

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal information

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Education

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| • 2024 (expected) | European University Institute, Florence | Ph.D. in Economics |
| • 2018 | Ecole Polytechnique & ENSAE, Paris | M.A. in Economics |
| • 2016 | University of Milan, Milan | B.A. in Economics |

Current position, research activity, and scientific output

I am a PhD candidate at the Department of Economics of the EUI in Florence. Contextually, I am a Research Fellow at the University of Bologna. In 2023, I visited the Department of Economics of Sciences Po in Paris. My research agenda deals with the analysis of the mutual relations of the state and market actors, and it joins the literature on the contribution of the political institutions to economic growth in capitalist societies. In consequence, my main areas of interest are political economy, development economics, and economic history. In particular, I have been working on the following projects.

Publication

- "The long-term effects of colonial state capacity: Evidence from Central India", *Journal of Development Economics*, 166 (2024) 103170

In Central India, the Narmada River separates two regions that have been ruled by different types of government only during the colonial period, and for reasons independent of their initial economic development. I implement a spatial RDD on village population in the Nineteenth Century as well as in 1901, and I run the same model on proxies of welfare in 2015. My results highlight that divergence has realised where the river overlapped with the colonial border, but not in a neighbouring area where the same Narmada River separates two shores with the same type of former colonial institution. I discuss the following transmission mechanism. The treated group was directly administered by the British with more modern state tools - such as the enforcement of property rights and a transparent taxation system - that made it easier to develop private investment. The most prominent example is the mixed-capital enterprise in charge of the construction of the first trans-continental railway. Infrastructure endowment seems to be crucial for the long-term transmission of the colonial institutional characteristics to the outcomes measured in 2015, which show better average welfare outcomes, as well as higher wealth inequality in the treated group. My work provides an explanation of how the improvement in the quality of the institutions of an embryonic state may sustain the growth of the local markets it deems relevant.

Working paper

- "Targeted spending: The effect of the electoral timing on the distribution of discretionary jobs within the Italian bureaucracy", available on SSRN, id 4742942

Last update: November, 2024

I study tentative vote-buying through the discretionary appointment of native employees to public jobs in the neighbourhood of the local elections in Italy. For this purpose, I take advantage of two elements. First, under specific conditions, Italian public offices can bypass the standard appointment procedure, which requires public competition. Second, the pandemic shock of March 2020 led to the deferral of seven upcoming regional elections. They compose the treatment group, while the regions without a scheduled election at that point in time define the control group. With this in mind, I estimate a DID model with time-specific ATTs and wild bootstrapping of the standard errors. Despite the evidence of quasi-random assignment to treatment, a sharp negative effect of the deferral on the ratio of the employees hired by the regions where they were born can be detected in the treated group vis-a-vis the control group. However, such effect is specific to the period immediately following the original election date. As soon as the new election date is announced, the difference reverts to zero. These findings are robust to another estimation strategy: RDD. Considering the very short-term character of the job contracts under analysis and knowing that only residents can vote in regional ballots, it seems that an adaptation strategy has been in place. In the regions that had the election deferred, incumbents have been able to direct the composition of discretionary public expenditures towards people more likely to cast a vote in their favour in the neighbourhood of the election date.

Conferences and presentations

The papers above described have been presented in conferences and seminars across different departments and research units, of which I mention: Sciences Po Paris (April 2023), University of Milan (May 2023), Queen Mary University of London (May 2023), Free University of Bolzano (March 2024), ETH Zurich (June 2024).

Referee activity

In addition to my research agenda, I have been contributing to refereeing papers in peer-reviewed journals, including the European Economic Review and the Journal of the European Economic Association.

Previous work experience

- *June 2023 – May 2024* *Research Fellow at the **Free University of Bolzano***

I have been working with Giacomo De Luca on the study of the effects of political dynasties on public spending and public good provision in a developing country. The issue has been addressed with unique district-level data from Indonesia, with particular interest to the following research questions. Are dynastic politicians in quest for personal enrichment and power accumulation through public policy? Or are they more expert in the field, hence capable of delivering more efficient administration? Overall, we do not conclude that dynastic politicians adversely impact on the economic environment of their districts. Yet, the effects might become more evident in the long run, as they involve a change in the bureaucratic environment and culture of the districts.

- *Sept. 2021-May 2022* *Senior Teaching Assistant at **Johns Hopkins University - SAIS Europe, Bologna***

During the Fall Term of academic year 2021/2022, I assisted Prof. Cristino Arroyo in the master's course "International Finance" (macroeconomics in open economies). My tasks included preparing weekly exercise classes, holding office hours, as well as grading biweekly assignments. I have then been confirmed to assist prof. Guido Sandleris in the same course during the Spring Term.

- *May 2021, 2022 & 2023 Researcher at **Fondazione Feltrinelli, Milan***

In the framework of an ERC project, I have been among the coders in charge of classifying the debate over Covid-related measures put in place by governments across Europe. My focus has been on French and Italian politics.

- *Sept. 2018 - Aug. 2019 Consulting Associate Intern at **Charles River Associates, Brussels***

As part of the competition division, I have been mainly concerned with the analysis of data for the study of the pro- or anti-competitive effects stemming from then undergoing mergers, including one in the phase II. I have also worked on a case of cartel sanctions.

- *May-July 2018 Research Assistant at **CREST, Paris***

My research idea has been to estimate the effect of new university openings on firm creation by exploiting a quasi-experimental setting across two regions in France, which has become the object of my master's thesis.

- *Apr.-Aug. 2017 Economic Research Intern at **Natixis, Frankfurt***

I have analysed economic policies on behalf of the clients and helped producing forecasts of the French and German economies in view of the elections of 2017. I realised a working paper on the analysis of convergence in core inflation and labour cost growth across the Eurozone, which was awarded the Prix de Stage de Recherche of Ecole Polytechnique.

- *Sept.-Dec. 2015 Research Intern at **CSIL – Centre for Industrial Studies, Milan***

The project I was assigned to was part of a public-policy evaluation scheme requested by the European Commission. It assessed fifty regional development plans financed by the EU, highlighting the most consistent with the final aim of sustaining innovation in SMEs.

Competences

- *Spoken languages:* Italian (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), German (basic)
- *Certifications:* TOEFL 105/120 (C1 level), IELTS 7.5/9 (C1 level)
- *Known software:* Stata, Microsoft Office, QGIS, R, SAS

Grants and Awards

- *2024* Assegno di ricerca, Università di Bologna
- *2023* Assegno di Ricerca, Libera Università di Bolzano
- *2019* PhD Scholarship, Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur, Paris
- *2017* Prix de Stage de Recherche, Ecole Polytechnique, Paris
- *2015* Global Korean Scholarship, Ministry of Education, Seoul

Academic exchange periods

- *Feb.-Jun. 2023* Sciences Po, Paris (PhD level)

Last update: November, 2024

- Feb.-Jun. 2015

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul (Bachelor level)

Extracurricular activities and hobbies

At the EUI, I have been the students' representative at the Executive Committee in the year 2020. At Ecole Polytechnique, I have been a member of the students' choir. At Hankuk University, I was part of the International Student Organisation. During high-school, I attended drama and music clubs.

I frequently practice skiing, cycling, and running. I am passionate about open-air activities such as hiking. I have a strong interest in philosophy and literature, especially theatre, and I am keen on discussing these topics. I like travelling to have enriching human interactions and be in contact with different cultures. I sing in many choirs, including the Tuscany Youth Choir.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jean-Pierre'.