Upcoming events



### Equality Debate with Bina Agarwal | March, 19, 2025

The first **Global Inequality Research Award** was awarded to **Bina Agarwal** for her major work on gender inequalities, environmental governance, feminist environmentalism and environmental inequalities. The award will be



### 'Taxing Billionaires' international conference | April, 8-9, 2025

The conference, organized in partnership with EU Tax Observatory (EUTO), and the Institute of Public Policies (IPP), will bring together leading researchers - including **Thomas Piketty** and **Gabriel**

presented by **Thomas Piketty** and **Lucas Chancel**, followed by a public lecture.

Find out more  
and register

**Zucman** - and policymakers to advance the discussion on the effective taxation of the super-rich.

Find out more  
and register

## #EqualityDebate Replay



Journalist, writer and activist **George Monbiot**, discussed his best-seller *The Invisible Doctrine, The Secret History of Neoliberalism* with Thomas Piketty.



Sociologist **Benjamin Lemoine** presented his latest book *Chasseurs d'Etats* (in french) on the role of vulture funds, and discussed it with Thomas Piketty.

## New working papers

**"The government revenue losses due to consumption through the firm amount to 1% of GDP."**

Drawing on data from an electronic invoicing program in Portugal, **David Leite** empirically estimated the proportion of personal expenditures shifted to firms and the impacts on government revenue loss and inequality.

Read More

**"Educational inequality is much higher in India than China, accounting for 25% of wage inequality in India compared to 5-12% in China."**

**Nitin Kumar Bharti** and **Li Yang** constructed a novel dataset to compare human capital accumulation strategies of China and India and their effects on inequality and economic development.

Read More

**"It takes 2-4 years for an increase in private wealth accumulation and concentration at the top to significantly heighten the risk of a systemic bank run."**

Analysing data from 18 countries between 1870 and 2020, **Edison Jakurti** examines the role of wealth inequality as a predictor of financial crises.

Read More

Avaredo, F., Berman, Y., Morelli, S., *Evidence from the Dead: New Estimates of Wealth Inequality based on the Distribution of Estates*, World Inequality Lab Working Paper 2025/02

Jakurti, E., Wealth inequality, *Asset Price Bubbles and Financial Crises*, World Inequality Lab Working Paper 2025/01

Cogneau, D., Mo, Z., *Enforcing Colonial Rule: Blood Tax and Head Tax in French West Africa*, World Inequality Lab Working Paper 2024/28

Chancel, L., Mohren, C., Bothe, P., Semieniuk, G., *Climate Change and Wealth Inequality: A Literature Review and Numerical Insights*, World Inequality Lab Working Paper 2024/27

Yang, L., Zhang, J., Zhao, Z., *Intergenerational Mobility in Hong Kong, 1976-2016*, World Inequality Lab Working Paper 2024/26

Leite, D., The Firm as Tax Shelter: *Micro Evidence and Aggregate Implications of Consumption through the Firm*, World Inequality Lab Working Paper 2024/25

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**World Inequality Lab**

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