

Vibhu Vikramaditya

Department of Economics, George Mason University
vibhu3333@gmail.com | LinkedIn | X: @vibhu3333

Research Interests

Institutional Microeconomics: Microfoundations of Institutional Analysis, Political Economy, Law and Economics, and Comparative Institutional Analysis | Market Processes and Coordination | Economic Development: Endogenous Wealth Creation and Wider Productivity Diffusion.

Education

George Mason University

Ph.D. in Economics, expected 2031

Fairfax, Virginia

2026–present

Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics

M.A. in Economics

Pune, India

2022–2024

Maharashtra Institute of Technology

B.Sc. in Economics

Pune, India

2019–2022

Research Papers

- **Endogenous Legitimacy in Market Orders: Civil Society as the Associational Ground of Coordination Capacity**
Working paper. Develops a micro-founded account of civil society as a source of credible coordination capacity.
- **Institutions as Fields of Meaning: Civic Grammar and the Interpretive Turn in Economics**
Abstract accepted for the 2026 *Cosmos + Taxis* special issue, “Don Lavoie’s Enduring Scholarly Legacy.”
- **Litigation as a Distorted Investment**
Revised manuscript. Examines how delay, incentives, and institutional constraints can redirect litigation away from its dispute-resolution function.
- **Digital Public Infrastructure and Financial Development: Lessons from the UPI–IMPS Divergence in India**
Work in progress. Studies the institutional mechanisms underlying coordination, adoption, and innovation in India’s digital-payments ecosystem.

Peer-Reviewed Publication

- Block, Walter E., and Vibhu Vikramaditya. “Coase and the Problem of Social Cost.” *Journal of Critical Realism in Socio-Economics*, 2023.

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant to Professor Alex Tabarrok

2026–2027

Department of Economics, George Mason University

Undergraduate thesis: “Free-Market Environmentalism: A Market- and Private-Property-Based Approach to Environmental Conservation.” Supervised by Walter E. Block. Examined the relationship between patterns of forest ownership and acres burned across U.S. states using logit models.

Fellowships and Awards

- **Mercatus Center Ph.D. Fellowship**, George Mason University, 2026–2027.
- **Ph.D. Fellow, F.A. Hayek Program for Advanced Study in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics**, Mercatus Center 2026–2027.
- **First Prize, Graduate Student Category**, Sound Money Scholarship, Sound Money Defense League and Money Metals Exchange, 2024.
- **Third Prize, 16th Vernon Smith Prize**, European Center of Austrian Economics Foundation, 2023, for “Harmonizing Chaos: The Role of the Rule of Law in Fostering Spontaneous Order.”
- **Don Lavoie Fellow**, Mercatus Center at George Mason University, 2022–2023.
- **Winner, Constitution of Consent Contest**, Social Evolution, organized by Max Borders.
- **Second Runner-Up, Freedom Writers 1.0**, South Asia Students For Liberty.

Selected Public Writing

- “The Banking Risks of Central Bank Digital Currencies.” *ProMarket*, Stigler Center at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.
- “Bank Failures in Fragile Banking Systems.” *EconLog*, Liberty Fund.
- “The Siren Call of Welfare Politics: A Bad Political Equilibrium.” *Spontaneous Order*.
- “India’s Economic Impoverishment and Trade Restrictions.” *Spontaneous Order*, Centre for Civil Society.
- “Protectionism: How to Make America Poor Again.” *The Vital Center*.

Methods and Software

Applied econometrics; R; EViews; L^AT_EX.