

# Statement on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Gastón P. Fernández\*

*Privilege is entirely wasted on the privileged if it is not deployed to lift up those without it*

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Marc F. Bellemare. Doing Economics

Promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion is central to my career and one of the key reasons I pursued a path as an applied economist. My work is driven by a commitment to exploring issues related to gender asymmetries, resource distribution, inequality and poverty, and the development of disadvantaged children. Having had the opportunity to live and complete my graduate studies in Western Europe, while originally coming from a developing middle-income country, has provided me with valuable insight into the universal right of individuals to control and freedom over their own lives. Regardless of background, race, gender, or abilities, everyone should have equal opportunities to thrive—a principle that I believe is a moral imperative for creating more equitable societies.

To this end, much of my research examines how choices made by individuals, households, or firms have tangible effects, often impacting minorities and disadvantaged groups disproportionately. My work aims to inform policymakers, guiding them to design policies that enhance the lives of these groups. For instance, I ask questions such as: How can we better support children from diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds? How can parents be guided to foster healthier, growth-promoting environments for their children? What are the dynamics of resource allocation within households? How is time distributed between men and women? What measures can we take to improve women's opportunities within their homes and relationships? These questions shape my research agenda, motivated by the belief that fostering a more equitable and inclusive society is essential for the advancement of knowledge.

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**Affiliation:** Candidate at KU Leuven, Department of Economics. **E-mail:** [gfernandez@kuleuven.be](mailto:gfernandez@kuleuven.be). **Website:** [gaston-fernandez.github.io](https://gaston-fernandez.github.io)

In my future academic career, I am committed to upholding these principles and actively promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. One approach I embrace is fostering diversity through co-authorship; currently, half of my collaborators are from underrepresented minorities. As an instructor, I will ensure that my course content features diverse and inclusive reading materials, representing a range of perspectives, scholars, and backgrounds. At the department level, I am enthusiastic about organizing workshops and seminars that invite speakers from underrepresented groups to enrich our community with varied experiences and viewpoints.