

Alejandra Agustina Martínez

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PLACEMENT CONTACTS

Antonio Cabrales (director)
antonio.cabrales@uc3m.es

Angélica Aparicio (administrative)
phd@eco.uc3m.es

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics 2019 - 2023 (exp.)
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.
Thesis title: Essays on political economy, social norms and networks.
Advisor: Antonio Cabrales.
Master in Economic Analysis (Leading to Ph.D.) 2017 - 2019
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.
Bachelor in Economics 2011 - 2016
Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Tucumán (UNT), Argentina.

REFERENCES

Antonio Cabrales **Warn N. Lekfuangfu** **Johannes Schneider**
antonio.cabrales@uc3m.es nlekfuan@eco.uc3m.es jschneid@eco.uc3m.es

SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

Research Interest
Political economy. Development economics. Economics of networks.
Applied microeconomics. Microeconomic theory.

Job Market Paper

Raise your voice! Activism and peer effects in online social networks.

Abstract: What is the influence of peers on individuals' political activism? To provide a quantitative answer, I study Argentina's abortion rights debate through Twitter - the social media platform. Pro-choice and pro-life activists coexisted online, and the evidence suggests peer groups were not too polarized. I develop a model of strategic interactions in a network - allowing for heterogeneous peer effects. Next, I estimate peer effects and test whether online activism exhibits strategic substitutability or complementarity. I create a novel panel dataset - where links and actions are observable - by combining tweets' and users' information. I provide a reduced-form analysis by proposing a network-based instrumental variable. The results indicate strategic complementarity in online activism, both from aligned and opposing peers. Notably, the evidence suggests homophily in the formation of Twitter's network, but it does not support the hypothesis of an echo-chamber effect.

Work in Progress

Hate speech in social media: evidence from Bolsonaro's election in Brazil

In short: How does the arrival of new information regarding social norms affect individuals' online behavior? We study how the 2018 Brazilian presidential election of Bolsonaro

– which was almost a tie - affected online hate speech, particularly against LGBT+ minorities. This project relies on Twitter data for 2018-2021 and applies text analysis techniques to detect hate speech. We follow a Differences in Differences approach to identify the parameter of interest, using the election result as an information shock. The exposure to this shock may be heterogeneous, so we measure its local incidence by considering election results in each electoral district.

Silence in social networks

In short: How do social interactions affect what we publicly say and what we do not? I study a model of social norms, assuming interactions are structured through a network. Individuals choose whether to conform to a social norm - have a speech – or not – stay silent. Social norms may be controversial, and their compliance is observable. Then, individuals may remain silent (i) if no norm aligns with their preferences or (ii) if they do not want to conform to a social norm different from their friends - by social pressure. I investigate how the network structure and distribution of preferences - regarding social norms - affect the equilibrium outcome and under which circumstances the social pressure mechanism arises.

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences and Workshops

2022: CAGE-Warwick, Royal Holloway and Queen Mary University of London, Universidad de Buenos Aires, UC3M Ph.D. Workshop. Annual meeting of the Argentinian Association of Political Economy (scheduled), RedNIE seminar (scheduled).

2021: Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, UC3M Ph.D. Workshop.

2020-2018: UC3M Ph.D. Workshop.

2016: Annual meeting of the Argentinian Association of Political Economy.

Seminars

2022: Tilburg University (scheduled).

SHORT COURSES

2022: New research in Political Economy, CAGE-Warwick; Python for Webscraping (online), University of Rome Tor Vergata.

2021: The Economics of Norms, Aspirations and the Media (online), University of Oslo; Data Science for Large and Unstructured Data, II Ph.D. School, SEA.

2015: Poverty and Inequality in Latin America, Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Main Teaching Fields

Microeconometrics. Game Theory. Microeconomic Theory. Applied economics.

Teaching Assistant, Ph.D. level, UC3M

Econometrics III. English. Prof. Carro.

2019 - 2021

Microeconomics II. English. Prof. Loeper.

2021

ENTER Network, UC3M

Coordinator of PhD Students' Seminars at UC3M.

2021-2022

Teaching Assistant, Bachelor level, UC3M

Microeconomics. English. Prof. Schneider.

2019, 2021

Applied Economics. Spanish. Prof. Cáceres del Piano.

2019 - 2020

Labor Economics. Spanish. Prof. Alba Ramírez.

2018

Teaching Assistant, Bachelor level, UNT

Economic Problems of Latin America. Spanish. Prof. Nicolini.

2015 - 2017

	Mathematical Analysis. Spanish. Prof. Rodríguez.	2013 - 2014
HONORS AND SCHOLARSHIPS	FPI Scholarship <i>State Research Agency, Spain.</i> Pre-doctoral research training scholarship (PIPF) <i>Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.</i> Master Scholarship <i>Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.</i> Scientific Vocations Scholarship <i>Consejo Interuniversitario Nacional (CIN), Argentina.</i> Amartya Sen Program Scholarship <i>Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina.</i> Vice Dean's congratulation letter for excellent teaching <i>Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.</i> Silver Medal (Second GPA) of the Economic Sciences Faculty <i>Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Tucumán, Argentina.</i>	2020 - present 2019 - 2020 2017 - 2019 2015 2016 2018 - 2021 2015
NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE	Consulting Assistant Economic Development. Consultant: E. Nicolini. <i>Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas (FIIAPP), Spain.</i>	2015, 2021
OTHER DATA OF INTEREST	Citizenship. Argentinian. Languages. Spanish (native), English (fluent). Computer programming Python, Stata, Matlab, \LaTeX , Twitter developer account. Volunteer work <i>Volunteer and Treasurer. Fundación Payasos Sociales, Argentina, 2014 - 2017.</i> <i>Volunteer. Cruz Roja Española, Madrid, Spain, 2021 - present.</i>	

Last update: November 2022.