

## Harvard economist Andrei Shleifer joins SKEMA as a Visiting Professor



*One of the world's leading economists, this eminent professor will conduct post-COVID-19 research on finance and growth at SKEMA Business School for the academic year.*

**Sophia Antipolis, December, 9:** He is the world's most highly cited economist for his research work. He has taken a year leave from the Harvard campus, where he has been teaching since 1991, to join SKEMA as a visiting professor.

Alice Guilhon, SKEMA's dean, is delighted with his arrival: "Andrei is recognised as one of the world's leading economists. He can make a significant contribution to SKEMA's research, particularly in the crucial area of French and European post-COVID-19 financial and economic recovery."

Florencio Lopez-de-Silanes, associate dean for academic strategy at SKEMA and professor of finance and economics, with whom Andrei Shleifer will continue to work, underlines a historic cooperation between them: "We have been co-authors for over 25 years, starting at Harvard where we spent several years together and help create the area of "Law and Finance."

The economists will work together this year from the assignment is from September 15, 2020, to August 31, 2021. Based at the Sophia Antipolis campus, his research work will give him access to SKEMA's resources from its three sites in France.

### Helping leaders to boost growth

The economists will work together this year at SKEMA on several research projects. One of these projects will study **the factors that determine investment and are at the origin of macroeconomic development and employment growth**. This issue is key in France and Europe in the context of the current economic recession created by the health crisis linked to COVID-19.

The expectations of economic agents condition their consumption and investment decisions. Therefore, a turnaround in expectations towards greater optimism is essential for economic recovery. As a global expert in the formation of macroeconomic expectations, Professor Shleifer will work with Professor Lopez-de-Silanes and other researchers to try to understand how European companies form expectations and how these impact investment choices, and thus, economic growth.

#### **About Andrei Shleifer:**

Andrei Shleifer is the John L. Loeb Professor of Economics at Harvard University. He holds an undergraduate degree from Harvard and a Ph.D. from MIT. Before coming to Harvard in 1991, he has taught at Princeton and the Chicago Business School. Shleifer has worked in the areas of comparative corporate governance, law and finance, behavioural finance, as well as institutional economics. He has published seven books, including *The Grabbing Hand*, *Inefficient Markets: An Introduction to Behavioural Finance*, and *A Crisis of Beliefs: Investor Psychology and Financial Fragility*, as well as over one hundred research articles. Shleifer is an editor of the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, and a fellow of the Econometric Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Finance Association. In 1999, Shleifer won the John Bates Clark medal of the American Economic Association. According to RePEc, Andrei Schleifer is the most cited economist in the world.

#### **About SKEMA Business School:**

With 9,000 students of 120 nationalities and 48,000 graduates in 145 countries, SKEMA Business School is a global school which, through its research, its +70 teaching programmes, its international multi-site structure trains and educates the talents that 21st century businesses need. The school is now present on 7 sites: 3 campuses in France (Lille, Sophia Antipolis, Paris), 1 in China (Suzhou), 1 in the United States (Raleigh), 1 in Brazil (Belo Horizonte) and 1 in South Africa (Cape Town - Stellenbosch). In September 2019, the school announced the establishment in Montreal of its artificial intelligence research laboratory and its new R&D center. SKEMA is multiaccredited - Equis, AACSB and EFMD Accredited EMBA. Its programmes are recognized in France (Visa, Master Degree, RNCP, CGE label), as well as in the United States (licensing), Brazil (certificação) and China. [www.skema.edu](http://www.skema.edu). Follow us on twitter: @SKEMA\_BS

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