

# Curriculum Vitae Bengt Assarsson May 2016

Born: 15 July 1950 in Trelleborg, Sweden  
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Present positions: Associate professor in economics, Uppsala University, senior economist at National Institute of Economic Research and private consultant

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## Exams:

Gymnasium: Klippan 1970

BA: Lund University 1976

Ph D: Lund University 1984

Associate professor: Uppsala University, 1991

## Employment:

1974-90 Lecturer Lund University  
1986 Research Fellow, Labor Union Institute for Economic Research  
1985-91 Assistant Professor, Lund University  
1990-2015 Lecturer, Associate Professor, Uppsala University  
1992-96 Economist, Ministry of Finance  
1997-01 Consultant, Sveriges Riksbank, private consultant  
2001-08 Economist, Sveriges Riksbank  
2008- Private consultant  
2012- Senior economist, National Institute of Economic Research  
2015- Affiliated researcher, Uppsala University

## Teaching

Microeconomics, public economics and macroeconomics 1<sup>st</sup> year undergraduate level

Macroeconomics, masters level (presently)

Applied econometrics, graduate level

Thesis advisor

## Research profile

Applied microeconomics and macroeconomics. Econometrics. Models for simulation and forecasting. Time series/cross section estimation. General equilibrium models. Econometric analyses with interview and survey data.

## Public and other inquiries

I have written 8 supplements to Government Public Inquiries (Statens offentliga utredningar, SOU). I have also been a consultant or been employed as expert by, among others, Statistics Sweden, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Law, The Swedish Trade Union Confederation, The Swedish Confederation for Professional Employees, Confederation of Swedish Enterprise, Svenska Handelsbanken, and Nordea.

## Publications

*Books:*

*The Econometrics of Demand Systems. With Applications to Food Demand in the Nordic Countries*, Advanced Studies in Theoretical and Applied Econometrics, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1996. (with David Edgerton, Anders Hummelose, Ilkka Laurila, Kyrre Rickertsen and Per Halvor Vale).

*Prisbildning på industriella marknader (Price formation in industrial markets)*, SNS förlag, 1989. (reviewed in *Ekonomisk Debatt*, no 2, 1990 by Nils Gottfries, see <http://nationalekonomi.se/filer/pdf/18-2-ng.pdf>).

*Inflation and relative prices in an open economy*, Lund Economic Studies 31, dissertation, Lund 1984.

*Other publications:*

*In Swedish:*

Vad är fel med penningpolitiken i Sverige?, i *Makropolitik i kris – en vänskrift till Lars Jonung med anledning av hans 70-årsdag, maj 2016*, Knut Wicksells centrum för finansvetenskap, Mediatryck, Lund University, Lund 2016.

En granskning av Goodharts och Rochets utvärdering av Riksbankens politik (A review of Goodhart's and Rochet's evaluation of the policy of the Riksbank), *Ekonomiska Samfundets Tidskrift*, nr 2, årgång 65, 2012, see also [http://www.ekonomiskasamfundet.fi/est/files/est\\_2\\_12-1\\_natversion.pdf](http://www.ekonomiskasamfundet.fi/est/files/est_2_12-1_natversion.pdf).

Problemet är ett helt annat än vad Mörtvik och Zettergren tar upp (The problem is different than what Mörtvik and Zettergren brings up), *Dagens Nyheter*, 1/11 2011, Web version. see <http://www.dn.se/debatt/problemet-ar-ett-helt-annat-an-vad-mortvik-och-zettergren-tar-upp>.

Kommunernas ekonomi i konjunkturcykeln (Local government budgets and the business cycle), Bilaga 6 till SOU 2011:59 *Spara i goda tider – för en stabil kommunal verksamhet*

Riksbanken har inbyggd slagsida för låg inflation (Riksbank policy is biased), *Dagens Nyheter*, 16/5 2011, <http://www.dn.se/debatt/riksbanken-har-inbyggd-slagsida-for-lag-inflation>, see also [www.bassarsson.com](http://www.bassarsson.com).

Riksbanken måste ta sitt arbete på större allvar (The failure of monetary policy), *Dagens Nyheter*, 2/5 2011, [http://www.dn.se/Pages/Article.aspx?id=643739\\_Article](http://www.dn.se/Pages/Article.aspx?id=643739_Article), see also [www.bassarsson.com](http://www.bassarsson.com).

Penningpolitiken i Sverige 1995-2010 (Monetary policy in Sweden 1995-2010), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, No. 3, 2011, <http://www.ne.su.se/ed/pdf/39-3-ba.pdf>, see also [www.bassarsson.com](http://www.bassarsson.com).

Ekonomi blir bättre än vad Riksbanken spår (The economy improves more than in the Riksbank forecasts), *Dagens Nyheter*, 3/9 2009, <http://www.dn.se/debatt/ekonomi-bli-battare-an-vad-riksbanken-spar>, see also [www.bassarsson.com](http://www.bassarsson.com).

Ta bort moms helt på inköp av nya bilar (Remove VAT on new cars), *Dagens Nyheter*, 5/12 2008, <http://www.dn.se/debatt/ta-bort-moms-helt-pa-inkop-av-nya-bilar>.

Sänk reporäntan till 1,0 procent (Lower the repo rate to 1,0 percent), *Svenska Dagbladet*, 15/11 2008, [http://www.svd.se/opinion/brannpunkt/sank-reporantan-till-10-procent\\_2045511.svd](http://www.svd.se/opinion/brannpunkt/sank-reporantan-till-10-procent_2045511.svd).

Riksbankens prognoser för importpriser och inflation, *Penning & Valuta*, Sveriges riksbank, 2007:3, se [http://www.riksbank.se/upload/Dokument\\_riksbank/Kat\\_publicerat/Rapporter/2007/2007\\_3n\\_ya\\_sv.pdf](http://www.riksbank.se/upload/Dokument_riksbank/Kat_publicerat/Rapporter/2007/2007_3n_ya_sv.pdf). (also in English, see below)

Moms och inkomstfördelning (VAT and income distribution), Bilaga 6 till SOU 2006:90, *På väg mot en differentierad mervärdesskatt*, se <http://www.regeringen.se/content/1/c6/07/17/86/46e25cf3.pdf>.

Inflation och relativa prisförändringar i den svenska ekonomin (Inflation and relative price changes in the Swedish economy), *Penning & Valuta*, Sveriges riksbank, 2004:3, se även [http://www.riksbank.se/pagefolders/16888/2004\\_3.pdf](http://www.riksbank.se/pagefolders/16888/2004_3.pdf).

Stabiliseringspolitiska konsekvenser av utökad tillämpning av majoritetsbeslut inom EU, s. 125-147 i *Europaperspektiv: Utvidgning, majoritetsbeslut och flexibel integration*, Årsbok 2001, Nätverk för Europaforskning, SNEE, Santérus förlag, 2001.

Särskilt yttrande (Selective statement), s. 149-56, Bilaga till *Konsumentprisindex*, SOU 1999:124.

Efterfrågan på tjänster i Sverige. Beräkning av efterfrågeelasticiteter och sysselsättningseffekter (The demand for services in Sweden. Estimation of demand elasticities and employment effects), Bilaga 3 till SOU 1997:17, *Skatter, tjänster och sysselsättning*.

*Sverige i och utanför EMU. Analys av chocker i en ekonometrisk modell för världsekonomin (Sweden within and outside the EMU. Analysis of shocks in a econometric model for the world economy)*, publicerad för EMU-kommittén, Norstedts, 1996. Bilaga 6 till SOU 1996:158. Se även

<http://www.fritzes.se/njab/produkt.nsf/lf?ReadForm&2ADAD598513C3DB7412567220040E1A7>.

Makroekonomiska chocker och ekonomisk struktur - en jämförelse mellan Sverige och EG-länderna (Macroeconomic shocks and economic structure - A comparison of Sweden and the EC countries), Bilaga 2 till EG-konsekvensutredningen, SOU 1994:6. (with Clas Olsson)

Makroekonomisk politik (Macroeconomic policy), kapitel 5 i Långtidsutredningen 1994, SOU 1995:4.

Oseriöst, Wetterberg! (Unreliable, Wetterberg), DN-Debatt, 1995-05-30, se även [www.bassarsson.com](http://www.bassarsson.com) länken Debatt/Arbetslöshet, (with Mats Johansson)

Ekonomisk politik under rörlig växelkurs (Economic policy with flexible exchange rates), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 1, 1993.

Ekonomisk politik under rörlig växelkurs - replik till Hörngren (Economic policy with flexible exchange rates - rejoinder to Hörngren), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 4, 1993

Livscykelhypotesen, konsumtionen och stabiliseringspolitiken (The life cycle hypothesis, consumption and stabilisation policy), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 7, 1993.

Kvalitetsförändringar och produktivitetsmått (Quality changes and productivity measures), Allmänna förlaget, 1991, Bilaga 1 till SOU 1991:82.

Efterfrågan på alkohol i Sverige 1963-1988 (The demand for alcohol in Sweden 1963-1988), Allmänna förlaget 1991. Bilaga 1 till SOU 1991:52, *Alkoholbeskattningen*.

Effekter på produktion, sysselsättning och allmän prisnivå av förändrad indirekt beskattning (Effects on production, employment and the general price level from changes in value added taxation), Bilaga 3 till SOU 1989:35, *Reformerad mervärdesskatt m m*.

Behåll matmomsen! (Keep the VAT on food!), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 3, 1988, ledare (with Bo Sandelin).

Yrkesskola eller universitet? (Vocational school or university?), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 7, 1987, ledare

Fördelningspolitik och skattereformer (Distributional policy and tax reforms), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 3, 1987, ledare

Barnfamiljernas ekonomi -- svar till Anders Hederstierna/Brita Schwarz och Björn Gustafsson (The economics of the family - rejoinder to Anders Hederstierna/Brita Schwarz and Björn Gustafsson), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 1, 1987

(The economics of the family): Svar till Johan Fritzell, *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 5, 1986

Barnfamiljernas ekonomi (The economics of the family), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, 1986:1.

En ny keynesiansk stagflationsteori (A new Keynesian stagflation theory), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, 1983:5, (with Peter Högfeldt)

Livsmedelssubventioner -- ett stöd till höginkomsttagare (Food subsidies - a support for the rich), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 8, 1977

Fördelningseffekter av relativa prisförändringar (Distributional effects of relative price changes), *Ekonomisk Debatt*, nr 6, 1976

*In English:*

Do Swedish Consumer Confidence Indicators Do What They Are Intended to Do?, *Applied Economics Quarterly*, vol. 61, no. 4, 2015, 391-404. <http://ejournals.duncker-humboldt.de/doi/abs/10.3790/aeq.61.4.391> (with Pär Österholm)

Core inflation, the output gap and inflation targeting. An empirical evaluation of monetary policy in Australia, the Euro zone, South Korea, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Paper prepared for the 13<sup>th</sup> SNEE European Integration Conference in Mölle, Sweden, May 2011. See [www.bassarsson.com](http://www.bassarsson.com).

Unemployment flows and the business cycle, paper presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> SNEE European Integration Conference in Mölle, Sweden, 2009, <http://www.snee.org/filer/papers/532.pdf>

Symmetric or asymmetric monetary policy rules in different countries?, paper presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> SNEE European Integration Conference in Mölle, Sweden, 2008, <http://www.snee.org/filer/papers/439.pdf>

Riksbank forecasts on import prices and inflation, *Riksbank Economic Review*, 2007:3, see [http://www.riksbank.com/upload/Dokument\\_riksbank/Kat\\_publicerat/Rapporter/2007/2007\\_3\\_eng.pdf](http://www.riksbank.com/upload/Dokument_riksbank/Kat_publicerat/Rapporter/2007/2007_3_eng.pdf).

Consumer demand and labor supply in Sweden 1980-2003, Bilaga 6 till SOU 2005:57, *Enhetlig eller differentierad mervärdesskatt?*, se <http://www.regeringen.se/content/1/c6/04/65/28/3fba5091.pdf>.

*Home Page of BASMOD*, se [http://bassarsson.com/Basmod\\_hem/index.htm](http://bassarsson.com/Basmod_hem/index.htm). Home page with description of my macroeconomic model BASMOD, previously used in the monetary policy process in the Central Bank of Sweden. There is a printable 172 pages manual.

Inflation and relative-price changes in the Swedish economy, *Sveriges Riksbank Economic Review*, 2004:3, see also [http://www.riksbank.com/pagefolders/17074/ER04\\_3.pdf](http://www.riksbank.com/pagefolders/17074/ER04_3.pdf).

Investment in Swedish Manufacturing: Analysis and Forecasts, *Empirical Economics*, June 2004. (with Claes Berg and Per Jansson).

Inflation and higher moments of relative price changes in Sweden, BIS Papers no. 19, in *Monetary Policy in a Changing Environment*, Oct 2003, see also <http://www.bis.org/publ/bppdf/bispap19q.pdf>.

Fiscal policy in Sweden – An analysis of the budget over the business cycle, in *Indicators of structural budget balances*, Banca d'Italia, 1999. (with Robert Gidehag and Göran Zettergren).

Unemployment Persistence in Sweden, *Applied Economics Letters*, January 1998. (with Per Jansson)

The consumption of food in the Nordic countries, pp. 7-53 in *The Econometrics of Demand Systems. With Applications to Food Demand in the Nordic Countries*, Advanced Studies in Theoretical and Applied Econometrics, vol. 34. 1996, Dordrecht; Boston and London: Kluwer Academic. (with David Edgerton)

A common dynamic AIDS model for the Nordic countries, pp. 93-140 in *The Econometrics of Demand Systems. With Applications to Food Demand in the Nordic Countries*, Advanced Studies in Theoretical and Applied Econometrics, vol. 34 1996, Dordrecht; Boston and London: Kluwer Academic. (with David Edgerton)

The almost ideal demand system in error correction form, pp. 195-204 in *The Econometrics of Demand Systems. With Applications to Food Demand in the Nordic Countries*, Advanced Studies in Theoretical and Applied Econometrics, vol. 34 1996, Dordrecht; Boston and London: Kluwer Academic.

The stochastic behaviour of durables and nondurables consumption in Sweden, Working paper no 34, Department of Economics, University of Uppsala, 1991, resubmit for *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*.

Inflation and Relative-Price Variability - A Model for an Open Economy Applied to Sweden, *Journal of Macroeconomics*, 1986:4.

Prices and Income Distribution. An Inquiry into the Effects of Relative-Price Changes on the Cost of Living and the Distribution of Income in Sweden with Special Reference to the Cost of Children, Memorandum 1985:98, Department of Economics, University of Lund.

*Inflation and relative prices in an open economy*, Dissertation, Lund Economic Studies, 1984:31.

International comparisons of drug prices, *Pharmacy International*, 1981:4, (also in Swedish in *Svensk Farmaceutisk Tidskrift*, 1980:10).

***Work in progress and internal PMs in NIER (available on request):***

”En modell för prognoser på hushållens konsumtionsutgifter, priserna på småhus och bostadsinvesteringarna – en översikt”, kommande PM, Konjunkturinstitutet (overview of forecasting model for household consumption, house prices and housing investments), 2016

”BOKON Pro 1 - En modell för prognoser på hushållens konsumtionsutgifter, priserna på småhus och bostadsinvesteringarna”, kommande PM med fullständig modellbeskrivning, Konjunkturinstitutet, (full description of forecasting model for household consumption, house prices and housing investments), 2016

En modell för analys av och prognoser på regionala huspriser

Amortering

Huspriser

***Other activities:***

Committees and boards:

Board member for the Department of Economics, University of Lund, 1980-1986  
Independent member of the Board for the Swedish Consumer Price Index, 1997-2010

Opponent on fil lic seminar for Håkan Persson, Gothenburg University, 1986

Opponent on final seminar for doctoral dissertation for:

Martin W Johansson, University of Lund, 2002  
Mårten Bjellerup, Växjö University, 2005

Member of thesis committee for:

Martin W Johansson, University of Lund, 2003  
Mårten Bjellerup, Växjö University, 2005  
Kristian Jönsson, University of Lund, 2005  
Alfredo Schclarek Curutchet, University of Lund, 2006

Opponent on fil lic seminar for Johanna Hirvonen, University of Lund, 2010

***Languages***

Swedish, native  
English, fluent  
German, good

French, basic