

# GAIA GHIRARDI

## Curriculum Vitae

European University Institute

Department of Political and Social Sciences Via dei Roccettini 9 Fiesole, Italy

✉ [gaia.ghirardi@eui.eu](mailto:gaia.ghirardi@eui.eu)

[Twitter](#)

[Personal Website](#)

[Google scholar](#)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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social stratification, educational inequality, early childhood, sociogenomics

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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- 2023 **Visiting PhD student** (scheduled)  
Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED), Madrid  
Invited by: Fabrizio Bernardi
- 2023 **Visiting PhD student**  
University of Bologna (GENPOP), Italy  
Invited by: Nicola Barban
- 2022 **Visiting PhD student**  
Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques (INED), Paris  
Invited by: Lidia Panico
- 2022 **Visiting PhD student**  
Center for Research in Economics and Statistics (CREST), Paris  
Invited by: Felix Tropsch

## EDUCATION

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- 2020 - Present **Ph.D. researcher in Social and Political Sciences**  
European University Institute (EUI), Florence  
Thesis: "Gene-environment interaction and educational inequality"  
Advisor: Prof. Fabrizio Bernardi
- 2020 - 2021 **MSc of Research in Political and Social Sciences**  
European University Institute (EUI), Florence
- 2017 - 2020 **M.A. Sociology** (*with distinction*)  
University of Trento & University of Bamberg *Double degree program*
- 2014 - 2017 **B.A. Sociology** (*with distinction*)  
University of Milano Bicocca
- WINTER 2016 Exchange Semester at Political Sciences Department  
University of Vienna

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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- 2023 **EUI Early Stage Researchers (ESR) call 2023**  
[GxE interaction and educational inequalities](#) (PI: Gaia Ghirardi)
- 2021 **Travel Award** (Dronkers Award)  
ISA RC28: Accumulation and compensation of inequalities, Turku, Finland
- 2019 **Price for the best Poster Presentation**  
4th NEPS Conference, LifBi, Bamberg, Germany
- 2019 **Double-degree scholarship**  
University of Trento
- 2016 **Merit-based scholarship**  
University of Milano Bicocca

## PUBLICATIONS

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Peer-reviewed journal articles

**Ghirardi G.**, Baier T., Kleinert C., Triventi M., (2022) “[Is early formal childcare an equalizer? How attending childcare and education centres affects children’s cognitive and socio-emotional skills in Germany](#)” *European Sociological Review*

## UNDER REVIEW

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**Ghirardi G.**, & Bernardi F., “[Re-theorizing sociogenomics research on the gene-by-family socioeconomic status \(GxSES\) interaction for educational attainment](#)”

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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**Ghirardi G.**, Gil-Hernández C., Bernardi F., van Bergen E., & Demange P., “Interaction of parental SES with genetic propensity for cognitive and noncognitive skills: No evidence of the Scarr-Rowe hypothesis on educational outcomes”

Bernardi F., & **Ghirardi G.** “Missed compensatory advantage. Explaining the heterogeneity in the parental separation penalty with insights from genomics”

Berger, L. M, **Ghirardi G.**, Panico, L, Solaz, A., “The impact of early formal childcare attendance and exposure on children’s developmental outcomes in France”

**Ghirardi G.**, Wolfram T., Tropf. F., “GxE interaction: Decomposing the polygenic score for education into its components”

## TEACHING AND RESEARCH ASSISTANT JOBS

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|---------------------------|---|
| March 2023 -              | <b>European University Institute (EUI)</b><br>Research assistant, Prof. J. Harkonen   |
| October 2019 - March 2020 | <b>Tutor Quantitative Methods at University of Trento</b><br>Department of sociology, BA level<br>Quantitative Methods in Sociology, Prof. E. Rettore<br>Quantitative Methods in International Studies, Prof. S. Benati |
| January 2019 - March 2020 | <b>Student Research Assistant at University of Bamberg</b><br>NORFACE project: Life-Course Dynamics of Educational Tracking (LIFE-TRACK) Prof. S. Schindler   |
| January 2019 - March 2019 | <b>Student Research Assistant at University of Bamberg</b><br>DFG Project: Recent Immigration Processes and Early Integration Trajectories in Germany (ENTRA) Prof. C. Kristen  |

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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Present	Reviewer
	<i>European Societies, European Sociological Review</i>
September 2021 - 2022	<b>Co-organizer working group and seminars at European University Institute</b> CLIC, DISTANT CLIC and Inequality Working Group (IWG) Sponsors: Prof. Fabrizio Bernardi, Prof. Juho Härkönen

## CONFERENCES

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2023	<b>AlpPop, SISEC, ESSGN, RC28 Spring Meeting, ECSR Annual Conference</b> La Thuile (IT), Brescia (IT), Bologna (IT), Paris (FR), Prague (CS) - <i>Oral presentations</i>
2022	<b>PAA Annual Conference, RC28 Spring Meeting, ECSR Annual Conference, PopFest</b> Atlanta (US), London (UK), Amsterdam (NL), Florence (ITA)- <i>Oral Presentations</i> <b>ESSGN, SISEC</b> Bologna (IT) - <i>Oral presentations</i>
2021	<b>ECSR Annual Conference, ISA RC28 Spring Meeting</b> Online, Turku (FI) - <i>Oral Presentations</i>
2019	<b>4th NEPS Conference</b> Bamberg (DE) - <i>Poster Presentation</i>

## INVITED TALKS

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2023	<b>Disentangling genetic mechanisms underlying genetic prediction for education in GxE research</b> (scheduled) Sociogenomics workshop, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Helsinki
2022	<b>Do high-SES parents compensate for genetic risk for poor educational achievement in offspring?</b> VU University Amsterdam
2022	<b>Gene-environments interaction: family's social class, genetic predisposition to education and educational outcomes</b> ECSR's Network Workshop, European University Institute (EUI), Florence

## SUMMER SCHOOLS, WORKSHOPS, AND TRAININGS

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August - , 2022	<b>Introduction to Sociogenomics</b> University of Oslo (Prof. F. Tropsch)
July 5 - 16, 2021	<b>Nature and Nurture: Twin Research and Human Genetics</b> VU Amsterdam Summer School
October 16 - December 21, 2020	<b>Introduction to Social Science Genetics</b> The Silver Beach Institute (Prof. R. Wedow and Prof. A. Grotzinger)
May 14 - 15, 2019	<b>Panel Data Analysis</b> GESIS Training Course in Mannheim (Prof. J. Brüderl)

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

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LANGUAGES:	<b>Italian</b> (Native) <b>English</b> (Competent)
SOFTWARE:	<b>Stata</b> (Competent) <b>L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X</b> (Competent) <b>R</b> (Basic)

Florence, July 2023