

# FRANCESCO ALOSA

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May 2025

## CURRENT POSITION

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### **Postdoctoral Researcher in Economics**

Department of Economics, Université Paris Dauphine - PSL

*September 2024-2025*

Research areas: public economics, labour economics.

Chair: Asst. Professor Laura Khoury

## PREVIOUS POSITION

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### **Research Fellow in Economics**

Department of Statistics - University of Bologna

*September 2023-2024*

## EDUCATION

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### **PhD in Economics**

*2019 - 2024*

Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna

Dissertation: “Essays in Public Economics: Behavioural Responses to Taxes, Public Good Provision, and Social Welfare ”

Supervisor: Assoc. Professor Matthew Wakefield.

### **Master of Science in Economics**

*2018 - 2019*

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Dissertation: “Optimal Inheritance Taxation: a Case for Taxing the Rich”

Supervisor: Professor Camille Landais.

### **BSc Economics & Advanced Class in Economics and Statistics**

*2015 - 2018*

Sapienza University of Rome

Dissertation: “The Aggregate Production Function: Some Relevant Problems”

Supervisor: Professor Annamaria Simonazzi.

## RESEARCH PAPERS

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### **- Estimating the Elasticity of Turnover from Bunching: Preferential Tax Regimes for Solo Self-employed in Italy**

To stimulate entrepreneurship, several countries adopt size-dependent regimes that tax businesses on the basis of turnover rather than profits. This paper investigates to what extent such regimes can affect sales turnover by exploiting a discontinuity in the tax schedule of Italian solo self-employed. I consider the notch created by the eligibility cut-off of the preferential turnover tax scheme. I find substantial and significant bunching below the turnover threshold, as some solo self-employed choose the turnover tax scheme over the profit-based tax regime. The effects of the turnover tax scheme on bunching are heterogeneous across sectors, with professionals, business intermediaries and retailers having the largest observed responses. For these three sectors, I estimate the turnover tax elasticity by exploiting a new theoretical framework that fits the institutional set-up and rationalises the observed responses to it. The baseline estimates for the two most productive sectors, professionals and business intermediaries, are 0.071 and 0.058 respectively. Lower compliance costs in the turnover tax regime explain less than half of these responses, therefore highlighting the key role of low taxation for bunching behaviour in high-value-added sectors.

### **- A Theory of Public Good Provision with Heterogeneous Risk Preferences**

People with different attitudes to risk have different views on the extent to which society should invest in certain (risky) projects. This paper presents a theory of optimal provision of a (risky) public good when individuals have heterogeneous preferences for risk. The public good has an insurance purpose as it allows individuals to shift risk from private to public consumption. On the one hand, private provision of the public good is inefficient because people do not internalise the insurance gains of the other agents. On the other, public provision might fail to achieve the (ex-ante) first best outcome if agents cannot be targeted and compensated when the optimal policy does not reflect their specific risk preferences. When the government has full information, this paper argues that distorting intertemporal decisions by taxing safe capital income, on top of nonlinear labour earnings taxation, might be welfare-improving as it allows to increase insurance by changing individual savings behaviour while reducing labour-supply distortions.

## RESEARCH PAPERS IN PROGRESS

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- **The Gendered Effect of Working from Home** (joint work with Laura Khoury (University Paris Dauphine-PSL) and Youssef Souidi (Institut des politiques publiques))

- **Big-box Stores, Local Employment and City Shape** (joint work with Laura Khoury (University Paris Dauphine-PSL))

- **A Criterion to Evaluate Social Welfare when Risk Preferences are Heterogeneous**

## AWARDS

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- **SIEP Prize 2023** from the Italian Society of Public Economics (SIEP) for “Estimating the Elasticity of Turnover from Bunching: Preferential Tax Regimes for Solo Self-employed in Italy”

## VISITING PERIODS

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- **Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS)**, London, UK *January-April 2023*
- **Uppsala Center for Fiscal Studies (UCFS)**, Uppsala University *May 2022, May 2023*

## TEACHING

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PhD course on “Bunching Techniques to Estimate Threshold Effects” at University Paris Dauphine - PSL *May 2025*

Teaching Assistant at University of Bologna. Courses: public finance and public policy; labour economics; microeconomics; principles of public economics *2020-2024*

## PRESENTATIONS

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**2025:** ZEW 2025 Public Finance conference.

**2024:** Royal Economic Society at Queen’s University Belfast; ZEW Public Finance conference; 23rd LAGV public economics conference at Aix-Marseille School of Economics; IIPF congress at Prague University of economics and business; WIP workshop at École nationale supérieure des mines de Paris-PSL; ISEG - University of Lisbon.

**2023:** SIEP conference at University of Verona; Royal Economic Society PhD conference at University of Glasgow; Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) in London, UK.

**2022:** 21st LAGV public economics conference at Aix-Marseille School of Economics; Public Economics PhD workshop at University of Helsinki; ZEW Public Finance Conference at University of Mannheim; Uppsala Center for Fiscal Studies at Uppsala University.

**2021:** Warwick Economics PhD Conference.

**2019:** Federico II University of Naples.

## SUMMER SCHOOLS & WORKSHOPS

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Public Economics PhD summer workshop - University of Helsinki	<i>June 2022</i>
UCFS Workshop - Uppsala Center for Fiscal Studies	<i>March 2022</i>
Naples Summer School in Economics and Finance - Federico II University	<i>June 2019</i>

## SKILLS

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### Programming Languages and Frameworks

- R, STATA, LaTeX, Matlab, Gretl, Word, Excel, Power Point.

### Languages

- Italian (mother tongue); English (fluent); French (basic)

## OTHER INFO

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Affiliated to the Uppsala Center for Fiscal Studies (UCFS) at Uppsala University