GIULIA CAPRINI

giulia.caprini@eui.eu - www.giuliacaprini.com

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE - ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

Placement Officer : David K. Levine   DAVID.LEVINE@EUI.EU   +39 055 4685 913

References:

Professor Andrea Mattozzi
European University Institute,
Via delle Fontanelle 18
Florence, 50014, Italy
andrea.mattozzi@eui.eu
[+39]055 4685 914

Professor Andrea Ichino
European University Institute,
Via delle Fontanelle 18
Florence, 50014, Italy
andrea.ichino@eui.eu
[+39] 055 4685 974

Professor Thomas Crossley
European University Institute,
Via delle Fontanelle 18
Florence, 50014, Italy,
tfcrossley@gmail.com
[+39] 055 4685 956

Professor David K. Levine
European University Institute,
Via delle Fontanelle 18
Florence, 50014, Italy,
david@dklevine.com – david.levine@eui.eu
+39 055 4685 913

Graduate Studies:
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, European University Institute, 2016- present (June 2022 expected).
Thesis Title: "Essays in Applied Microeconomics".

Undergraduate Studies:
Master of Science, Economics and Social Sciences, Bocconi University, 2015.
Bachelor, Economics and Business, Libera Università Internazionale di Studi Sociali, 2013.

Fields of interest:
Behavioural economics, Political economy, Health economics, Development economics.

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2021   Early Stage Researcher (ESR) grant - Awarded for: "*Measuring Implicit Attitudes on Organ Donation*".

2020   Early Stage Researcher (ESR) grant - Awarded for: "*Visual Bias*".

2020   Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance (EIEF) grant - Awarded for: "*What drives prosocial outcomes? A campaign field experiment on registrations as organ donors*".

2019   EUI Research Council grant - Awarded for: "Strategic Media" (with A. Mattozzi).

2016   Centro Universitario Cattolico Grant - Awarded for (Master's thesis): "*Conflict and social norms: The impact of the Arab-Israeli conflict on families in Palestine*"

Research Papers:

"*Visual Bias*" (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: This paper studies the role of images in online news, showing how news media exploit leading pictures to influence readers' processing of the issues. I document two relevant facts. First, the news' visual language is distinctive of the sources' political leaning and significantly polarized, to an extent comparable to the documented verbal polarization of Congress in recent years. For this analysis, I construct a visual vocabulary of graphic features and apply a dictionary-based method to study the visual language polarization in the leading images published in US news between December 2019 and December

2020. Second, such visual partisanship is an expression of political media bias: in a survey experiment, individuals exposed to identical news pieces but leading pictures with opposite partisanship formulate opinions significantly different and slanted towards the images' respective ideological poles. I find that news' visual bias causes a significant increase in issue polarization of the public. The slanting effect of images interacts with readers' prior, and audiences on both sides of the political spectrum react more distinctly to pictures aligned with their viewpoint. This pattern implies that the polarizing effect of visual bias is further exacerbated if readers' source their news exclusively from like-minded outlets.

Working Papers:

"Does Candidates' Media Exposure Affect Vote Shares? Evidence From Pope Breaking News".
Working paper. [Revise & Resubmit, Journal of Public Economics]

Abstract: I study the impact of politicians' media exposure in campaign on their vote share, exploiting an exogenous change in coverage during the Italian 2013 electoral race. Right before the election, the Pope Benedict XVI suddenly resigned and broadcast coverage of politics markedly dropped. Only five days of lower visibility of the right-wing leader and TV tycoon Berlusconi (-26 percentage points) caused a 2 percentage points dip in his vote share, and lead to his defeat by 0.4 percentage points. Following the TV coverage disruption, a part of Berlusconi's electorate resorted to Internet for political news, and later favored a new party with Internet-centred propaganda.

Research Papers in Progress:

"What Drives Prosocial Outcomes? A Campaign Field Experiment on Registrations as Organ Donors".
[Winner of the 2020 EIEF grant]

Project summary: I conduct a large-scale field experiment in about 500 municipalities in Italy to study the role of cognitive and noncognitive factors in the take-up of pro-social behaviour, focusing on registrations as posthumous organ donors.

"To ask or not to ask? The interplay of implicit attitudes and soliciting registrations as organ donors".
[Intervention scheduled in May 2022]

Project summary: I exploit the staggered introduction of an "ask" policy and an Implicit Association Test to study how implicit attitudes and cultural norms affect citizens' likelihood to register as organ donors.

"Strategic Media" (with Andrea Mattozzi) [In progress].
"Conflict and Social Norms" (with Eliana La Ferrara) [In progress].

Teaching and fieldwork experience:

2019-present	*Affiliated researcher* - National Transplants Centre (CNT), Italy	
	Data analysis, design and coordination of a large scale RCT.	
Fall term, 2019	*Teaching assistant* - Econometrics (Undegraduate)	
	For Professor Giampiero Gallo (New York University, Florence campus).	
2016	*Affiliated student*	
	Laboratory for Effective Antipoverty Policies (LEAP), Bocconi University, Italy.	
February 2016	*Field work*	
	Data collection in Ramallah, West Bank (Palestine).	
2016	*Research assistant*	
	For Professor Eliana La Ferrara (Bocconi University, Italy).	

Conferences and seminars:

2021	Società Italiana degli Economisti (SIE) October 2021; LEAP alumni reunion (June 2021); Experimental seminar series, EUI (May 2021).
2020	ECO-SPS Seminars (European University Institute).
2019	41st ASSET Conference, Athens University of Economics and Business (Oct.

2019); Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain (October 2019); LSE-NYU 10th
Political Economy conference, NYU, New York, USA (March 2019).

Public service and other activities:

- I am an advocate for organ donation. I was Team Supporter for the Italian National Team (i.e. a coordinator supporting the athletes' team during international sport events) at the World Transplant Games 2013 in Durban (South Africa), at the European Transplant Sport Championship 2018 in Cagliari (IT), and at the World Transplant Games 2019 in Newcastle (UK).

- "*The research iceberg: A guide to academic resilience*" In the fall of 2019, I began to interview Economics scholars with the objective of exposing and normalizing "failures" in academic research, one story at a time. This project aims at improving the management of failure and feeling of inadequacy among PhD students worldwide.

Languages:

Italian (native), English (fluent), French (fair), Spanish (basic).

IT skills:

Stata, Python, Qualtrics, ArcGIS.

Hobbies:

Fiction writing, photography, design and tailoring, ceramics.
I am a decent runner and skier.