# Calvin K.W. Cheng

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# **Professional Experience**

Oct 2017 – Present	<b>Research Fellow and Programme Lead,</b> Economics, Trade, and Regional In- tegration programme <i>Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia</i>
	(Past positions held: Senior Analyst, Analyst, Researcher)
	• <b>Research focus:</b> jobs and inclusive growth, social protection, economic development
	• <b>Programme leadership:</b> Direct the Economics programme at the Insti- tute, setting research direction, leading projects, and outlining strategic priorities to achieve the Institute's objectives of driving economic and so- cial progress in Malaysia
	• <b>Research publications and policy impact:</b> Authored and published a wide array of influential economic policy research, including policy briefs, technical reports, and research articles
	• Influenced policy discussions, outcomes, and implementation through both stakeholder engagement as well as through producing and dissemi- nating evidence-based economic policy research
	• My research has been cited by international organizations such as the ILO and the OECD, and has also been directly incorporated and referenced by key Malaysian government policy frameworks
	• <b>Policy advisory and stakeholder engagement:</b> Develop and maintain stakeholder relationships with federal and state governments, international organisations, civil society groups and academia
	• Actively contributed as an expert member of several technical working groups and parliamentary committees within the Malaysian government
Mar 2015 – Oct 2017	<b>Economics Executive,</b> Economics Research Department <i>Public Mutual Berhad, Malaysia</i>
	<ul> <li>Conducted monitoring of macroeconomic data and developments in Malaysia and ASEAN</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Conducted economic analysis and produced forecasts of key macroeco- nomic indicators</li> </ul>
	• Maintained firm economic databases and statistical models
Jan 2015 – Mar 2015 🛛 🗖	<b>Research Intern</b> Economics and Research Department <i>RAM Ratings, Malaysia</i>

## Education

2022 - 2023	Master of Public Policy ( <i>Distinction</i> ) London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) - London, UK
	• <i>Labour Economics Thesis:</i> "The causal effect of retirement on wellbeing in Malaysia: a regression discontinuity approach"
	• <i>Capstone project:</i> "Index-linking for social protection in developing countries", in collaboration with the World Bank Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice
	• <i>Key modules:</i> Labour Economics, Advanced Empirical Methods for Policy Analysis, Causal Inference for Experimental and Observational Studies
2011 – 2014	<b>Bachelor of Economics:</b> double majors in Economics and Econometrics Monash University Clayton - Melbourne, Australia
	• <i>Key modules:</i> Advanced Econometrics, Economics of Developing Nations, Applied Econometrics

# **Skills and Miscellaneous**

Languages	Native writing and speaking competencies in English. Professional working proficiency in Mandarin Chinese, Bahasa Malaysia, and Cantonese	
Analysis	Stata, R, Excel, LaTeX, Microsoft Office Suite	
Areas of expertise	Economic and public policy analysis, social protection programme design, govern- ment and policy consulting, survey design, data analysis, causal inference	
Awards		
2022	<b>Chevening Scholarship Award</b> , UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office Awarded full scholarship with stipend to study at the London School of Economics and Political Science	
Selected training and courses		

- Applied General Equilibrium for Policy Analysis. Awarded by Putra Univer-2019 sity Malaysia.
  - **Economic Analysis of Microdata**. Awarded by Putra University Malaysia.

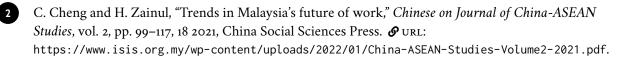
# **Selected publications**

For updated list please see www.calvinchengkw.com/publications

### **Journal articles**



1 C. Cheng, "The socioeconomic impacts of Covid-19 in Malaysia," Asia Policy, vol. 17, pp. 35-44, 1 2022, National Bureau of Asian Research. *O* DOI: 10.1353/asp.2022.0002.





C. Cheng and J. Mohamad, "Youth unemployment in Malaysia and the region," Japan SPOTLIGHT, vol. 1, pp. 49–53, 229 2020, Japan Economic Foundation. & URL: https://www.jef.or.jp/journal/pdf/229th\_Special\_Article.pdf.

### Technical reports and papers



C. Cheng and J. Mohamad, "Strengthening digital trade and digitalisation in malaysia: Challenges and pathways towards a resilient digital economy post-covid-19," Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Technical report in collaboration with Google LLC. @ URL: https://www.isis.org.my/2022/02/24/strengtheningdigital-trade-and-digitalisation-in-malaysia-2/.



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C. Cheng, F. Rosli, and D. M. Kartika, "The US-China Trade War: Is Malaysia benefiting from "diversions" in US import demand?" Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia, Technical Policy Paper Issue 2-19. *O* URL: https://www.isis.org.my/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/POLICY-BRIEF\_REV01.pdf.

C. Cheng, "Pushed to the margins: The unequal impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on marginalised Malaysian workers," Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, ISIS Malaysia Policy Brief 7-20, 2020. *O* URL: https://www.isis.org.my/2020/11/30/pushed-to-themargins-the-unequal-impacts-of-the-covid-19-crisis-on-marginalised-malaysian-workers/.

#### **Books and chapters**



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C. Cheng, "Post-Covid-19 recovery and quest for 'good jobs'," in Where Do We Go Work-wise: Malaysia's Labour Landscape. Petaling Java, Malaysia: TalentCorp, 2023, pp. 31-51.

C. Cheng, "The impact of the pandemic on the future of Malaysia's jobs," in *Crisis and Community*, B. Welsh, Ed. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: Strategic Information and Research Development Centre, 2023, In press.

C. Cheng, "Crisis of inequality: Covid-19's long-lasting impacts," in Pandemic Papers: Lessons from Covid-19. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia, 2022, pp. 6–17.

### Conference materials and misc

C. Cheng. "Pandemic economics: the Malaysian economy and economic responses to Covid-19." (Mar. 2021), 🔗 URL: https://www.isis.org.my/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/SIRIM-presentation.pdf.



2 C. Cheng. "Policies for the future of Malaysia's youth." (Jun. 2021), & URL: https://www.isis.org.my/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Policies-for-the-future-of-Malaysiasyouth-Calvin-Cheng.pdf.



3 C. Cheng. "Bantuan Sara Hidup: Programme design considerations for cash transfer programming in Malaysia." (Aug. 2019), & URL: https://www.isis.org.my/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Policiesfor-the-future-of-Malaysias-youth-Calvin-Cheng.pdf.