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Essays on financial liberalization

Bumann, Silke

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Essays on Financial Liberalization

Silke Bumann

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university of
 groningen

Essays on Financial Liberalization

PhD thesis

to obtain the degree of PhD at the
 University of Groningen
 on the authority of the
 Rector Magnificus Prof. E. Sterken
 and in accordance with
 the decision by the College of Deans.

This thesis will be defended in public on

Thursday 2 July 2015 at 11.00 hours

by

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I was still studying for my Master's degree at the University of Edinburgh when the financial crisis hit the global economy. Apparently, the crisis came as a complete surprise, which was exemplified by a panel discussion of high-profile economists who had difficulties answering questions posed by the audience, about the sources and implications of the crisis. "*I don't know*," was a common response. I was intrigued by the many questions that remained unanswered that evening, motivating me to learn more about the financial sector and its links with the real economy. Thus, I was very excited when I was accepted into the PhD program for economics at the University of Groningen in 2010. During the first year of my studies, financial liberalization crystallized as the main theme of my thesis, resulting in four research projects about the links of financial liberalization with economic growth, income inequality, and financial instability.

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Silke Bumann

Groningen, 2 July 2015

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